

APRIL 20, 2021

LOCATION	INCO TERM	PREMIUM IN USD/TONNE	LAST WEEK'S PRICE	NOTES
<b>ALUMINIUM</b>				
Australia	Alumina fob	271.95	269.12	Participants mostly assessing market in low \$270s/t due to higher aluminium prices and buying interest emerging from China. Consumers not needing to buy caps significant rise in index for now. Availability of material for June loading and summer months strong. LME aluminium price still above \$2,300/t. Alumina index is just 11% of LME aluminium 3M price.
Taiwan	P1020A cif	150-160	140-150	Premium increase partly supported by rising aluminium premiums globally and Q2 MJP benchmark at \$148-149/t. Kaohsiung on-warrant stocks unchanged from two weeks earlier at 6, 150t.
Japan	P1020A cif	160-170	140-150	Premium at highest since May 2018 due to tight supply partly caused by late deliveries and typical demand uptick in Q2. Some consumers reduced volumes during quarterly negotiations, leaving more demand for spot cargoes. Global premiums at multi-year highs, with regions competing to attract extra units. Spot level higher than Q2 MJP benchmark, which was settled at \$148-149/t on March 29.
Shanghai	P1020A in-whs		120-140	Next assessment on April 27.
Shanghai	P1020A cif		100-130	Next assessment on April 27.
Republic of Korea	P1020A South Korea duty-free fca	155-165	155-165	Trading thin. Premium supported by strong MJP spot premium. On an fca basis, premium spread to cif usually at \$15-18/t due to logistics costs.
Republic of Korea	P1020A cif	140-150	140-150	Premium flat in line with fca premium. Market trades mostly on fca basis.
Italy	P1020A fca DP	300-320	300-320	Premium stays at highest since April 2015. Liquidity high, with multiple deals reported to Fastmarkets within range. Demand in Italy remains strong, units throughout Europe tight. VAP demand continuing to support P1020 market. Some congestion remains at ports in Italy, which is also leading to delays of some consumers' material.
Rotterdam	P1020A in-whs DUP	190-195	185-195	Transactions toward top end of range - participants hearing those deals supportive of premium. C/May spread in backwardation and overall forward spreads narrower, generating slightly bearish sentiment. Sourcing units remains difficult, with complicated logistics and competitive premiums in Asia and the US preventing replacement units from coming to Rotterdam. LME C/3M narrows to \$3/t contango.
Rotterdam	P1020A in-whs DP	230-240	220-235	Premium edges up on increased liquidity late last week. Some consumers taking wait-and-see to premium direction. Some still see demand for ingot from VAP remelters, with strong downstream premiums allowing consumers to earn higher margins.
Spain	P1020A fca DP	300-315	290-300	Premium rises in line with other European premiums. Majority of market participants no longer seeing below \$300/t achievable. Liquidity in region is low, capping a further increase, with less demand than Rotterdam and Italy, but material still tight.
Turkey	P1020A cif DUP	270-280	230-250	Premium follows global premiums higher. Majority of market participants reported hearing significantly higher deals and offers in past few days. Turkish buyers need to raise bids to compete for units, with European and Asia premiums at multi-year highs.
Midwest United States	P1020A dlvd DP	23.5-24.5 cents/lb	22.5-23.5 cents/lb	Activity heard at midpoint and offer reported toward bottom end of range prevented further increase, but participants are still bullish on the premium, with some offers heard above assessment range. LME C/3M spread in \$3/t contango on April 20.



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<b>ALUMINUM (cont'd)</b>				
United States	P1020A cif	4.75-5.25 cents/lb	4.75-5.25 cents/lb	No liquidity captured.
Brazil	P1020A dlvd	350-380	350-380	New offers issued at similar level to those two weeks before, with persistently lackluster spot demand preventing premium from following international uptrend more closely.
Brazil	P1020A cif	240-260	230-260	Higher offers boost premium, with rising freight rates cited as a potential pressure point in coming weeks. Most offers reported at top end of range, but spot demand in those instances was close to zero.
<b>COPPER</b>				
Taiwan	grade A cif	80-90	80-90	Market for prime spot cathode remains strong. Kaohsiung on-warrant stocks unchanged from two weeks earlier at 200t on April 20.
Shanghai	grade A in-whs	40-55	45-55	Minimal spot interest seen for bonded cathode amid closed arbitrage window. Stocks in bonded zone grew to 380-396kt from 375-393kt on April 6.
Shanghai	grade A ER in-whs	45-55	50-55	See Shanghai, grade A in-whs.
Shanghai	grade A SX-EW in-whs	40-45	45-50	See Shanghai, grade A in-whs.
Shanghai	grade A cif	35-45	40-50	Premium at seven-month low due to prolonged closure of arbitrage window, lingering backwardation and big discount in domestic market.
Shanghai	grade A ER cif	40-45	45-50	See Shanghai, grade A cif.
Shanghai	grade A SX-EW cif	35-40	40-45	See Shanghai, grade A cif.
South East Asia	grade A cif	74-79	74-79	Little spot activity, with consumers mainly focusing on long-term contracts and not affected by falling Shanghai cif premium.
Republic of Korea	grade A cif	70-75	70-75	Market quiet, well-covered by domestic supply.
Germany	grade A dlvd	85-95	85-95	Participants report stable market despite recent outflows on LME, lack of difficulty getting material. Third Covid-19 wave still a concern, but most are optimistic on medium-to-long-term outlook.
Leghorn	grade A cif	60-70	60-65	Premium widens upward, with assessment at low \$70s/t. Delivered Carlo Colombo premium quoted above \$100/t.
Rotterdam	grade A cif	45-55	45-55	Market participants still reporting good demand and availability.
Midwest United States	grade A DDP	7.5-8 cents/lb	7.5-8 cents/lb	Little spot activity reported for on-spec material. Increased demand from growing EV production and infrastructure bill anticipated, though physical orders have yet to materialize.
Europe	EQ cif	10-20	10-20	Majority of interest in registered brands, which are widely available following Rotterdam inflows in late March. EQ premium reported at higher levels - Fastmarkets will confirm in coming pricing sessions.
Shanghai	EQ cif	(20)-(10)	(15)-0	Declines extended due to subdued spot demand amid arbitrage loss. Decline also in line with weakened premium for registered cathode.
<b>LEAD</b>				
Taiwan	99.97% cif	90-110	90-110	Demand quiet, bids limited.
Taiwan	99.99% cif	130-140	130-140	Trading thin. Kaohsiung on-warrant stocks at 19,575t on April 20, with 2,975t canceled.
India	99.97% cif		80-130	Next assessment on April 27.



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<b>LEAD (cont'd)</b>				
India	99.99% cif		130-140	Next assessment on April 27.
South East Asia	99.97% cif		80-90	Next assessment on April 27.
South East Asia	99.99% cif		125-145	Next assessment on April 27.
Midwest United States	99.99% DDP	16-18 cents/lb	16-18 cents/lb	Market participants agree with current range.
Midwest United States	99.97% DDP	14-16 cents/lb	14-16 cents/lb	Premium supported by strong demand and tight spot supply.
<b>TIN</b>				
Taiwan	99.9% cif	800-900	400-500	Premium surges due to short supply globally, demand for better brands. Kaohsiung on-warrant stocks at 140t on April 20 from 125t on April 6.
Rotterdam	99.9% in-whs	900-1,200	800-1,100	Supply chain disruption continues to exacerbate tightness in Europe. Most suppliers have committed all available material to long-term contracts, limiting spot opportunities. Most participants agree that would-be sellers are in control. Backwardation in C/3M eases to \$1,300/t but is still hindering spot activity, together with high costs and issues with freight. No material available in LME European warehouses.
Rotterdam	99.9% low lead in-whs	1,300-1,500	850-1,200	Availability tighter than for standard 99.9% material. Participants noted that material would not be sold below \$1,000/t anymore.
Baltimore	99.85% in-whs	1,700-2,000	1,400-1,900	Premium at all-time high on ever-tighter spot supply.
Midwest United States	99.85% ASTM dlvd	1,800-2,100	1,500-1,950	Minimal spot supply and high logistics costs spur premium to its highest ever.
<b>ZINC</b>				
Taiwan	SHG cif	120-130	110-120	Trading active, especially for good western brands. Kaohsiung on-warrant stocks unchanged from a fortnight earlier at 8,700t on April 20.
Shanghai	SHG cif	100-120	100-120	Minimal interest in buying overseas spot zinc ingot despite improvement in arbitrage terms. Import loss in place, discouraging import interest.
Shanghai	SHG in-whs	110-120	110-120	Market participants are not interested in bonded in-warehouse material amid closure of arb window. Most are covered by long-term contractual supply.
Singapore	SHG fca	100-110	100-110	Trading in Southeast Asian warehouses active. Premium supported by traders using cash-and-carry strategy. On-warrant inventory in Singapore warehouses at 68,475t, with canceled stock at 12,700t.
Malaysia	SHG fca	100-110	100-110	Premium flat in line with Singapore market. On-warrant inventory in Johor warehouses unchanged from a fortnight earlier at 4,625t, but 450t canceled this week. In Port Klang, there are 43,200t, with canceled stock at 17,220t.
South East Asia	SHG cif	120-140	120-140	Trading active. Higher freight costs support premium. Contango widens to \$20.50/t on April 20 from \$17.60/t a fortnight earlier.
Rotterdam	SHG fca DP	100-108	100-108	See Antwerp fca.
Antwerp	SHG fca DP	100-108	100-108	A few deals reported within range. Participants report lower pace of inquiries given rise in LME prices.
Italy	SHG fca DP	150-160	150-160	See Italy dlvd duty-paid.
Italy	SHG DDP	170-190	170-190	Some participants report a premium increase, but no deals have concluded at higher level.
Midwest United States	SHG DDP	8-8.5 cents/lb	8-8.5 cents/lb	Demand still said to be strong. Consumers are picking their spots in purchasing when LME is lower. Some reporting a slight slowdown due to chip shortage crimping auto output.



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<b>NICKEL</b>				
Shanghai	Briquettes cif		160-200	Next assessment on April 27.
Shanghai	Full plates in-whs	150-165	150-165	Market quiet due to increasing arbitrage loss. Fastmarkets assessed stocks in bonded zone at 14,000-22,100t on March 31, up by 300t (1.7%) from 13,700-21,800t in Feb.
Shanghai	Full plates cif	145-155	145-155	Premium flat amid increasing arbitrage loss. Market participants showed less interest in importing.
Rotterdam	Full plates in-whs	35-75	35-75	Little activity reported.
Rotterdam	4x4 cathodes in-whs	160-220	160-220	See Rotterdam uncut cathode.
Rotterdam	briquettes in-whs	110-130	100-130	EV demand strong. Some note tighter briquette supply in recent weeks in more active spot market.
Midwest United States	4x4 cathodes DDP	28-32 cents/lb	20-28 cents/lb	Premium rises for first time in nine weeks on slowly improving aerospace demand and a generally better economic outlook.
Midwest United States	briquettes DDP	15-18 cents/lb	13-16 cents/lb	Premium up amid tighter domestic supply, delays in receiving material and improved sentiment.

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