

MEPS EUROPEAN STEEL REVIEW

KEYNOTE

OCTOBER 2013

EU CARBON STEEL PRICES PAUSED IN OCTOBER AFTER RECENT UPLIFT

Activity in the EU flat products market remains muted. In general, the price rises secured during the summer have been maintained. However, a slowdown in order intake appears to have discouraged the mills from pushing hard for further increases during negotiations for fourth quarter business. Availability for October has been quite restricted due to maintenance and production problems but delivery lead times for the remainder of the final trimester are relatively short. A renewed threat from third country imports could develop if the US dollar remains weak.

Some period four business has now been settled in Germany at similar levels to those published in our September issue. Producers are talking of further rises in the first quarter 2014 but buyers

are not convinced that this is possible. The outcome of the ongoing auto negotiations could well influence spot market prices at the start of next year. German mills claim they are busy, focusing on demand from the carmakers. Moreover, ThyssenKrupp and Salzgitter are undertaking maintenance, which has reduced output for October deliveries. Nevertheless, a number of buyers report that material can be acquired at relatively short notice. Demand has not improved noticeably. Service centres are no longer restocking and are unlikely to do so before the fiscal year end on December 31. As they are not expecting any significant upswing in prices they are content to wait before reordering. Third country offers are expensive at present but this may change if the US dollar depreciates further.

TABLE 1. FLAT ROLLED PRODUCTS - NEGOTIATED DOMESTIC BASIS PRICES - GERMANY

price/metric ton		2013					
		MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
Hot-Rolled Coil	High:	510	500	470	470	500	500
	Low:	460	450	420	420	450	450
Hot-Rolled Plate	High:	560	550	530	530	545	545
	Low:	520	510	490	490	505	505
Cold-Rolled Coil	High:	580	570	560	560	570	570
	Low:	540	530	520	520	530	530
Hot Dipped Galvanised Coil	High:	580	570	560	560	570	570
	Low:	540	530	520	520	530	530
Electro-Zinc Coated Coil	High:	590	580	570	570	580	580
	Low:	540	530	520	520	530	530
Stainless Steel Type 304	High:	1120	1100	1100	1100	1090	1100
	Low:	1020	1000	1000	1000	990	1000
Stainless Steel Type 430	High:	1110	1110	1090	1090	1090	1090
	Low:	1060	1060	1040	1040	1040	1040

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In France, customers confirm there has been some improvement in demand but not as much as was hoped. Currently, end-users still have very short order books. Mills continued to implement additional price increases during September. They are expected to stabilise as the year-end nears. However, distributors are struggling to pass on the rises. The market seems to be running out of steam. Buyers are cautious.

Over the last month, increased activity has been detected in the Italian market, mainly driven by the need to replenish depleted stocks. Basis figures have softened since our last report as there is no real push from consumption, which has not picked up. Political issues at various mills do not appear to have created any supply tightness. It is still too early to assess whether the positive price trend will return. Consequently, buyers are proceeding cautiously. A negative factor for the domestic producers is the weakness of the US dollar against the euro, which is increasing the competitiveness of third country material.

Several UK flat product distributors report that their sales volumes have grown significantly during July/August/September. The improvement appears to have been across all sectors, with the possible exception of construction. End-users are busier. Service centre resale margins are slightly better and will probably recover further if demand holds up. Mill basis numbers are relatively unchanged from the previous month but there are fears that they could be undermined if the recent strength of sterling starts to encourage importers.

Optimism is returning to the Belgian steel market. The economic forecast is better than was previously foreseen. Demand is good as end-users are buying and stockholders are starting to expand their inventories. Despite mill announcements to the contrary, Spanish prices have started to soften due to a lack of demand. The increases, instigated during the summer, could not be sustained as real consumption is low and service centres are reluctant to build stocks. Currently, third country import offers are not attractive.

FLAT PRODUCTS

HOT ROLLED COIL

Material is available in Germany with a four week delivery lead time. Overall demand is flat with no expectations that the manufacturing sector will improve in the near term. The pipemakers, who have poor order books from within Europe, are trying to compensate for this lack of business by exporting to other regions. If the US dollar deteriorates further, purchasing hot rolled coil from non-EU sources could become more prevalent. At present, Indian suppliers are offering quite aggressively. The material would arrive in four months. Market activity is slowing again in France. Nevertheless, basis numbers are €20 per tonne above

those quoted in our September issue. Hot rolled coil is on offer in Italy, from third country sources, at €440 per tonne, effective delivered. There was a small revival in demand, causing domestic basis numbers to rise to €450 per tonne in late September but now they have moved back down.

In the UK market, the positive attitude has been maintained, with basis values at a similar level to figures in the previous month. Looking forward, there is a degree of concern that prices could be eroded as a result of increased third country import competition and the imminent start-up of idled domestic capacity. Russian pickled and oiled material is competitively priced. There have been no

TABLE 2. LONG PRODUCTS - NEGOTIATED DOMESTIC BASIS PRICES - GERMANY

price/metric ton		2013					
		MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
Wire Rod	High:	530	530	510	510	530	535
	Low:	510	510	490	490	510	515
Medium Sections and Beams	High:	580	580	570	570	580	590
	Low:	540	540	530	530	540	550
Rebars	High:	260	240	240	240	275	275
	Low:	240	220	220	220	255	255
Merchant Bars	High:	180	180	170	170	200	210
	Low:	140	140	130	130	160	170

**MEPS - API LINEPIPE STEEL PRICE INDEX
X60/65 COMPOSITE**

	Hot Rolled Plate		Hot Rolled Coil	
	Q2/13	Q3/13p	Q2/13	Q3/13p
EU Average				
Non Sour	107.5	110.0	126.3	127.2
Sour	113.5	115.8	125.2	126.0

* Q4/06 = 100 - based on Euro values

** p = Provisional e = Estimate

**MEPS - STEELPPI - AUTOMOTIVE
Auto Body Parts Composite Index**

	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13
EU Average	75.7	78.1	78.0
Year-on-year % +/-	-8.5	-4.6	-2.6

* Jan 07 = 100 - based on transaction prices

** STEELPPI - Steel Purchasing Price Index

significant changes to basis prices in Belgium. Demand from the tubemakers is dull because they are lacking orders. However, sales to other sectors, such as machinery manufacture, white goods and auto, are recovering a little. Producers are asking for €480/490 per tonne for January delivery but distributors are cautious because the market is still absorbing the recent mill increase. Spanish activity is very slow, with no significant improvement in demand. Part of the price advance imposed during the summer has been lost.

HOT ROLLED PLATE

Commodity grade plate demand is still weak in Western Europe. Import volumes are low. There are some competitive offers but buyers are unwilling to commit. Domestic producers would like to implement further rises of €20/30 per tonne for early fourth quarter production but customers are wary. Business for the higher specifications is reasonable. However, the steelmakers need orders for the lower qualities in order to fill their rolling schedules.

In Germany, stockholders are loath to place forward orders at the higher prices and are sitting back and waiting to see how the market develops. Consequently, activity is dull with no huge purchases taking place. Linepipe business is still at a low ebb. In France, the large advance secured last month has been maintained. Major stockholders have placed significant orders. Demand for the higher specifications is fairly good. After the mothballing of the Evraz plant, Palini e Bertoli, in Italy, other local rerollers saw an opportunity to hike prices. Due to subdued demand, the increases did not stick.

In the UK, prices have not moved, month on month. Sales of commodity grade plate to a number of sectors are stagnant at a low level. Business activity in September was quieter than expected and this month, so far, is similar. Neither end-users nor service centres are willing to restock. Although the domestic producer would like to lift basis figures, it is impossible in the current climate. Moreover, the arrival of cheaply-priced Italian material is creating further downward pressure. Prices are firm in

Belgium with some positive movement noted. Selling values have moved back to the August level in Spain, where the market is described as 'dead'.

COLD ROLLED COIL

In Germany, the automakers are implementing cost reduction programmes because the economy is still quite dull. This could reduce cold rolled coil demand at the service centres. French basis figures have gained €10 per tonne compared with the previous month. Customers are not expecting any further hikes during the remainder of the fourth quarter. There is little business being concluded in Italy, where service centres still have the difficult task of passing on the recent increases to their resale customers, amidst fierce competition.

Russian suppliers continue to be very competitive in the UK market, currently offering at £460/465 per tonne, effective delivered, for arrival December. Material is available from China at a similar level but with extended delivery lead times. In Belgium, basis numbers are €10 per tonne above those in our September report. There was

**TABLE 3. COMPARISON OF LOW MARKET
DOMESTIC BASIS PRICES - COLD ROLLED COIL**

	Local Currency		US\$/metric ton	
	last month	this month	last month	this month
Germany	530	530	699	717
France	540	550	712	744
Italy	520	510	686	690
UK	450	450	699	729
Belgium	540	550	712	744
Spain	510	510	673	690

Note: Exchange rates used for conversion are based on the figures given in our currency exchange rate table.

TABLE 4. FLAT ROLLED PRODUCTS - NEGOTIATED DOMESTIC BASIS PRICES

price/metric ton		Germany (€)	France (€)	Italy (€)	UK (£)	UK (€)	Belgium (€)	Spain (€)
Hot Rolled Coil	High:	500	510	460	415	497	500	440
	Low:	450	470	420	390	467	460	420
Hot Rolled Plates	High:	545	560	530	480	575	550	510
	Low:	505	510	490	450	539	510	460
Cold Rolled Coil	High:	570	590	560	485	581	600	550
	Low:	530	550	510	450	539	550	510
Hot Dipped Galvanised Coil	High:	570	570	540	500	599	590	540
	Low:	530	530	490	460	551	540	500
Electro-Zinc Coated Coil	High:	580	590	580	520	623	610	580
	Low:	530	560	540	480	575	560	540
Stainless Cold (a) Rolled Type 304	High:	1100	1060	1000	975	1168	1050	980
	Low:	1000	1010	950	905	1084	1000	930
Stainless Cold (a) Rolled Type 430	High:	1090	1070	935	1025	1228	—	1007
	Low:	1040	1020	885	1000	1198	—	977

MONTH on MONTH % CHANGE

Hot Rolled Coil	Low:	0.0	4.4	-2.3	0.0	1.7	2.2	-2.3
Hot Rolled Plates	Low:	0.0	0.0	-3.9	0.0	1.7	0.0	-3.2
Cold Rolled Coil	Low:	0.0	1.9	-1.9	0.0	1.7	1.9	0.0
H.D. Galv Coil	Low:	0.0	1.9	-2.0	-2.1	-0.5	1.9	-3.8
E.Z. Coated Coil	Low:	0.0	1.8	-1.8	-1.0	0.7	1.8	0.0
S/S CR Type 304	Low:	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	1.0	0.0
S/S CR Type 430	Low:	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	—	0.0

BASIS PRICE AND PRODUCT DEFINITIONS

Negotiated basis price ranges pertain to new purchases for mainstream business agreed with regional mills during the current month for delivery in the future. They relate to prime material ex basing point net of all rebates and discounts for the lowest quality product in the producers' price lists unless otherwise stated.

Extras for size cutting, testing, transport etc. are excluded except where specified.

Notes: (a) Basis - 1.5mm thick.

Prices in this table may relate to deliveries in different time periods. It is important that this table is read in conjunction with the text in the newsletter.

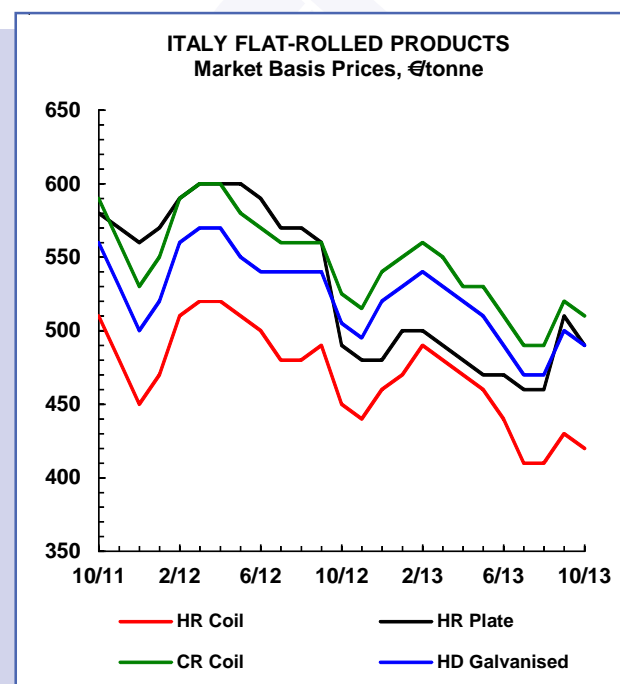
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more purchasing activity, ahead of the announced increases. Stockists, as well as end-users, are buying more. However, there is no major restocking. Suppliers have rolled over September's figures in Spain but the amount of business being transacted is extremely small. Demand is dismal.

COATED COIL

Basis prices for hot dipped galvanised coil in the German general market are firm. Sales of premium brand vehicles, especially to Asia, remain healthy but there is some unease regarding demand from the domestic market because of the lacklustre economic climate. Meanwhile, auto-related demand is muted in France. Selling values in the general market continue to follow a positive tendency – in line with other flat products. There is a lot of internal competition between local mills in Italy. This is depressing prices. In addition, sales activity is slow. In the UK, suppliers have reduced basis numbers by around £10 per tonne due to competition, particularly from Chinese imports. Signals from the car industry for future growth are good. Similarly, in Belgium, vehicle sales are improving. Producers have lifted basis numbers by another €10 per tonne, although distributors continue to complain that profit margins are squeezed. Spanish auto activity is steady at a low level. We have noted a small negative price movement.

In Germany, the steelmakers have maintained the small basis increase they secured during the summer for sales of electro-zinc coated coil. French figures are slightly higher than those quoted in our September issue. Prices have contracted in Italy. In the UK, there has been a little downward pressure on selling numbers from mainland



European suppliers. Customers have conceded a €10 per tonne advance in Belgium. Values are unchanged in Spain.

COLD ROLLED STAINLESS COIL

In September, cold rolled austenitic stainless steel basis figures climbed by €10 per tonne in Germany, France and Belgium, as alloy surcharges decreased. Further advances were thought possible for November deliveries. Sales volumes remained modest, in line with activity so far this year. Elsewhere, selling values were unchanged. Ferritic numbers were steady.

LONG PRODUCTS

EU construction activity remains depressed. The amount of purchasing being undertaken is moderate. Producers are looking to stabilise prices at current levels.

WIRE ROD

Low carbon wire rod producers in Germany have instigated a marginal rise, continuing last month's positive trend. Although demand is weak in the recoil market, with very few large tonnage orders available, selling figures have moved up marginally, due to ongoing efforts by the mills to cover their production costs. In France, values for drawing rod are up by €10 per tonne, whilst those for the mesh quality material have also hardened slightly as delivery lead times have started to stretch out. Italian low

carbon wire rod prices are slightly higher than in September, despite dull order intake caused by the stagnant economy. Sales of recoil are poor, with orders difficult to acquire. Producers have maintained last month's advance.

Sales of the basic drawing qualities are flat in the UK. However, the small increase that customers conceded last month remains in place. Prices for the higher specifications are also stable. Finished mesh consumption is poor, creating negative pressure on recoil basis values. Drawing quality figures are on an upward projection in Belgium, where sales are muted. In Spain, we have similar developments to report for low carbon material. The mesh quality market remains depressed, leading to discounts of around €15 per tonne being offered.

MEDIUM SECTIONS AND BEAMS

There are still more tonnes of structural sections being produced than consumed in the EU. Nevertheless, steelmakers continue to try to lift effective values in order to recoup their high outlay on raw materials.

In Germany, the positive price trend that began in September has continued. Figures are up by another €10 per tonne. Sales are improving. French effective values have increased by a similar amount, with mills pushing for further gains. Delivery lead times have lengthened. However, buyers are cautious as they envisage that some suppliers, in search of extra orders, might drop their

prices later in the quarter. Poor construction activity has led to reduced beam production in Italy, which has helped to tighten supply. Moreover, export volumes have improved. Producers are trying to restore their profit margins. We have noted a small positive price movement.

Prices are generally firm in the UK, where Tata Steel has recently informed buyers that it will raise transaction values by £25 per tonne, effective on all deliveries from October 6. There are some encouraging signs in the market. Fabricators are a little busier and more enquiries are being placed on service centres. Some customers report that material is starting to arrive a little late, which could indicate a tightening of supply. Although distributors'

TABLE 5. LONG PRODUCTS - NEGOTIATED DOMESTIC BASIS PRICES

price/metric ton		Germany	France	Italy	UK+	UK+	Belgium	Spain
		(€)	(€)	(€)	(£)	(€)	(€)	(€)
Wire Rod (b)	High:	535	540	530	470	563	540	530
	Low:	515	510	510	430	515	510	510
Medium Sections & Beams (c)	High:	590	580	555	510	611	600	580
	Low:	550	550	535	480	575	550	530
Rebar (d)	High:	275	275	250	470	563	280	250
	Low:	255	245	240	440	527	250	230
Merchant Bar (e)	High:	210	180	170	500	599	180	200
	Low:	170	160	150	480	575	160	150
MONTH on MONTH % CHANGE								
Wire Rod	Low:	1.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	1.8	2.0	2.0
M.Sect. & Beams	Low:	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	1.8	1.9	1.9
Rebar	Low:	0.0	0.0	-4.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	-6.1
Merchant Bar	Low:	6.3	6.7	0.0	-1.0	0.7	6.7	7.1

BASIS PRICE AND PRODUCT DEFINITIONS

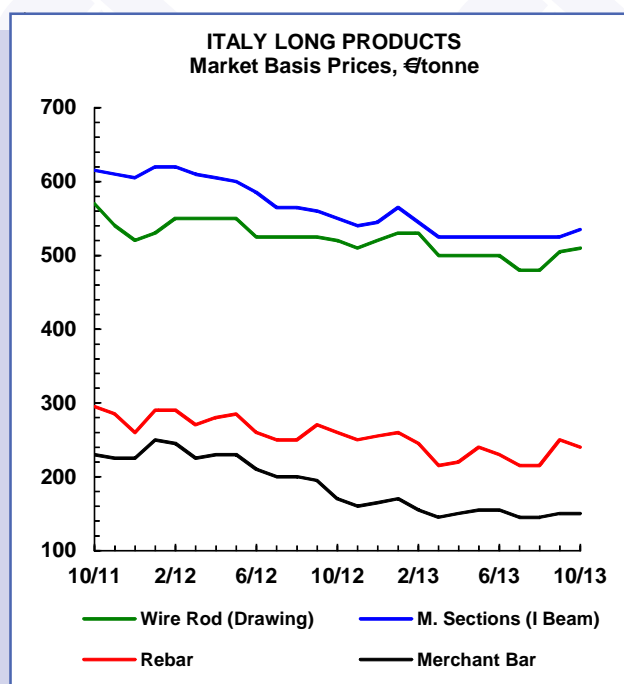
* Due to the suspension of scrap surcharges by all major European producers from June 2010, MEPS basis prices for Medium Sections & Beams are now equivalent to transaction prices for category C1 beams.

Negotiated basis price ranges pertain to new purchases for mainstream business negotiated with regional mills during the current month for delivery in the future. They relate to prime material ex basing point net of all rebates and discounts for the lowest quality product in the producers' price lists unless otherwise stated.

Extras for size cutting, testing, transport etc. are excluded except where specified.

- Notes:
- + All UK prices include size extra
 - (b) Drawing quality. This product incorporates a quality extra.
 - (c) Category C1. Includes size extras.
 - (d) High Yield - deformed.
 - (e) Round Bar.

Prices in this table may relate to deliveries in different time periods. It is important that this table is read in conjunction with the text in the newsletter.



margins are still poor, resale figures are creeping up, albeit slowly. There has been a fair amount of intertrading between stockists over the last month. Delayed or cancelled construction projects are adversely affecting sales of structural sections in Belgium. Nevertheless, selling values have moved up slightly over the last month, with the mills proposing even higher figures. Demand is so low that distributors claim they cannot afford to pay more. There are some third country offers from Turkey and China for January delivery. The Spanish market is dismal, causing producers to sell cheaply in other parts of Europe. However, the mills have succeeded in their attempts to impose a small rise.

REINFORCING BAR

There have been no fundamental changes in the West European rebar market since our last report. September's order intake was very slow and this month is similar. Very little business has been transacted, since the considerable summer price hikes were implemented. Customers are still holding back and buying, literally, by the truck load. Nevertheless, producers cannot afford to drop basis values, having made major losses in the first half of 2013. The volume of exports from Spanish and Italian steelmakers to North Africa is less than in the past. Demand from that region has been flat since the end of Ramadan.

In Germany, producers' forward order books are weak and current sales are slow. Decreasing scrap values have undermined the steel price increases put in place during the summer, although some mills are still quoting €510/520 per tonne, effective. Buyers have few orders to place,

so only small quantities are being purchased. A large tonnage could command a discount. The temporary closure of Riva's Italian plants resulted in the disappearance of Italian offers to southern Germany. French rebar figures have not yet reacted to the downward movements in scrap. Italian construction activity is very depressed. In addition, export volumes to Algeria are suffering because of severe competition from Spanish suppliers and reduced demand. Mills are offering at €470/480 per tonne FOB, or even lower. Riva's plants in the north of the country have restarted production.

The flurry of activity in the UK at the start of September has died away. The steelmakers' current order books are relatively healthy but forward business is slower. Now that scrap costs are moving down, customers' expectations are that rebar prices will do likewise. How long the local supplier can hold them at the present level is difficult to judge. Importers are offering at up to £30 per tonne below domestic figures, with currency exchange rates working in their favour. There are stocks of foreign material at the ports. Fabricators cannot recover the summer price rise from their clients, with the result that their margins are being squeezed. We have no price developments to report in Belgium. Distributors indicate that resale values are poor due to a lack of demand. Sales are unlikely to recover as the approaching winter will further hinder building activity. Demand in the Spanish market is tepid. Falling scrap costs have created negative pressure on domestic basis numbers. Local steelmakers, taking advantage of the antidumping investigation by the US authorities into Turkish imports, have already achieved some export orders to North America.

MERCHANT BAR

Continental European basis values continue to advance. Most major mills have relatively strong order books for October but the amount of new business being placed

MEPS INDUSTRIAL SECTOR STEEL PURCHASING PRICE INDICES - EU AVERAGE

January 2007=100	Sep-13	Oct-13
Construction Industry	100.2	102.9
Household Appliances	80.5	82.6
Machinery Sector	90.9	93.5
Shipbuilding Industry	78.3	79.9
Shipping Containers	89.2	92.0
Yellow Goods	93.7	96.0

has slowed because customers have sufficient material for their immediate needs.

Basis figures have gone up by another €10 per tonne in Germany, where the construction outlook remains better than in many other countries in the eurozone. The price situation is similar in France. Despite an ongoing push by producers, basis numbers are unchanged in Italy. Order intake is dismal in a weak economic and political climate.

There has been a lull in UK purchasing activity since customers refilled their depleted summer inventories. Stockholders are struggling to pass on the mill hike

reported last month. Some appear to be more concerned about losing volume than maintaining margins. Basis figures continue to climb in Belgium. The producers have been very strict about applying planned increases, despite suffering low order volumes. Many distributors bought before the hikes were implemented and are now very careful when reordering. Demand on the service centres has been poor during September and early October as construction projects are still suffering from a lack of finance. Distributors report that it is difficult to recoup the mill increases from their customers. Demand from Spanish end-users is lacklustre. However, steelmakers have managed to secure another small increase.

MARKET/INDUSTRY SCENE

CAPACITY/INVESTMENT

ArcelorMittal plans to modernise a twin-strand continuous slab caster at the Bremen steelworks in Germany. The first strand is to be revamped in the autumn of 2014 and the second in 2015. The caster is capable of producing almost 4 million tonnes per year of slabs with a width of up to 2.67 metres. The plant manufactures flat products for the automotive and construction sectors. Elsewhere in the country, the steelmaker is installing a new cooling stack on the LD (BOF) converter 2 in Eisenhüttenstadt. It is scheduled to be put into operation in mid-2014.

Voestalpine has commenced operation of a duo reversing rolling stand for the production of premium steel plate. The unit is located at the Austrian company's subsidiary, Böhler Bleche, in Mürzzuschlag. The €11.6 million investment was made to increase product quality and expand capacity.

ArcelorMittal has opened a €90 million continuous annealing line at Saint-Chély d'Apcher in France. The 120,000 tonnes per year facility will produce high value-added electrical steels for the automotive, energy and industrial electric motor sectors.

MEDIUM TERM PRICE FORECASTS

HOT ROLLED FLAT PRODUCTS

The MEPS - EU Average Hot Rolled Coil price was stable in October. Transaction values for hot rolled plate slipped by €4 per tonne. The continuation of the summer rise in selling figures was not sustained.

A decline in mill order intake is anticipated, due to weak underlying consumption. This is expected to result in steelmakers conceding modest discounts during the fourth quarter of this year.

Steel prices are forecast to strengthen at the start of 2014 as a degree of restocking is envisaged throughout the supply chain. In most instances, inventories have been run down to a low level and a pickup in end-user activity will likely provide a boost to mill order volumes. Steel selling figures are expected to peak in the spring. We foresee a seasonal slowdown in buying activity as the summer holiday period approaches. Consequently, transaction values are forecast to decline at this time.

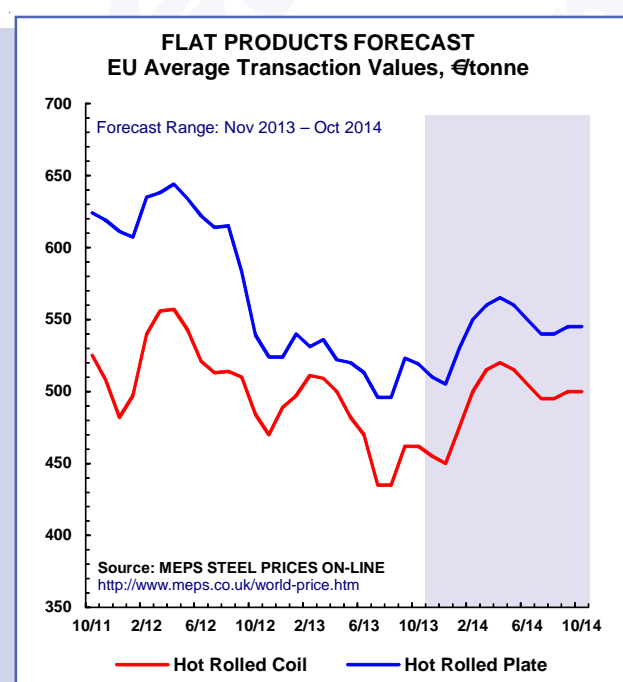
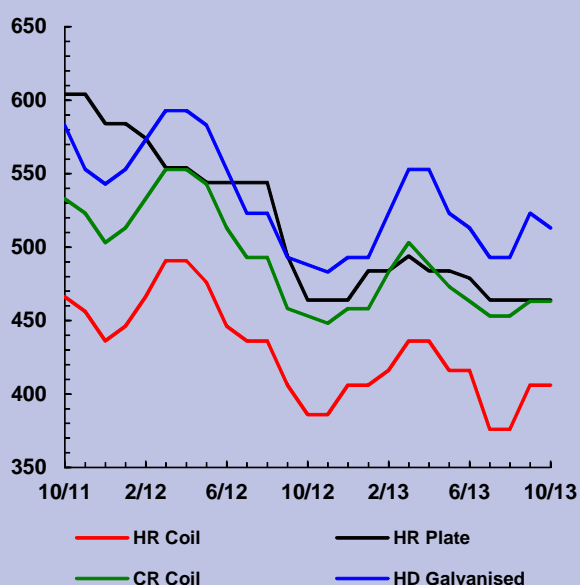
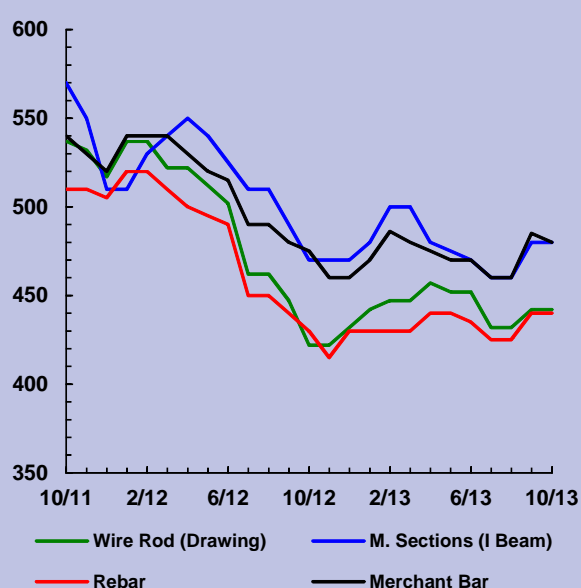


TABLE 6. EU AVERAGE DOMESTIC TRANSACTION PRICE FORECASTS

Euro/metric ton	Actual	Forecast					
	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14
Hot Rolled Coil	462	455	450	475	500	515	520
Hot Rolled Plate	519	510	505	530	550	560	565
Cold Rolled Coil	543	535	530	555	575	590	595
H.D. Galv Coil	594	585	580	605	625	640	645
E.Z. Coated Coil	604	595	590	615	635	650	655
Wire Rod (Drawing)	520	515	515	530	545	555	560
Wire Rod (Mesh)	494	485	485	495	510	520	525
M. Sections (I Beam)	549	545	550	565	580	590	595
M. Sections (H Beam)	603	600	605	620	635	645	650
Rebar	485	475	475	490	505	515	520
Merc Bar (Round)	545	538	538	543	553	563	568
Merc Bar (Eq Angle)	562	555	555	560	570	580	585

PRICE AND PRODUCT DEFINITIONS

Steel prices are computed from a weighted average (based on consumption) of the low values identified in the top five consuming countries for each product in the relevant period - collected in national currencies and converted into Euros using currency exchange rates effective at the start of each month to provide a basis for comparisons.

UK FLAT-ROLLED PRODUCTS
Transaction Prices, £/tonneUK LONG PRODUCTS
Transaction Prices, £/tonne

Transaction Price Data Sheet

TABLE 7. NEGOTIATED DOMESTIC TRANSACTION PRICES

FLAT PRODUCTS price/metric ton		EU AVG. (€)	Germany (€)	France (€)	Italy (€)	UK (£)	UK (€)	Spain (€)
Hot Rolled Coil	High:	502	520	510	490	431	508	470
	Low:	462	470	470	450	406	478	450
Hot Rolled Plates	High:	565	560	575	565	494	582	540
	Low:	523	520	525	525	464	547	490
Cold Rolled Coil	High:	585	585	595	585	498	587	565
	Low:	543	545	555	535	463	545	525
Hot Dipped Galvanised Coil	High:	638	642	632	622	563	663	632
	Low:	596	602	592	572	523	616	592
Electro-Zinc Coated Coil	High:	645	639	639	649	568	669	639
	Low:	602	589	609	609	528	622	599
Stainless Cold (a) Rolled Type 304	High:	1065	1090	1050	1000	975	1148	980
	Low:	991	990	1000	950	905	1066	930
Stainless Cold (a) Rolled Type 430	High:	1069	1090	1070	935	1025	1207	1007
	Low:	1023	1040	1020	885	1000	1178	977
LONG PRODUCTS price/metric ton		EU AVG. (€)	Germany (€)	France (€)	Italy (€)	UK (£)	UK (€)	Spain (€)
Wire Rod (Drawing quality) *	High:	545	553	540	530	482	577	530
	Low:	520	533	510	510	442	529	510
Wire Rod (Mesh quality)	High:	518	515	525	505	470	563	515
	Low:	494	495	495	485	440	527	485
Medium Sections and Beams (I beam)	High:	585	590	580	555	510	611	580
	Low:	549	550	550	535	480	575	530
Medium Sections and Beams (H beam)	High:	647	660	630	640	555	665	620
	Low:	603	610	590	605	515	617	580
Reinforcing Bars	High:	503	515	515	490	470	563	490
	Low:	485	495	485	480	440	527	470
Merchant Bars (50mm diameter)	High:	575	590	560	550	500	599	580
	Low:	545	550	540	530	480	575	530
Merchant Bars (Equal Angle)	High:	593	610	580	570	500	599	600
	Low:	562	570	560	550	480	575	550

* Includes supplementary surcharge in the UK.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES

October 1 - 2013

		Units/ US\$	Units/ Euro
Eurozone	(€)	0.739	1
UK	(£)	0.617	0.835

NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE

The November issue of the European Steel Review will be dispatched by post & PDF on November 19, 2013.

Express Price Tables will be dispatched by e-mail in excel format on 12 November, 2013.

Copies of our main basis price tables can be supplied by email direct to your desktop. These are available within hours of completing our research. They will reach you approximately one week before the publication dispatch date.

**TRANSACTION PRICE INDEX - E.U. AVERAGE
JANUARY 1997 = 100**

<i>Based on Euro values</i>	Sep-13	Oct-13
Hot Rolled Coil	177.0	177.0
Hot Rolled Plate	182.2	180.8
Cold Rolled Coil	149.2	149.2
H.D. Galvanised Coil	129.3	128.9
Electro Zinc Coated Coil	143.0	143.5
Stainless Steel Type 304	80.7	81.4
Stainless Steel Type 430	90.9	91.1
Wire Rod (Drawing)	194.0	196.2
Wire Rod (Mesh)	207.6	208.4
M. Sections (I Beam)	175.6	178.8
M. Sections (H Beam)	169.9	172.8
Reinforcing Bar	216.7	213.7
Merc Bar (Round)	202.3	204.9
Merc Bar (Equal Angle)	215.1	217.8

Note:- Stainless Steel - Excluding alloy surcharge.

TRANSACTION PRICE AND PRODUCT DEFINITIONS

Transaction prices are the realised values obtained by the mills for the cheapest grade of steel in the size range specified for each product. These are determined by adding the relevant size extras to the negotiated ex-mill basis price for the selected product.

Transaction values relate to those paid by consumers and stockholders for prime material. The prices are for regular business between customers and their domestic steel mills, negotiated during the current month for delivery in the future. Delivery charges and local taxes are not included in the quoted prices. Contract deals arranged in the domestic market, or deals for lots of imported steel, are specifically excluded from our price evaluation.

Hot-Rolled Wide Coil - 2-3mm thickness, width over 1.1 metres.

Hot-Rolled Plates - 15-40mm thickness, width over 2.0 metres.

Cold-Rolled Coils - 1mm thickness, width over 1.3 metres.

Hot Dipped Galvanised Coils - 1mm thickness, width over 1.1 metres, coating thickness 275gm/m²

Electro-Zinc Coated Coils - 1mm thickness, width over 1.1 metres, standard coating.

Stainless Type 304 and 430 - 1.5mm thickness, width over 1.25 metres. - (excluding alloy surcharges).

Wire Rod (Drawing Quality) - 5.5mm diameter.

Wire Rod (Mesh Quality) - 8-12mm diameter.

Medium Sections and Beams - Category C1. I Beam.

Medium Sections and Beams - 240 x 240mm H Beam.

Reinforcing Bar (Deformed) - 16-20mm diameter - high yield.

Merchant Bar - 50mm diameter.

Merchant Bar - 50 x 50mm x 6mm equal angle.

MEPS REGULAR PUBLICATIONS

EUROPEAN STEEL REVIEW SUPPLEMENT (monthly)

A sister publication to the European Steel Review. The range of data is extended in this report. Price and market information is supplied for a further six nations, including - Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Holland, Austria and Norway. Euro comparisons are also included. Details of Nordic Average Steel Transaction Prices are incorporated together with regular forecasts.

INTERNATIONAL STEEL REVIEW (monthly)

Each edition carries domestic steel pricing data in eleven countries across the globe, including - United States, Canada, China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Poland, Czech/Slovak Republics and the main five EU member states - covering 70 percent of world consumption. Details of World and Regional Average Steel Prices are incorporated together with regular forecasts.

STAINLESS STEEL REVIEW (monthly)

This publication provides stainless steel price and market information for hot rolled plate, hot and cold rolled strip, plus two bar products. Two austenitic and ferritic grades are assessed in thirteen countries around the world covering 65% of global consumption. Details of basis price negotiations and alloy surcharge values, where applicable, are incorporated. Transaction price forecasts are included. Estimates of alloy surcharges three months ahead are also included in each issue.

DEVELOPING MARKETS' STEEL REVIEW (monthly)

This is a new report from MEPS outlining steel market trends in the increasingly important emerging markets around the world. Each edition carries steel prices in eight countries - India, UAE, Turkey, South Africa, Russia, Ukraine, Mexico and Brazil. Details of eight steel prices in the flat and long products sectors are available. Comprehensive commentaries are included.

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