# Steel and Scrap Report

info@freightinvestor.com | freightinvestorservices.com | (+44) 207 090 1120

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#### EU HRC

European hot-rolled coil (HRC) prices rose yesterday on firmer offers, although there was still concern about real demand levels. The Argus daily Italian HRC index rose by  $\leq 2.25/t$  to  $\leq 746.50/t$  ex-works, while the north European index nudged up by  $\leq 2/t$  to  $\leq 735.50/t$ . The twice-weekly cif Italy HRC assessment increased by  $\leq 10/t$  to  $\leq 700/t$ , whereas the weekly cold-rolled coil (CRC) assessment was up by  $\leq 30/t$  to  $\leq 830/t$  ex-works. In Italy, mills were seeking  $\leq 760-780/t$  ex-works, or  $\leq 780-800/t$  delivered, with one mill indicating a minimum level at  $\leq 740/t$  ex-works for HRC. Sales were reportedly done at  $\leq 760/t$  delivered, several market participants said, and producers were looking to raise prices further.

One mill said customers were asking for additional tonnages on old orders and looking to keep the same price, indicating that buyers expect little room for negotiation on new orders. That said, sheet prices are not moving in tandem with coils, as service centres (SSCs) are selling sheets from material purchased when the market was at the bottom, and instead of moving prices up in line with the increase in HRC they are applying the usual premium for sheets on the old HRC purchases. This means there are expectations that sheet prices will catch up in February-March, unless by that time the HRC market starts showing weakness again. Meanwhile, demand for CRCs is suffering from the underperformance of the white goods industry, as well as lower import prices. Some market indications were heard at around €840-860/t ex-works, but pressure is more severe there also as the latest import prices from Asian suppliers — pre-lunar new year holidays — were quoted significantly below at around €760-780/t cif Italy. Although these will likely be higher next week, many suppliers are out of the market for now, waiting for a clearer direction of prices from China next week.

There was growing concern among some about the strength of automotive demand, and real demand in general, as the current SSC restock would unlikely be sustainable without stimulus from consumers. Lead times for new vehicles are reducing, while inventory appears to be increasing, despite strong registrations within the EU. As in Italy, SSCs were still struggling to pass off increases in sheet prices. Some independent SSCs bemoaned aggressive competition from their millowned counterparts. (Argus)

#### **CFR Taiwan Containerised Ferrous Scrap**

The Taiwanese container scrap index was quiet on Friday as Taiwanese trade sources observes the lunar new year public holiday and will return on 30 January. The Argus daily containerised HMS 1/2 80:20 cfr Taiwan assessment remained flat day on day at \$405/t on Friday The index is up \$10/t week on week, bringing the index's month-to-date average to \$395.68/t. No spot trades, bids, or offers were heard in the market on Friday. Some international traders said that pricing outlook for US containerised HMS 1/2 80:20 scrap will likely remain mixed and will only present further clarity when trade sources return from their holiday. (Argus)

### **Market Rates**

Indices	Price	Change	MTD
Platts TSI HMS 1/2 80:20 CFR Turkey (\$/mt)	410	1.00	411.50
Steel Rebar FOB Turkey (\$/mt)	685	0.00	687.41
Argus HRC NW Europe (€/mt)	735.5	2.00	716.16

US HRC USD/short ton								
	Bid Ask Value							
Feb-23	772	782	777					
Mar-23	782	792	787					
Apr-23	792	802	797					
Q2-23	793	803	798					
Q3-23	800	810	805					
Q4-23	798	808	803					

LME HRC FOB TIANJIN CHINA USD/mt						
	Bid Ask Value					
Feb-23	643	653	648			
Mar-23	645	655	650			
Apr-23	645	655	650			
Q2-23	645	655	650			
Q3-23	650	660	655			
Q4-23	647	657	652			

LME REBAR FOB TK							
Bid Ask Value							
Feb-23	678	688	683				
Mar-23	675	685	680				
Apr-23	672	682	677				
Q2-23	672	682	677				
Q3-23	672	682	677				
Q4-23	670	680	675				

NWE HRC EUR/metric ton							
	Bid Ask Value						
Feb-23	762	772	767				
Mar-23	770	780	775				
Apr-23	775	785	780				
Q2-23	780	790	785				
Q3-23	788	798	793				
Q4-23	788	798	793				

LME HMS 80:20 CFR TK						
	Bid Ask Value					
Feb-23	409	419	414			
Mar-23	412	422	417			
Apr-23	412	422	417			
Q2-23	413	423	418			
Q3-23	413	423	418			
Q4-23	411	421	416			

BUSHELING							
Bid Ask Value							
Feb-23	449	459	454				
Mar-23	455	465	460				
Apr-23	465	475	470				
Q2-23	466	476	471				
Q3-23	470	480	475				
Q4-23	470	480	475				

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# **Spread Moves**

Metal	Front Mth	Back Mth	Current Spread	T-1₩	T-1M	T-3M	T-12M	Tight/Eased T-1₩
	FEB 23	MAR 23	-7	-13	-11	-11	0	Tightened
	FEB 23	APR 23	-19	-31	-11	-20	4	Tightened
US HRC	FEB 23	MAY 23	-21	-41	-11	-25	34	Tightened
US INC	MAR 23	APR 23	-12	-18	0	-9	4	Tightened
	MAR 23	MAY 23	-14	-28	0	-14	34	Tightened
	APR 23	MAY 23	-2	-10	0	-5	30	Tightened
	FEB 23	MAR 23	-44	-44	-15	-10	5	Unchanged
	FEB 23	APR 23	-59	-69	-25	-30	10	Tightened
EU HRC	FEB 23	MAY 23	-49	-69	-10	-40	80	Tightened
LUTING	MAR 23	APR 23	-15	-25	-10	-20	5	Tightened
	MAR 23	MAY 23	-5	-25	5	-30	75	Tightened
	APR 23	MAY 23	10	0	15	-10	70	Tightened
	FEB 23	FEB 23	323	323	339	318	294	Unchanged
	MAR 23	MAR 23	315	336	345	324	294	Eased
Mill Margin	APR 23	APR 23	317	339	350	318	290	Eased
	MAY 23	MAY 23	319	349	350	323	260	Eased
	JUN 23	JUN 23	328	354	343	310	260	Eased
	FEB 23	FEB 23	8	8	44	48	-41	Unchanged
Atlantic Spread (US-EU)	MAR 23	MAR 23	0	-4	45	39	-36	Tightened
	APR 23	APR 23	22	14	60	38	30	Tightened
	MAY 23	MAY 23	19	19	60	33	0	Unchanged
	JUN 23	JUN 23	18	14	50	5	0	Tightened

## **Front Month Price Grid**

Field	US HRC	US BUS	N¥ EUR HRC	LME SCRAP TK	LME HRC FOB	LME REBAR TK	TimeFrame
	773	460	722	414	625	686	Current
	783	460	731	415	625	693	T-1¥
	789	450	730	384	608	655	T-1M
PRICE	718	400	660	354	552	632	T-3M
	870	477	810	358	632	633	T-6M
	834	540	880	426	766	652	T-12M
	790	455	720	417	645	690	YTD

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