

## **The Dawn of 2025, Part 7: Iron Ore Market Rollercoaster**

Updated on : Jan 16, 2025

*Synopsis: The global iron ore market, crucial for steel production, has been in a state of flux throughout 2024, marked by significant price volatility. After a surge of 20% in October, iron ore prices tempered as markets remained cautious amid ongoing uncertainties about Chinese policy measures and broader economic factors. Despite these fluctuations, iron ore prices are expected to soften in the coming years, mainly due to the expected rise in global supply from major producers such as Australia, Brazil, and emerging mining nations in Africa. This increase in supply, coupled with slower steel demand, will shape the future of the iron ore market. Despite China's ongoing steel production slump, its imports of iron ore remain strong, providing stability to the global market.*

## **Recycling Export Restrictions: A Critical Dilemma for the EU's Green Economy**

Updated on : Jan 16, 2025

*Synopsis: EuRIC, representing European recycling companies, is warning the European Commission against restricting scrap exports. They argue that scrap exports have been crucial in sustaining the recycling industry, especially when domestic demand within the EU is low. This warning comes after a letter from Eurofer and European Aluminium advocating for export limitations, citing the importance of scrap in achieving EU sustainability and circular economy goals.*

## **New Leadership at Steel for Packaging Europe: Richard Lézé Takes the Helm**

Updated on : Jan 16, 2025

*Synopsis: Steel for Packaging Europe has appointed Richard Lézé, the Chief Marketing Officer of ArcelorMittal Packaging Europe, as its new president. With over 30 years of experience in the steel industry, Lézé is poised to lead the association through important changes in the packaging sector, focusing on sustainability, innovation, and competitiveness in the EU market.*

## **NS-Siam United Steel Wins Prime Minister's Industry Award for Energy Excellence in Thailand**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: NS-Siam United Steel, a subsidiary of Nippon Steel, has won the Prime Minister's Industry Award in the Energy category for 2024, recognizing its contributions to improving energy efficiency through various initiatives, including renewable energy use and advanced manufacturing technologies.*

## **Metinvest Halts Operations at Pokrovske Coal Amid Growing Security Threats**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: Metinvest has suspended operations at its Pokrovske Coal mine due to worsening security conditions, power shortages, and escalating frontline threats. The company is prioritizing employee safety, facilitating evacuations, and providing financial and logistical support. Efforts are underway to maintain coal supply for steel production through alternative sources.*

## **Steeltec AG Concludes Consultation Process with Optimized Redundancy Reductions**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: Steeltec AG, a key production site of Swiss Steel Group, has concluded its consultation process regarding workforce reductions at its Emmenbrücke plant. Initially planned redundancies have been reduced, with a maximum of 50 employees now facing layoffs instead of the anticipated 80. These changes, made in cooperation with employee representatives and authorities, are part of a strategy to secure the plant's long-term viability.*

## **Hyundai Steel Faces Production Shutdowns as Demand for Rebar Declines Amid Economic Slowdown**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: Hyundai Steel has temporarily shut down several production lines at its Pohang and Incheon plants due to falling demand for rebar and the downturn in Korea's construction industry. The company expects to reduce rebar production by approximately 70,000 metric tons in January alone, with further cuts likely if the economy does not recover.*

### **ADF Group: Capitalizing on U.S. Infrastructure Boom with Expert Structural Steel Fabrication**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: ADF Group, a Canadian company specializing in structural steel fabrication, is benefiting from the surge in US infrastructure projects. Unlike traditional steel mills, ADF creates custom-made steel structures for large-scale buildings and bridges. With a solid backlog, strong free cash flow, and strategic positioning, ADF is poised for multi-year growth, making it a stable investment in the cyclical steel sector.*

### **Huta Częstochowa's Future at Stake: Polish Steel Giant Valued at PLN 227 Million**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: Huta Częstochowa, a historic steel plant in Poland, is set for auction with an estimated value of PLN 227 million, \$54.9 million. Despite being in bankruptcy proceedings since 2019, the plant has attracted interest from both state-owned Węglokoks and international companies. The plant recently resumed production and aims for full operations by January 20, 2025.*

### **Koç Metalurji Expands Operations with €4.62 Million Overhead Crane Order**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: Turkey's Koç Metalurji has placed a €4.62 million order with BVS Bülbüloğlu Vinç for a double girder overhead crane for its new rebar and wire rod plant. This is part of a larger \$40 million hot rolling mill project aimed at increasing production capacity and incorporating sustainable energy solutions.*

## **Baosteel Zhanjiang Supports Macau Bridge Construction with 20,000 Metric Tons of Steel**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: Baosteel Zhanjiang Iron & Steel has supplied nearly 20,000 metric tons of high-quality steel for the construction of Macau's first dual eight-lane sea-crossing bridge, which was recently opened. This marks another major contribution to large-scale infrastructure projects by the steelmaker, reinforcing its role in key regional developments.*

## **FST Golf Shafts Joins Nasdaq: FST & Chenghe Complete Landmark Business Combination**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: FST, a leading Taiwanese golf shaft manufacturer, and special purpose acquisition company Chenghe Acquisition have successfully completed their business combination. The newly formed company, FST Corp, will begin trading on the Nasdaq Global Market under the ticker symbol "KBSX" on January 16, 2025, marking a significant step in FST's journey to global expansion.*

## **Savannah Tank: Crafting Excellence in Steel Tank Manufacturing for Three Decades**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: Savannah Tank, a leader in steel tank and pressure vessel manufacturing, has built a legacy of quality craftsmanship and customer-centric service over the past 30 years. Known for their technological innovation and skilled team, the company offers an array of products serving industries like chemical, water treatment, and natural resources.*

## **Tempel Steel Earns Mahle's Prestigious Supplier of the Year Award for 2024**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: Tempel Steel, a subsidiary of Worthington Steel, has been honored with Mahle's 2024 Best Supplier of the Year award for its exceptional performance in key areas like quality, delivery, and continuous improvement. This marks the third consecutive year the company has received such recognition, highlighting its commitment to excellence and long-term customer relationships.*

### **EU Imposes Provisional Anti-Dumping Duty on Chinese Tin-Coated Steel Products**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: The European Commission has decided to impose a provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of tin-coated flat-rolled steel products from China. The duty aims to protect the EU steel industry from the harm caused by unfair trade practices. The provisional anti-dumping duty ranges from 14.1% to 62.6% and will remain in place for six months.*

### **US Department of Commerce Launches Inquiry into Steel Mesh Circumvention from Mexico**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: The US Department of Commerce has initiated an inquiry into whether steel welded wire mesh from Mexico is circumventing antidumping and countervailing duties. The investigation was prompted by requests from several US companies, and it focuses on low-carbon steel wire from Mexico processed in the US into wire mesh. A preliminary determination is expected within 150 days.*

### **Germany's Car Production Stagnates in 2024 Amidst Mixed Export and Domestic Trends**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: In 2024, Germany's car production remained steady, reaching 4.1 million units, but still 12% lower than in 2019. While domestic orders surged by 12%, exports saw a decline. Notably, the country experienced a significant rise in electric vehicle production, with a record number of electric vehicles being manufactured in November.*

## **Brazil's Automotive Sector Sees Growth in 2024 Despite Decline in Exports**

Updated on : Jan 16, 2025

*Synopsis: Brazil's automotive production for December 2024 totaled 190,100 units, showing a slight decrease from November. However, domestic sales rose by 1.6% while exports saw a significant decline. Compared to December 2023, production and domestic sales both saw increases, with exports also rising by 22.1%. For the year 2024, total production and domestic sales were higher than in 2023, although exports declined slightly. Projections for 2025 indicate further growth in production, sales, and exports.*

## **Rio Tinto's Bold 2024 Growth Strategy: Advancing Iron Ore, Copper, Lithium, & Sustainability**

Updated on : Jan 16, 2025

*Synopsis: In 2024, Rio Tinto demonstrated robust growth and operational improvements across its diverse portfolio, achieving production milestones in iron ore, bauxite, copper, and lithium. The company's commitment to sustainability and energy transition is evident in its strategic investments in critical minerals, with a focus on lithium and copper for the future of clean energy. Despite challenges, Rio Tinto's performance reflects its resilience and determination to meet long-term global demand.*

## **Arrow Minerals Unveils Groundbreaking Metallurgical Results from Guinea's Simandou North Project**

Updated on : Jan 16, 2025

*Synopsis: Arrow Minerals Limited has announced impressive metallurgical testwork outcomes showcasing the exceptional quality of iron ore from its Simandou North project in Guinea. These results reveal a high-grade product with minimal contaminants, positioning the project for a potential premium market price. Additionally, Arrow has formed a strategic partnership with Baosteel Resources Holding to advance the project's development, with hopes to capitalize on significant infrastructure, including the Trans-Guinean railway.*

## **Exploring the Magnetism & Microstructure of Austenitic Steels: A Comprehensive Study**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: A recent study investigates the impact of severe plastic deformation on the microstructure and magnetic properties of three types of austenitic stainless steels, namely 1.4307 (AISI 304 L), 1.4404 (AISI 316 L), and 1.4845 (AISI 310 S). The research uses the Dual Rolling Equal Channel Extrusion (DRECE) method to examine how different chemical compositions and the solution annealing process affect the steels' paramagnetic behavior and structural stability, contributing to new technological applications.*

## **Innovative Zigzag Formwork Revolutionizes Concrete Construction: Less Waste, More Sustainability**

*Updated on : Jan 16, 2025*

*Synopsis: ETH Zurich's doctoral student, Lotte Scheder-Bieschin, has developed an innovative foldable formwork system that reduces waste and material use in concrete construction. The system, known as Unfold Form, utilizes geometry and minimal resources to drastically cut the consumption of concrete and steel, creating more sustainable and affordable construction solutions, especially in developing regions.*