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Friday, January 9, 2009

O bama stimulus plan helps copper prices

Story link: Obama stimulus plan helps copper prices

metalmarkets.org.UK

by Elaine Frei

The price of copper rose Friday on the chance that President-elect Barack Obama's plan for rescuing the US economy could help demand for industrial metals.

The plan includes infrastructure improvements that could not only create jobs that could help pull the economy out of recession, but would also require the use of industrial metals in its building projects.

Additionally, China has said that it plans to increase its strategic inventories of industrial metals such as copper.

March copper added 8 cents to \$1.56 per pound in New York, while three-month copper added \$231 to \$3,426 per tonne in London.

Precious metals prices were also up during the session as February gold added 50 cents to \$855 per troy ounce around the close of floor trade in New York, while March silver was up 22 cents to \$11.32 per troy ounce and April platinum was up \$10.90 to \$1,005.50 per troy ounce.

Tuesday, February 3, 2009

Copper, other base metals see gains

Story link: [Copper, other base metals see gains](#)

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by Elaine Frei

Copper prices were up Tuesday on new data showing home sales and manufacturing up in the United States.

The National Association of Realtors reported that pending existing home sales were up 6.3 percent in December, while the Institute for Supply Management said Monday that US manufacturers saw new orders grow in January.

March copper added 9 cents to \$1.52 per pound in New York, while three-month copper added \$200 to \$3,375 per tonne in London in late afternoon trade there.

The gains came even though copper inventories in London Metal Exchange warehouses added 4,100 tonnes during the session, overshadowing the gain of 325 tonnes recorded Monday.

Other base metals prices were also up on the session as aluminium gained \$20 to \$1,410 per tonne, zinc was up \$63.50 to \$1,177 per tonne, lead was \$65 higher to \$1,170 per tonne, nickel added \$345 to \$11,650 per tonne and tin gained \$450 to \$11,000 per tonne.

Chinese purchases, upbeat data push US copper up

REUTERS

Wed Feb 4, 2009 10:26am EST

NEW YORK, Feb 4 (Reuters) - U.S. copper futures rose early Wednesday, extending the previous session's near 7 percent rally, as reports of increased Chinese buying and optimistic data from China and the U.S. helped underpin the advance.

For detailed report on global copper markets, click on [\[MET/L\]](#)

* Copper for March delivery HGH9 was up 3.10 cents at \$1.5530 a lb by 10:15 a.m. EST (1515 GMT) on the New York Mercantile Exchange's COMEX division.

* Morning range from \$1.5030 to \$1.5580.

* Benchmark March copper contract closed above its 55-day daily moving average (\$1.4668) for the first time since Jan. 26 on Tuesday. Potential double bottom forming with neckline at \$1.60. A breach of that level (on a close basis) would confirm the pattern and open the way for the target just above \$1.81 - Citigroup's CitiFX.

* COMEX estimated volume at 7,285 lots by 9 a.m.

* Copper boosted by reports China has started buying copper from domestic bonded warehouses and overseas markets as a move to gradually triple its state reserves to about 1 million tonnes. [nSHA29168]

* China is the world's largest copper consumer, accounting for nearly 25 percent of global demand.

* Improved manufacturing data from China coupled with a surge in bank lending fed additional investor optimism that the world's third largest economy may soon be on the road to recovery. [ID:nSP241879]

* Less severe contraction in U.S. private sector jobs and in the services sector added to the red metal's positive tone.

International Business Times

The Daily Resource 03/06/2009 Posted 06 March 2009

Precious Metals

Gold traded slightly above \$910 throughout Hong Kong and London then was off to the races mid-morning in New York gaining \$26.50 from the previous day's close to finish at \$932.40/oz. Overnight, gold is sharply higher.

Platinum jumped up as soon as trading opened in the Far East then had a slight upward trend the rest of the day, ending at \$1062.00/oz., up \$16.00. Overnight, platinum has moved higher.

Silver followed a similar path to gold yesterday, shooting upward around 10 a.m. in New York to close at \$13.24/oz., up 33 cents. Overnight, silver is way up.

Gold came roaring back yesterday, eating up three of the past eight days of losses.

Here's what *The Hightower Report* had to say about the bounce-back in gold: "Clearly the gold market was back onto the flight to quality track and given the amount of uncertainty toward a number of bellwether companies, the sharp slide in the equity markets and the amount of policy changes coming out of Washington one can understand a strong flow toward gold and the precious metals. In fact, with gold, the Dollar and the Yen all three rising in tandem one got the sense that the safe haven play was really back in vogue. With GE even being called into question and company officials denying the presence of financial issues, one could suggest that a host of blue chip companies were being scrutinized intensely. As suggested in the mid day coverage the scheduled US data wasn't as bad as expected and recently the presence of decent numbers has benefited gold perhaps because better than expected numbers downplays the deflationary spiral talk."

That same report touched on what's going on with silver too: "The silver market followed in the footsteps of the gold market on Thursday and that is somewhat surprising considering that silver attempted to diverge from gold early in the trading week. Clearly the silver trade is embracing the flight to quality angle and not the physical commodity focus and for that reason silver joined the gold, Dollar, Yen and US Treasuries in a flight to quality type rally."