

Germany Metals Report Q3 2014

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Abstracts

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Germany's metals sector will continue to feel the squeeze as output prices remain low and costs stay stubbornly high. We forecast subdued growth in consumption of key metals such as steel, copper and aluminium, chiefly due to a muted outlook for economic activity in the country. Key metal consuming sectors such as autos and construction will remain weak. For autos production, we do not foresee a return to growth until 2018 at the earliest.

Illustrative of challenges faced by the wider metals sector, steel mills will remain under significant pressure, as low output prices squeeze margins. This will encourage consolidation of operations and dampen output growth. We forecast that steel production will post only erratic growth in the coming years, as low prices will continue to bite.

Contents

BMI Industry View

SWOT

Metals SWOT

Industry Forecast

Steel: Few Gains Ahead

Production To Remain Under Pressure

Table: Steel Production & Consumption (Germany 2010-2018)

Table: Steel Industry Historical Data (Germany 2005-2012)

Aluminium: Low Prices To Constrain Sector

Table: Aluminium Production & Consumption (Germany 2010-2018)

Copper: Sector To Struggle

Table: Refined Copper Production, Consumption & Balance (Germany 2010-2018)

Lead: Holding Steady

Table: Germany - Lead Production & Consumption

Regulatory Development

Table: Political Overview

Commodities Forecast

Commodity Strategy

Iron Ore: Not Much Respite In Sight

Steel: Production Rationalisation Too Slow To Provide Price Upside

Aluminium: Further Price Rally Unlikely

Lead: Ripe For A H214 Boost

Copper: Consensus Moving Our Way

Nickel: Price Surge To Abate Further

Tin: In A Sweet Spot

Zinc: Bullish Short-Term Picture

Table: Select Commodities - Performance & BMI Forecasts

Commodities Forecast

Table: BMI Steel Price Forecast

Short-Term Outlook

Core View

Surplus Set To Slim

Production: Reining In Growth

Consumption: Deceleration Ahead

No Respite From Chinese Exports Over Coming Months

Arbitrage Set To Grow Between East And West

Risks To Price Outlook

Table: Steel Data & Forecasts

Table: Global Steel Prices By Region & Product, USD/tonne (average)

Competitive Landscape

Table: Germany - Largest Listed Metals Producers

Company Profile

ArcelorMittal

Company Overview

Company Strategy

Latest Financial Results

Company Details

Financial Data

Table: ArcelorMittal - Key Financial Data

ThyssenKrupp AG

Table: ThyssenKrupp - Key Financial Data

Methodology

Cross Checks

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