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Daily Base Metals Report

US stocks opened higher today, buoyed by positive economic data. Consumer spending, which accounts for over two-thirds of US economic activity, rose by 0.5% MoM in July, up from 0.3% MoM in June. The increase was broad-based, with expenditures on motor vehicles and parts leading to the gains in both goods and services. The Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) index, the Fed's preferred inflation gauge, remained steady at 2.5% YoY in July, suggesting that inflation pressures are stabilising but still persistently above the Fed's 2% target. The dollar index hovered around the 101.5 level, while the 10-year US Treasury yield remained relatively unchanged at 3.87%.

In the Eurozone, CPI data met expectations, with the headline inflation rate softening to 2.2% YoY in August from 2.6% YoY in July. Core CPI also eased slightly, dropping from 2.9% YoY to 2.8% YoY. Additionally, the unemployment rate in July edged down to 6.4% YoY from 6.5% YoY in June. These data points have solidified market expectations, now pricing in a 100% probability that the ECB will implement a 25bps rate cut in September.

Another day of lacklustre moves among the base metals complex today as markets struggled to gain momentum out of current trading ranges. Copper held firmly above \$9,200/t once again, suggesting little appetite below this level. Aluminium edged lower into \$2,447/t. The rest of the complex followed suit, remaining broadly unchanged day-on-day. Nickel continued to struggle above the \$17,000/t level, which we see as crucial as it is a cost of nickel production; a break above this level incentivises miners to restart some of the idled production.

Gold gave back yesterday's gains, trading at \$2,508/oz, while silver fell below the \$29.0/oz mark, standing at \$28.7/oz at the time of writing. Meanwhile, news of OPEC's planned output hike starting in October pressured oil prices, with WTI and Brent crude trading lower at \$73.7/bbl and \$78.8/bbl, respectively.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2460	2498	2444	2447	2466	17969	610670	-19.00	111.27
Copper	9249	9382	9246	9235	9272	15837	283419	-113.00	419.94
Lead	2041	2072	2038	2053	2042	4444	149328	-41.00	92.83
Nickel	17000	17130	16710	16766	16990	4847	204442	-227.26	759.32
Tin	32200	32610	32190	32346	32250	470	18682	160.00	1463.53
Zinc	2880	2930	2876	2897	2886	8324	219945	-49.00	131.36
					Total:	51891	1486486		

Official Prices

	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Monthly Avg	3M
Aluminium	2463.5	2486	2590.5	2646.5	2432.85	2457.5	2334.333333	2376.880952
Copper	9215	9330	9609	9626.97	9125.64	9244	8963.714286	9085.761905
Lead	2026.5	2067	2144.49	2189.49	1995.32	2035.5	2002.404762	2040.142857
Nickel	16820	17030	17600.4609	18269.46094	16776.11	17003	16249.7619	16495
Tin	32425	32550			32339.01	32345	31512.14286	31559.52381
Zinc	2862	2915	2907.49	2823.99	2828.2	2878	2709.761905	2762.809524

LME Stocks (tonnes)

	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Other Copper Markets	Last	% Change
Aluminium	856725	0	4575	-4575	852150	506850	345300	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	322950	150	2175	-2025	320925	25100	295825	SEP 24	414.75	-0.05
Lead	182750	0	1525	-1525	181225	17425	163800	DEC 24	422.25	0.11
Nickel	117534	1488	24	1464	118998	8028	110970	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	4600	50	20	30	4630	665	3965	01-Sep	73930	-0.20
Zinc	246325	0	1550	-1550	244775	24300	220475	01-Oct	74010	-0.23

Global Markets

Global Markets		Currencies		Precious Metals			Previous Day's Fix			
Last	% Change	Last	% Change	Last	% Change	AM	PM			
DAX	18918	0.03	GBP	1.3133	-0.2658	Gold	2504.32	-0.6774	2517.05	2518.10
DJI	41233	-0.25	JPY	145.8300	-0.5760	Silver	28.91	-1.7209		2949
S&P500	5602	0.18	EUR	1.1057	-0.1806	Gold Comex	2537.2	-0.902		
SSE	2842	0.68	CNY	7.0903	0.0945	Platinum	931.09	-1.1582		
Hq Seng	17989	1.14	AUD	0.6761	-0.5443	Palladium	966	-1.2401		
Brent	79	-1.36	CAD	1.3500	-0.1111					

Source: Bloomberg
Updated: 30/08/2024 17:30

All price data is from 30.08.2024 as of 17:30

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