

13/01/2026

## Verdict

- Our view is Short-run Neutral

## Macro

- On the 12th, CME announced that it will change the margin calculation method for gold, silver, platinum, and palladium contracts. Instead of being primarily based on fixed U.S. dollar amounts, margins will now be calculated as a percentage of the contract's nominal value.

## Iron Ore Key Indicators:

- Platts IODEX 109.25, +0.75 MTD \$107.59. Iron ore prices have been fluctuating at elevated levels, buoyed by the significant rally in non-ferrous and precious metals. On the demand side, while steel mills—having largely maintained need-to procurement strategies—currently hold relatively low inventories and thus have some restocking needs, buyer remains cautious amid current high prices. As a result, liquidity at ports has been slowed.
- During past week, the total delivery of Brazil and Australia reached 26.06 million tons, down 1.36 million tons w-o-w.
- The iron ore arrivals at 45 China ports reached 29.20 million tons, up 1,640,000 tons w-o-w. The iron ore arrivals at six northern ports of China reached 14.69 million tons, down 437,000 tons w-o-w.

## SGX Iron Ore IODEX Futures&amp; Options Open Interest (Jan 12th)

- Futures 158,149,200 tons (Increase 2,722,900 tons)
- Options 149,541,300 tons (Increase 1,540,000 tons)

## Steel Indicators:

- According to data from the CAAM, China's retail sales of passenger vehicles in the domestic market reached 2.261 million units in December 2025, reflecting a year-on-year decline of 14.0% but a month-on-month increase of 1.6%. Total sales for the January–December period amounted to 23.74 million units, up 3.8% compared with the same period in the previous year.

## Coking Coal and Coke Indicators

- A cargo of 75,000 tonnes of PLV Peak Downs coal was traded yesterday at \$226.5/mt, significantly pushing up the index. Market views on current prices are divided. On one hand, tight supply continues to support prices, with reports indicating that shipping ports remain affected by a tropical cyclone. On the other hand, given that Indonesian coke is currently priced around \$220/mt FOB, the price of coking coal is considered elevated.

