EMISSIONS | OIL | FERROUS | FREIGHT | AGRI | METALS | ENERGY | PHYSICAL FREIGHT |



Daily Virtual Steel Mill Report

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28/04/2025

Verdict:

Short-run Neutral

Macro:

- National Bureau of Statistics data show that In Q1, the steel industry reported profits of 7.51 billion yuan, marking a year-on-year turnaround from losses to gains. Nationwide industrial profits for enterprises above designated size shifted from a 3.3% decline in the previous year to 0.8% growth.
- The CPC Politburo Meeting called for deploying more proactive fiscal policies and appropriately accommodative monetary policies, including timely RRR and interest rate cuts when appropriate. **Iron Ore Key Indicators:**
- Platts62 \$100.45, -0.65, MTD \$99.94. Iron ore prices weakened with fluctuations on Friday, with the absence of specific economic stimulus measures at the Politburo meeting adding pressure to the market. Trading activity in the seaborne market remained relatively firm with a cargo of PBF traded at \$97.45/dmt, approximately \$1 lower than the previous day's trade, and a cargo of NHGF traded at \$95.50/dmt.

SGX Iron Ore 62% Futures& Options Open Interest (Apr 25th)

- Futures 141,656,100 tons (increase 637,900 tons)
- Options 140,788,600 tons (Increase 457,500 tons)

Steel Key Indicators:

- The blast furnace operating rate of 247 steel mills is 84.33%, increasing by 0.77% week-on-week and increasing by 4.60% year-on-year. The blast furnace utilization rate is 91.60%, increasing by 1.45% week-on-week and increasing by 6.07% year-on-year.
- China 90 sample EAFs utilisation rate at 56.66%, up by 0.33% on the week, up 6.17% on the year.

Coking Coal and Coke Indicators:

- On April 25, major coking plants implemented a second round of price increases, with hikes ranging from 50-55 yuan/ton.
- Indian buyers remain active in the seaborne market. Canadian coking coal currently holds a price advantage over Australian supplies which may lead to demand shifts away from Australian coal.

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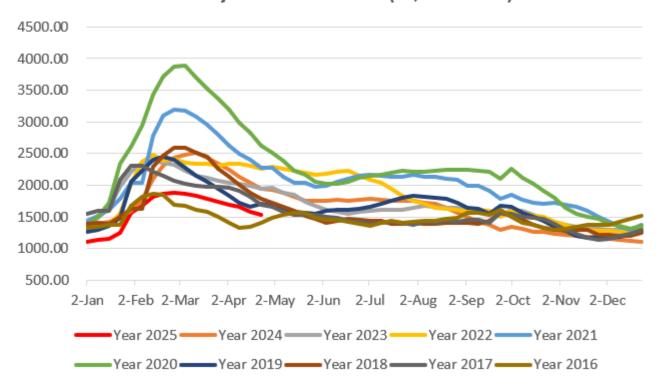
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Five Major Steels Inventories (10,000 tonnes)



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