

mrw

MARKETS & PRICES

This section includes news, insight and reports across the secondary materials sector in the UK and abroad. This is supplemented by a weekly email newsletter. Historic prices are available, but only for **MRW** subscribers, at:

[HTTP://PRICES.MRW.CO.UK](http://prices.mrw.co.uk)

SPOTLIGHT



GLOBAL MARKETS

Our regular round-up on page 34 includes an expert view on shipping prices, the impact of lower oil prices and the strong US dollar on the non-ferrous trade, a five-and-a-half year low for iron ore because of weaker Chinese demand and another contraction in the HSBC/Markit purchasing managers index for China. On a brighter note, plastics production rose in Europe in 2014.

NON-FERROUS

A new standard for the aluminium industry, intended to improve its environmental, social and governance performance, has been launched. The Aluminium Stewardship Initiative Performance Standard relates to the production and stewardship of aluminium throughout its entire value chain. It covers the extraction of bauxite to the production of commercial and

consumer goods, as well as the recycling of aluminium scrap. The standard will be implemented through a third party certification system involving all industry players (*more on MRW.co.uk/8677430* article).

FERROUS

Merchants reported lower prices of up to £15 per tonne in January due to slow trading. Although this is generally a difficult time of year, most merchants said recent weeks had seen less trade than the same period last year. Some merchants were grateful for reduced transport costs following the fall in fuel (*Market Focus: Ferrous page 35*).

PRN

Plastic and glass markets began trading in 2015 at lower levels compared with the beginning of previous years. According to Clarity Environmental, this has allowed buyers an opportunity to lock in tonnage earlier than is usual. Although plastic appears to be strengthening in price, Clarity says it may still be prudent for buyers to secure tonnage. Steel and aluminium have been trading at higher levels in 2015 than those at the end of 2014. Paper, wood and energy recovery remain stable and trade in strong volumes (*for PRN prices see table below right*).

PRECIOUS METALS

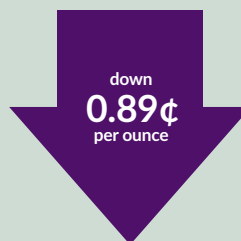
SPOT GOLD BULLION*

\$1,264.17



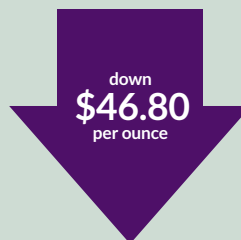
SPOT SILVER*

\$17.33



SPOT PLATINUM*

\$1,236.70



LME TRENDS

COPPER

support per tonne around

\$5,585

resistance above

\$5,705

ALUMINIUM

support per tonne around

\$1,853

resistance above

\$2,051

NICKEL

support per tonne around

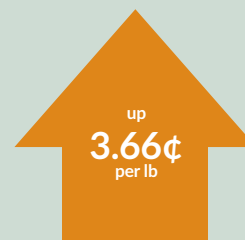
\$15,335

resistance above

\$15,575

COTTON*

61.42¢



* Price change since last issue of MRW

LME THREE-MONTH PRICE FLUCTUATIONS*

PER TONNE	PRICE \$	CHANGE	
ALUMINIUM	1,889	55	▲
ALUMINIUM ALLOY	1,840	-	
COPPER	5,669	66	▼
LEAD	1,861	27	▼
NICKEL	15,375	780	▲
TIN	18,975	415	▲
ZINC	2,152	51	▲
STEEL BILLET	480	-	

LME WAREHOUSE STOCK FLUCTUATIONS*

	TONNES	CHANGE	
ALUMINIUM	4,033,675	73,000	▼
ALUMINIUM ALLOY	26,500	-	
COPPER	250,250	34,025	▲
LEAD	214,350	1,325	▼
NICKEL	424,572	6,510	▲
TIN	11,840	230	▼
ZINC	625,225	27,550	▼
STEEL BILLET	585	-	

MRW PRN PRICE GUIDE

SPOT PRICES IN £/TONNE	24 JAN	7 FEB
PAPER	0.34-0.60	0.30-0.40
ALUMINIUM	5-6	7-9
STEEL	4.10-4.80	4.70-5.10
PLASTICS	4-5	2-6
GLASS: AGGREGATE	16.50-18.50	9-11
GLASS: REMELT	9.50-12.50	8-9
WOOD	0.50-0.80	0.50-1.50
MIXED (ENERGY RECOVERY)	0.50-0.70	0.50-0.70