**Ceramic**

**KSA**

Summary:

**NA**

**Global**

Summary:

1. Global: In January, the United States saw a 17.5% rise in the quantity of ceramic imports and an 18.5% increase in dollar value, amounting to 16.206 million square meters valued at $181.5 million. Spain and Italy were the top exporters, while Vietnam emerged as the sixth largest supplier, overtaking Turkey.
2. USA: Saint-Gobain Ceramics is investing more than $40 million to establish a cutting-edge manufacturing facility in Wheatfield, NY, which is projected to generate around 30 jobs and improve production capabilities for catalyst carriers in response to rising market demand, with the facility expected to be completed by 2028.
3. USA: The ceramic tiles market is expanding driven by urbanization, increasing incomes, and a demand for durable flooring solutions. Key trends include eco-friendly manufacturing, digital printing, and customization, with the Asia-Pacific region leading the market, while North America and Europe emphasize luxury tiles; however, challenges such as rising raw material costs and environmental issues persist.

**Top Domains:**

* finance.yahoo.com
* losanglesnewswire.com
* floordaily.net

**Contracting Services NDD Monitoring:**

**KSA**

Summary:

1. Saudi Arabia's construction market is experiencing significant growth driven by Vision 2030, which includes 24 major giga-projects such as Neom and Jeddah Central. These initiatives are designed to diversify the economy, generate jobs, attract investment, and improve infrastructure, creating new opportunities for both local and international businesses.
2. Siemens Energy has secured a $1.6bn project for the Rumah 2 and Nairyah 2 gas power stations in Saudi Arabia, contributing 3.6GW to the grid. The plants will reduce CO‚ÇÇ emissions by 60% and support local production at the Dammam hub, aiding Saudi Arabia's energy transition goals.
3. Muhammad Arshad, a Pakistani worker, tragically died after falling while working on the Aramco Stadium for the 2034 World Cup in Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia, highlighting concerns about the safety of migrant workers. As his family awaits compensation, Besix Group, the Belgian construction multinational and main contractor at the site through its subsidiary Six Construct, reaffirms its commitment to worker welfare.
4. Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund is looking for contractors to manage the project for a 19 sq.km "North Pole" district in Riyadh, which will include the 2km-tall Rise Tower with an estimated cost of around $5 billion. Notable bidders for the project include Aecom, Bechtel, Jacobs, Parsons, Turner Construction, and Mace.

**Top Domains:**

* tradearabia.com
* wedoany.com
* universalreportersng.com
* globalconstructionreview.com

**Global**

Summary:

1. Nepal: The Road Division Office in Bhaktapur has cancelled the contract for the Dhulikhel-Khawa road project along the Araniko Highway due to significant delays in construction. Gauri Parbati Construction Service Pvt Ltd, awarded the Rs 201.946 million contract, has not completed the project even after an 11-month extension beyond the original deadline. This decision highlights the critical importance of timely execution and accountability in public infrastructure projects.
2. USA: On February 27, 2025, X-Bow inaugurated its new office with a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by CEO Jason Hundley. During the event, Hundley announced a significant $7 million contract with NSWC IHD aimed at modernizing the Indian Head facility, which will enhance operational efficiency and bolster the U.S. Navy's modernization initiatives. This development underscores X-Bow's commitment to supporting critical defense projects and advancing technological capabilities.
3. USA: The Wilmette Village Board has approved road refurbishment projects totaling $7.2 million to enhance the safety and functionality of local roadways. This initiative is part of the Village's ongoing efforts to maintain and improve its infrastructure for residents and visitors.
4. USA: Centerra, a subsidiary of Constellis, has secured a $249 million construction contract for projects at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. CEO Terry Ryan emphasized the company's dedication to meeting military requirements through this contract, which encompasses a range of construction services over the next five years, in collaboration with other contractors. This initiative underscores Centerra's role in supporting critical defense infrastructure.
5. USA: $4 million highway project is set to begin along the U.S. 41 corridor in Henderson, indicating investment in infrastructure development and community improvement.
6. Canada: The Halifax Infirmary expansion project, led by PCL Construction, involves a $5.2 billion investment to build a new 14-storey acute care tower. This facility will feature 216 beds, 16 operating rooms, and a 48-bed intensive care unit, with completion expected by 2031.
7. Norway: Norway is set to construct the world's first full-scale ship tunnel, the 1.7-kilometre Stad Ship Tunnel, aimed at providing safe passage for vessels and enhancing maritime infrastructure in the region. The $400 million project has attracted six international contractors, four of whom have qualified to bid, fostering healthy competition. With project details to be shared on March 10-11 and initial bids due by June 1, construction is anticipated to commence in 2026, pending budget approval.
8. UK: Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils are investing over £500,000 in local projects to enhance infrastructure like village halls and play areas. This funding, from the Community Infrastructure Levy, supports community engagement and active lifestyles. Since 2018, around £17.7 million has been allocated for various improvements.
9. UK: Galliford Try's Building North East and Yorkshire team has secured a £56.4 million contract from the Ministry of Justice for fire safety upgrades at HMP Moorland. This includes installing new fire alarms, lighting, and improved fire doors, enhancing overall safety at the prison.
10. UK: Wirral will receive significant investment for regeneration projects totaling over £150 million. Key areas include New Ferry, Birkenhead Market, and Liscard Town Centre, aiming to create jobs and improve public spaces. Funding approvals were made on 12 March, with projects expected to enhance the borough's long-term prosperity.
11. India: The Municipal Corporation of Delhi budget allocates ₹800 crore for regularising 12,000 contractual employees. Despite chaos during the meeting, key proposals were passed, including funds for Chhath Puja and women's toilets. AAP's Arvind Kejriwal celebrated this achievement for temporary employees.

**Top Domains:**

* menafn.com
* nepalpage.com
* diadonenterprises.com
* therecordnorthshore.org
* executivebiz.com
* abcnews.go.com
* construction.co.uk
* cnbctv18.com

**Aluminium:**

**KSA**

Summary**:**

1. NA

**Global**

Summary:

1. USA: President Trump's 25% tariffs on all steel and aluminium imports have officially gone into effect, leading to increased costs for businesses and consumers alike. Trump has doubled tariffs on steel and aluminium from Canada to 50% due to Ontario's electricity price hikes. The move has sparked concerns over potential retaliatory measures from the EU. This escalation in trade tensions could lead to a broader trade war affecting global markets.
2. UAE: The UAE plans to invest $1.4 trillion in the U.S., focusing on AI, energy, and manufacturing. Key initiatives include a $25 billion investment in data center power generation and the first U.S. aluminium smelter in 35 years, strengthening economic ties and enhancing technological collaboration.

**Top Domains:**

* ainvest.com
* worldmagzine.com

**Construction M&E:**

**KSA**

Summary:

NA

**Global**

Summary:

**NA**

**Steel Rebar:**

**KSA**

Summary:

**NA**

**Global**

Summary:

1. Global: The Global Steel Rebar Market is expected to grow from USD 216.71 Billion in 2024 to USD 323.86 Billion by 2031, driven by rising construction activities and technological advancements. Key challenges include fluctuating steel prices and environmental regulations.
2. Armenia: Prime Minister Pashinyan opened the GTB Steel rebar plant in Ararat, which has an annual capacity of 112,800 tons and a $31 million investment. Currently employing 240 people, it aims to grow to over 500 in three years.
3. Egypt: Egypt's Ministry of Trade will impose temporary import fees of 16% on iron billets and 25% on steel rebar for three years, starting Saturday. This follows a legal battle over tariffs aimed at protecting the local steel industry from rising imports.
4. China: As on March 19th, Anhui Changjiang Steel's construction steel guide prices: rebar, coiled rebar, and wire rod were simultaneously reduced by 20 yuan/mt. The current ex-factory prices for Hefei, Ma'anshan, and Nanjing are as follows: seismic-resistant rebar at 3,280 yuan/mt, seismic-resistant coiled rebar at 3,490 yuan/mt, and high-speed wire rod at 3,490 yuan/mt; ordinary non-seismic-resistant products of the same specifications are priced the same.

**Top Domains:**

* finance.yahoo.com
* primeminister.am
* dailynewsegypt.com
* news.metal.com

**Flat Rolled Steel:**

**KSA**

Summary:

**NA**

**Global**

Summary:

1. Vietnam: Vietnam's Steel Association urges the government to impose tariffs on galvanized steel imports from China and Korea to protect local production, as these imports have surged, comprising 64-67% of total imports. The association warns this could harm the entire domestic steel industry.
2. Mexico: Mexico has initiated an anti-dumping investigation into hot-rolled steel imports from China and Vietnam. This move aims to address concerns over unfair trade practices affecting the local steel industry.
3. Morocco: Morocco’s Ministry of Industry and Trade initiated an anti-dumping (AD) investigation on galvanized steel wires originating in Egypt and the UAE, following the application filed by Moroccan companies.
4. Taiwan: Taiwan's Ministry of Finance has launched an anti-dumping (AD) investigation into certain flat hot-rolled steel imports from Chinese mainland
5. South Korea: South Korea has launched an anti-dumping investigation on Chinese hot-rolled steel coils, affecting 1.5632 million mt of exports. This represents 5.74% of China's total HRC exports. Increasing anti-dumping measures from various countries pose significant risks to China's steel export outlook.

**Top Domains:**

* nation.lk
* yieh.com
* mysteel.net
* news.metal.com

**Cement:**

**KSA**

Summary:

1. Yamama Cement has projected a 7% increase in cement demand for the year 2025. This positive outlook indicates potential growth opportunities in the construction sector and related industries.

**Top Domains:**

* argaam.com

**Global**

Summary:

1. Nigeria: The federal government urges cement manufacturers to lower prices to N7,000 per bag due to the naira's stabilization and falling fuel costs. Minister Umahi criticized high prices despite these improvements and warned that if prices aren't reduced within a week, the issue will escalate to President Tinubu.
2. India: JK Lakshmi Cement has received a Rs 45.6 crore demand from the income tax authority for the assessment year 2022-23. The company believes this demand is incorrect and plans to appeal, expecting no significant impact on its operations or finances.
3. USA: Biomason, led by CEO Camilo Restrepo, uses biology to create eco-friendly concrete that replaces Portland cement and reduces carbon emissions. Their biocement products, like concrete tiles, are produced in Denmark and meet high performance standards. Expansion plans aim to increase production significantly by 2026.
4. Pakistan: Pakistan’s cement industry shows promise with a 34% rise in exports, despite local sales struggling. Additionally, Sindh will distribute 200,000 solar systems to low-income households by July 2025.
5. UK: RockFuel has launched a carbon negative cement process to reduce emissions in the cement industry. Their innovative method captures CO2 during production and repurposes it, making the overall process climate-positive. This technology could significantly lower CO2 emissions in UK construction projects, supporting sustainability goals
6. Europe: Europe has 77 decarbonisation projects, including 14 in cement, funded by the Innovation Fund 2023. These projects will start between 2025 and 2029, aiming to cut emissions by 398Mt of CO₂ over ten years, mainly through carbon capture and storage (CCS).
7. Turkmenistan: A Turkmenistan team showcased their project on green cement from industrial waste at the V International Youth Science Fair in Indonesia. The initiative, led by Oguz Khan Engineering and Technology University, emphasizes sustainable development and innovation, promoting international scientific collaboration among youth.
8. Malaysia: In January 2025, cement prices rose by 0.2% to 2.9%, with Sandakan seeing the highest increase (2.9%). Steel prices fell by 0.6% to 4.3%, with Pahang experiencing the largest drop (-4.3%). Overall, cement increased annually by up to 4%
9. Canada: Progressive Planet has secured up to US$3.2m from Sustainable Development Technology Canada to build a pilot plant for PozGlass, a low-carbon cement alternative made from recycled glass. This funding supports innovation and emission reduction in cement production
10. Indonesia: SIG has successfully secured a contract to supply 76,000 tons of cement for the Sidan Dam project in Bali. This significant contribution will aid in the construction and development of essential infrastructure.

**Top Domains:**

* concreteconnect.co.uk
* globalcement.com
* theazb.com
* turkmenistan.com.tm
* thesun.my
* voi.id

**Glass:**

**KSA**

Summary:

**NA**

**Global**

Summary:

* 1. Egypt: China's Xinyi Glass is investing $700 million to establish a solar panel glass factory in the Suez Canal Economic Zone. This project is set to produce 1.5 million tons of solar glass annually and is backed by strong government support for rapid development, with the goal of enhancing Egypt's renewable energy sector.
  2. India: Borosil Renewables has reported that the Customs Duty on solar glass imports has not benefited Indian manufacturers, as Chinese competitors have reduced their prices, compelling Borosil to lower its selling prices as well. Although the company experienced a 14% increase in sales volume, revenue only grew by 3.6% due to price pressures and rising expenses.
  3. USA: Canada-based Advanced Glazings has announced its expansion to Wilmington, where it will manufacture light-diffusing and insulating glass for commercial buildings and schools. This initiative is anticipated to enhance the region's industrial landscape and contribute to economic growth, creating job opportunities for the local community.
  4. USA: Lattuada is preparing to showcase its state-of-the-art glass processing solutions at the upcoming VITRUM 2025 exhibition. This event will highlight innovative technologies and advancements in the glass industry, underscoring Lattuada's commitment to excellence and leadership in the field.
  5. Netherlands: ODL, Inc. has made an investment in a new glass tempering oven at its Zeeland facility, which will enhance product quality and efficiency. This upgrade enables in-house glass production, leading to reduced waste and faster service. ODL aims to bolster its market position by offering superior products to meet both residential and commercial needs.
  6. Switzerland: Vetropack experienced a challenging 2024, reporting a 78% drop in profits and a 6.3% decline in sales, largely attributed to market difficulties and the closure of the St-Prex facility. While the company expects a gradual market recovery in 2025, it remains cautious about ongoing uncertainties, highlighting the importance of swift responses and prudent management.
  7. Tokyo: AGC Inc. has inaugurated a new flat glass production line at its Teplice plant, which aims to reduce carbon emissions through innovative technology. This project, developed in collaboration with Saint-Gobain and supported by the EU Innovation Fund, aligns with AGC's goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

**Top Domains:**

* egypttoday.com
* ct.moreover.com
* starnewsonline.com
* benzinga.com
* glassonweb.com
* glass-international.com
* m2.com

**Elevator:**

**KSA**

**NA**

**Global**

Summary:

1. Global: The smart elevator market is experiencing rapid growth, expected to reach $29.34 billion by 2025, driven by urbanization and technological advancements. This growth is largely attributed to the increasing construction of high-rise buildings, which boosts demand for advanced elevator solutions.

**Top Domains:**

* whatech.com

**HVAC**

**KSA**

**NA**

**Global**

Summary:

1. USA: HVAC manufacturer Air O and PuriFi Labs have teamed up to offer advanced air and surface purification solutions that can neutralize up to 99.99% of viruses and bacteria. This collaboration is focused on enhancing safety in large buildings through innovative technology, ensuring cleaner air for all occupants.

**Top Domains:**

* sangritimes.com

**Wood:**

**KSA**

Summary:

NA

**Global**

Summary:

1. Global: Metsäliitto Cooperative is set to sell its wood supply business in Latvia to ACA Timber, securing a reliable supply of pulpwood and chips. All employees will be transferred to ACA Timber, and while the deal awaits approval from the Latvian Competition Authority, it is anticipated to be finalized by early 2025, with no major financial repercussions for Metsä Group.
2. Canada: The British Columbia Manufacturing Jobs Fund (BCMJF) is investing in wood companies such as Canoe Forest Products to safeguard jobs from U.S. economic challenges. A new kiln, supported by a $2.2 million investment, will enhance production and sustainability, preserving 200 jobs and reducing emissions by 10%.
3. Canada: Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, announced more than $1.5 million in federal funding for three projects aimed at promoting prefabricated wood construction in British Columbia. The key initiatives include a mass timber educational hub at BCIT, energy-efficient housing designs, and an online directory for prefabricated building materials, all of which will support job creation and help reduce emissions.
4. India: Canadian Wood took part in INDIAWOOD 2025, presenting innovative timber designs at a major expo in Greater Noida. Their booth showcased five wood species from British Columbia, emphasizing sustainable choices for high-end interiors and outdoor spaces, while the event facilitated networking among industry professionals and highlighted eco-friendly practices.
5. USA: President Trump signed an order aimed at increasing U.S. lumber production and examining the national security implications of wood imports. The initiative seeks to simplify logging permit processes, decrease dependence on foreign lumber, and could result in higher tariffs on Canadian imports.
6. USA: In February, input prices for new residential construction increased by 0.5%, with a year-over-year rise of 0.7%. Input goods saw a 0.6% increase, driven by a 2.6% rise in energy prices, although energy costs are down 8.5% compared to last year; softwood lumber prices rose 11.7% annually, while service inputs decreased by 0.1% over the same period.
7. Vietnam: HAWA Expo and VIFA Expo are significant trade shows where Canadian Wood Vietnam highlighted local furniture crafted from Canadian lumber. These events assist Vietnamese manufacturers by providing materials and technical support, promoting sustainable wood products, and in 2024, Vietnam's wood exports reached $16.25 billion, underscoring the industry's commitment to sustainability and certified sourcing.
8. China: In 2024, China imported 26.74 million cubic meters of lumber, reflecting a 4% decrease in volume but a 0.3% increase in value. While softwood imports declined by 7%, hardwood imports saw a 3% rise, and increased domestic production has lessened reliance on imports in response to rising prices and shifting demand patterns.
9. Sweden: Sweden is developing 'Wood City' in Sickla, which will be the world's largest wooden city, aimed at promoting sustainable urban development. This initiative is designed to reduce carbon emissions and will include wooden homes, offices, and public spaces, highlighting Sweden's dedication to eco-friendly construction and serving as a model for future urban projects.
10. Romania: Kronospan, a prominent wood panel manufacturer from Austria, has acquired a wood processing plant in Romania, expanding its product range. This move not only supports local economic growth by creating jobs but also leverages Romania's resources, aligning with the increasing demand for sustainable wood solutions.

**Top Domains:**

* woodandpanel.us
* buildingandinteriors.com
* canadianmanufacturing.com
* ct.moreover.com
* euwid-paper.com
* ebnw.net
* europ.info
* globalwoodmarketsinfo.com
* lbmjournal.com
* vietnamnews.vn