

Taiwan Metals Report Q3 2014

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Abstracts

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BMI View: In Q314 we continue to monitor the effects of overcapacity on the Taiwan steel sector as domestic producers find themselves increasingly challenged from an influx of cheap products from China and other local producers. Despite growing competition, Taiwan's steelmakers are adopting new strategies to compete in an increasingly challenging environment.

The Taiwanese steel industry remains constrained by the ongoing impact of Chinese oversupply on the global steel sector. We expect global prices for the commodity to remain weak over the foreseeable future, which will continue to limit Taiwan's steel production levels.

Continued uncertainty surrounding China's economic outlook coupled with global overcapacity will continue to have a detrimental impact on Taiwan's steel production over the next few years. Our Country Risk team have a downbeat forecast for 2014 Chinese GDP growth, at 6.7%. Despite these headwinds, total Taiwan crude steel output is expected increase by an annual average of 2.2% during the five-year period to 2018, bringing to an end the volatile swings in production seen since 2007.

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