# **AISU Steel News**

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**Arab Iron and Steel Union** 

# Latest News

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- Egypt: Ezz Steel announces flat steel prices for 20 March 2023.
- The latest rebar prices update in Egypt, March 20, 2023.
- Egypt: Establishment of two projects for cast iron pipes production and a steel plant, with Chinese investments amounting to \$2 billion.

#### **Gulf Area**

- Average rebar prices in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during February 2023.
- UAE extends the ban on exporting iron scrap until September 2023.

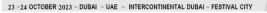
### World

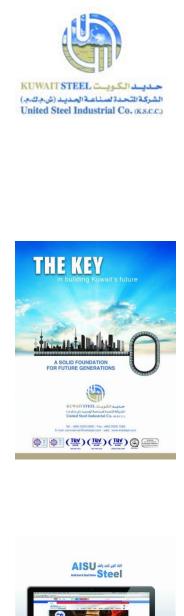
- Steel prices in the fourth week of March 2023.
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- World's crude steel production declined by 1.0% in February 2023.
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- China Iron and Steel Association: China's steel prices rose in March.
- Germany's steel production declined by 6.9% in February 2023.
- Turkey's wire rod exports decreased by 21.6% in January 2023.
- Turkey's hot rolled steel coils exports decreased by 66.5% in January.

### Technology

• Midrex and Thyssenkrupp cooperate to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.









قمة الصلب العربي الـ 16 16<sup>th</sup> Arab Steel Summit 2023 وانعرض الدولي للحديد والصلب 8 International Iron and Steel Exhibition 2023

## **North Africa**

#### Algeria Mines Complex exports increase by 110% in 2022

The industrial and mining Complex "Algeria Mines" (MANAL) achieved exports worth \$216 million in 2022, registering an increase of 110% compared to exports in 2021, as confirmed by the CEO Mohamed Sakhr Harami.

Mr Harami said, in his intervention on the occasion of a workshop on mineral resources in Algeria, that the exports of the "MANAL" Complex have witnessed a significant increase in recent years, rising from \$57 million in 2020 to \$103 million in 2021 and then to \$216 million in 2022.

The first official in charge of the Complex added that the rise is expected to continue in 2023, which will allow the institution to record a new increase in the turnover during the current year, to reach 49.3 billion DZD, compared to 44.3 billion in 2022.

And he continued by saying that "these results have been achieved thanks to the realization of the plan to develop the "MANAL" Complex, mainly through the launch of new projects, as well as the increase in current production capacities.

Mr Harami confirmed that the development plan also includes the valuation of mining products to achieve the total value chain locally and launch significant projects and the implementation of a research program consisting of 26 projects during 2021-2023.

During the workshop work organized by the Geological Service Agency of Algeria, numerous experts in the mining sector agreed on the importance of developing many mining resources that fall under the energy transition, for which the demand may witness a significant increase in the coming years.

The representative of the National Agency for Mining Activity, Rachid Abchiche, confirmed that there would be a great demand for mines, especially from lithium, cobalt, nickel, copper and rare elements.

#### Egypt: Ezz Steel announces flat steel prices for 20 March 2023

Ezz Steel announced the prices of flat steel as of Monday, March 20, 2023. 34,485 EGY/tonne EXW, including value-added tax.

Statement	including VAT
Flat Steel	34.485



#### The latest rebar prices update in Egypt, March 20, 2023

According to the daily follow-up of rebar prices in Egypt, the prices of rebar ranged between 27,000 pounds -36,000 pounds today.

Rebar prices today are as follows:

Company	EGP/t
Ezz Steel	32,135
Suez Steel	32,050
Beshay Steel	29,000
El-Marakiby Steel	29,500
Egyptian Steel	32,050
Ashry Steel	29,500
Garhy Steel	27,000
Misr Steel	36,000
El komy Steel	36,000
Al Olaa steel	35,800
Al Gioshy steel	35,500





Prices include 14% VAT

#### Egypt: Establishment of two projects for cast iron pipes production and a steel plant, with Chinese investments amounting to \$2 billion

Dr Mostafa Madbouly, Prime Minister, held, on Wednesday evening, a meeting with officials of the Chinese companies "TEDA" and "Xin Xing" to review a project for cast iron pipes production and a steel plant with investments amounting to \$ 2 billion within the "TEDA Cooperation" area within the scope of the economics region of the Suez Canal. The Chinese company "TEDA" has negotiated successfully to attract several new Chinese investments to the region. One of these projects is the production of cast iron pipes and a steel plant for export through the "Xin Xing" company, which is specialized in this field.

Mr He Qiju, President of "Xin Xing" Company, presented the two projects, indicating that the first phase includes the production of cast iron pipes, with investments of about \$150 million, to be built on an area of 250,000 square meters, with a production capacity of 250,000 tonnes annually, and an annual production value of about 1.2 billion US dollars. It will employ 616 workers.

The second phase will specialize in the iron and steel plant dedicated to export, with investments amounting to about \$1.8 billion, on an area of 1.45 million square meters, with a production capacity of 2 million tonnes annually, and an annual production value of about \$1.4 billion, and it will employ 1,500 workers.

He explained that by the end of the two phases, Egypt would be the leading centre for cast iron pipes production, and it could export them to neighbouring markets. He pointed out that the project would contribute to bridging the gap in the cast iron pipe industry in Egypt and Africa and would promote the development of products in the Egyptian pipes locally and the technical expertise transfer in this crucial field.





## **Gulf Area**

#### Average rebar prices in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during February 2023

According to the General Authority for Statistics, the average iron price per tonne in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in February 2023 ranged between 2943.91 - 4284.07 Saudi riyals, a decrease between -2.85% - 3.91% compared to January 2023, and a decline between -3.04% - 17.27% compared to February 2022.

Average prices and monthly and annual changes in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (February 2023)

Items	Feb23	Jan 23	Change	Feb 22	Change
6mm	4,284.07	4,284.07	-2.85	4,285.86	-3.04
8mm	3, 102.47	3,212.92	-3.44	3,666.95	-17.27
10mm	3,152.68	3,258.84	-3.26	3,678.34	-16.02
12mm	2,943.9	3,063.65	-3.91	3,357.8	-11.79
14mm	2,945.07	3,064.49	-3.9	3,355.69	-11.7
16mm	2,943.91	3,063.73	-3.91	3,355.57	-11.75
18mm	2,946.56	3,064.31	-3.84	3,355.2	-11.7





#### UAE extends the ban on exporting iron scrap until September 2023

The UAE continues to enact policies to protect the national industry by extending the restrictions on exporting scrap for another six months.

The Ministry of Economy issued a directive continuing to ban the export of raw materials, under HS codes 720410, 720421, 720429, 720430, 720441, 720449, and 720450, as well as waste paper under 470710 and 470790.

The decision entered into force on March 21, 2023, and it will remain in effect until September 30, 2023, as a previous decision was issued in October 2022 and continued until March 19, 2023. Hence, the current step is just an extension of the prior decision.

Those working in this field welcomed this decision because they believe protecting national industries should be a top priority.

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## World

#### **Steel prices in the fourth week of March 2023**

According to the prices of the global steel markets, the scrap price reached 453\$/tonne, the iron ore price was 121\$/tonne, the prices of billets ranged between 590 and 630\$/tonne, and rebar prices ranged between 720 and 740\$ / tonne.

Prices for iron and steel products in Russia and Ukraine were not obtained due to the war. The following prices of iron and steel in the global markets on 24/03/2023

Product	Place	Min	Max	Date	w-o-w
Scrap HMS 1&2 (80:20)	CFR Turkey	453	453	24/03/2023	ŧ
lron ore Fe 62%	CFR- China	121	121	24/03/2023	₽
Billet	FOB Russia	590	600	24/03/2023	₽
	Ex- CIS,CFR Turkey	610	630	24/03/2023	ŧ
Rebar	FOB Turkey	720	740	24/03/2023	Ŧ
	FOB Ukraine	-	-	24/03/2023	-
Wire Rod	FOB Turkey	730	750	24/03/2023	+
HR coil	FOB Russia	745	755	24/03/2023	0
CR coil 1mm	FOB China	725	745	24/03/2023	

#### Japan's crude steel and iron ore production declined in January-February

In February this year, Japan's crude steel production decreased by 4.3 per cent compared to the previous month and by 5.3 per cent compared to February 2022, totalling 6.91 million tons, according to data released by the Japan Iron and Steel Federation (JISF).

Meanwhile, total iron ore production in Japan reached 4.98 million tonnes in February 2023, down by 6.4 per cent from the previous month and 4.8 per cent year-on-year.

From January to February this year, Japan's crude steel output reached 14.13 million tonnes, down by 6.1 per cent, while iron ore output reached 10.31 million tonnes, down by 6.6 per cent, year on year.



World

#### World's crude steel production declined by 1.0% in February 2023

According to preliminary data announced by the World Steel Association (worldsteel) about World crude steel production (63 countries) in February 2023 was 142.4 million tonnes (Mt) in February 2023, a 1.0% decrease compared to February 2022.

Africa produced 1.1 million tonnes in February 2023, down 11.9% from February 2022, and Asia and Oceania produced 106.6 million tonnes of crude steel in February 2023, up 3.0% from February 2022. In addition, the European Union (27) produced 10.5 million tonnes of crude steel in February 2023, a decrease of 12.6% compared to February 2022.

Other Europe produced 2.7 million tonnes, down 24.9%, and the Middle East region produced 3.5 million tonnes, up 11.5%. Crude steel production in North America in the same month was 8.3 million tonnes, a decrease of 5.5%. Compared to the same month in 2022. Independent countries including Russia and Ukraine produced 6.4 million tonnes of crude steel in February of 2023, a decrease of 21.3% over the same period of 2022. South America produced 3.2 million tonnes, down 3.1%.

Crude steel production by region						
	Region	Feb 2023	% change Feb22/23	Jan-Feb23(Mt)	%change 22/2 <b>3</b>	
	Africa	1.1	-11.9	2.4	-8.0	
	Asia and Oceania	106.6	3.0	223.9	3.0	
	EU (27)	10.5	-12.62	20.7	-14.3	
	Europe, Other	2.7	-24.9	5.9	-21.8	
	Middle East	3.5	11.5	7.4	17.1	
	North America	8.3	-5.5	17.4	-5.7	
	CIS	6.4	-21.3	13.3	-20.7	
	South America	3.2	-3.1	6.8	-2.1	
	Total	142.4	-1.0	297.8	-0.8	

As for the Arab countries, Saudi Arabia topped the production of Arab countries in February 2023, producing 736,000 tonnes, an increase of 1.0%, followed by Egypt, producing 705,000 tonnes, a decrease of 11.4%. The UAE came in third place, producing 250,000 tonnes, an increase of 20.2%.

#### Arab countries' production of Crude steel

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Countries	Feb2023 (000t)	Feb change 22/23(000t)	Jan- Feb (000t)	% change 22/23
Egypt	705	-11.4	1505	-7.1
K.S.A	736	1.0	1446	-2.2
UAE	250	20.2	528	22.3
Qatar	88	2.3	184	1.6
Libya	74	19.4	152	28.9
Tunisia	7	-12.5	15	-6.7
Total	1860	-1.5	3830	0.7









# The United States extends anti-dumping duties on wire coils from 10 countries

The United States will extend anti-dumping duties on wire coil imports made of certain alloy steels from 10 countries.

The aim of the investigation was that the import of these products from "Belarus, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Italy, South Korea, South Africa, Spain, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom" affects the local steel industry.

According to a letter from the US International Trade Administration, the US Department of Commerce concluded that the anti-dumping duties removal on wire coil imports from the listed countries is likely to lead to continued or recurring dumping.

Based on the results of the expedited investigation, the US Department of Commerce determined the following dumping margin: Belarus -280.02%, Italy -18.89%, South Korea -41.10%, Russian Federation -756.93%, South Africa -142.26%, Spain -32.64%, Turkey -4.44%, Ukraine -44.03%, UAE -84.10% and the UK -147.63%.

According to the results of this investigation, the steel wire coils imports into the United States are classified in the Coherent Tariff Schedule of the United States under the codes 7213.91.3011, 7213.91.3015, 7213.91.3020, 7213.91.3093; 7213.91.4500, 7213.91.6000, 7213.99.0030, 7227.20.0030, 7227.20.0030, 7227.20.0030, 7227.90.6010, 7227.90.6020, 7227.90.6030, and 7227.90.6035.

The import subject can also enter the codes 7213.99.0090 and 7227.90.6090.

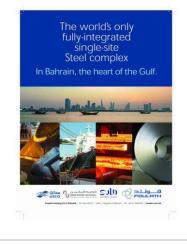
Meanwhile, the United Kingdom announced the extension from March 1, 2023, of anti-dumping measures against Chinese rebar (HFP). The decision comes after the Trade Remedies Authority (TRA) overturned an earlier recommendation that the anti-dumping duties will be on Chinese rebar valid until July 2026.

At the same time, Australia expanded its anti-dumping duties on rebar imports to four countries – Greece, Spain, Indonesia and Taiwan. In particular, the fee for Greece is 42.1%, and for Spain -6.3%. At the same time, the tariffs applicable to products from Thailand will expire after March 7, 2023.









## World

# Vale produces commercial quantities of iron ore pellets without using coal for the first time

Vale, Brazil's largest mining company, has produced many iron ore pellets without using coal, a significant step towards reducing carbon emissions.

To produce pellets, coal is usually mixed with iron ore before being heated in furnaces.

In a Vale pilot project conducted in February 2023 at a plant in Minas Gerais, the company replaced traditional coal with biochar derived from biomass.

During the first pilot project, 15,000 tonnes of carbon-free pellets, 100% biocarbon based, were produced. This product is a renewable energy source obtained by carbonizing biomass.

This year, Vale will conduct more trials to replace coal completely with environmentally friendly raw materials for pellet production by 2030.

In the coming years, Vale plans to increase high-quality pellets production volume, despite the difficult market conditions.

It is scheduled that pellets production will reach 50-55 million tonnes in 2026, compared to 32 million tonnes in 2022.

In 2030, it will reach about 100 million tonnes.

Vale is one of the three largest mining companies in the world that intends to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, and to do so, the Company announced the start of production of new products with a level of low carbon dioxide emissions by 2023.

#### China Iron and Steel Association: China's steel prices rose in March

Final steel prices from January to February this year witnessed a slight upward trend amid the easing of Covid-19 measures and a slight improvement in demand from steel users, according to the China Iron and Steel Association (CISA).

From January to February, China's average daily crude steel production was 2.859 million tonnes, up by 13.8 per cent over December last year. However, demand growth was not fast due to the poor performance of China's real estate market.

Moreover, as of March 10 this year, iron ore prices for Chinese domestic production rose to 1,007 Yuan/t (148 dollars/t), up by 85 Yuan/t (12.5 dollars/t) or 9.22% compared to the beginning of this year.

While, the finished steel products prices increased by 5.34% in the specified period, which negatively affected the profitability of the steel industry companies.

For March, the traditional peak season steel demand will likely improve, which will drive steel prices up.











#### Germany's steel production declined by 6.9% in February 2023

In February 2023, Germany's crude steel production decreased by 6.9% compared to the same month in 2022 and increased by 2.3% compared to January 2023, reaching 2.994 million tonnes, according to WV Stahl, the German Steel Association.

In February 2023, the volume of steel smelting from transformers reached 2.04 million tonnes, which is 4.9% less year-on-year and 4% less than month-onmonth, and in electric arc furnaces 950 thousand tonnes, a decrease of -10.8% year-on-year and an increase of 19.9% month-on-month.

Steel production in arc furnaces is gradually increasing amid the return of energy, which was suspended in the second half of last year due to the high cost of electricity.

Cast iron production in Germany decreased in February 2023 by 1.1% compared to February 2022 and by 0.05% compared to January 2023 to reach 1.96 million tonnes.

Hot rolled product production for February decreased by 6.7% year-on-year and increased by 2.6% compared to January 2023 to 2.63 million tonnes.

The sharp rise in energy prices due to the Russo-Ukrainian war had a negative impact on Germany's steel industry as the electricity and gas cost rose sharply for all EU countries at a time when steel demand collapsed, leading to producers reducing production or stopping capacities to a minimum.

In early 2023, demand stabilized, and the prices began to rise, allowing steelmakers to restart capacity gradually.

Moreover, despite the difficult situation, the German steel industry is gradually switching to electric arc steel production.

In 2022, the share of steel produced from electric arc furnaces was 29.8% or 10.99 million tonnes.

Germany was among the ten largest steel producers in the world in 2022. However, its steel production declined by 8.4% compared to 2021, reaching 36.8 million tonnes, ranking seventh in the global ranking of steel-producing countries.

#### Turkey's wire rod exports decreased by 21.6% in January 2023

According to the Turkish Statistical Institute data (TUIK), Turkish wire rod exports decreased by 21.6% this January compared to the same month last year to reach 45,989 tonnes, an increase of 45.7% compared to the previous month.

These export revenues amounted to 32.15 million dollars, an increase of 47.9% compared to December 2022, and a decrease of 35.8% compared to January 2022.









# Turkey's hot rolled steel coils exports decreased by 66.5% in January

In January this year, Turkey's hot rolled steel coils (HRC) exports decreased by 66.5% year-on-year to reach 45,129 tonnes, down by 32.1% compared to December 2022, according to data from the Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK).

The revenue value from these exports amounted to \$30.76 million, a decrease of 74.7% compared to the same month in 2022 and a decrease of 30.5% compared to December 2022.

Greece topped the countries importing hot rolled steel coils (HRC) with a volume of 10,175 tonnes, and three Arab countries was among the top 10 importing countries, Lebanon with a volume of 3,900 tonnes, Iraq with a volume of 3,100 tonnes, and Algeria with a volume of 2,163 tonnes.











### **Technology**

# Midrex and Thyssenkrupp cooperate to reduce carbon dioxide emissions

Paulwurth and Midrex Technology will collaborate in the engineering, procurement and construction of the Midrex Flex Direct Reduction plant with a capacity of 2.5 million t/year for Thyssenkrupp Steel Europe, located in Duisburg, Germany.

The plant will initially operate on reformed natural gas containing 50% or more hydrogen (H2) at the inlet of the furnace until sufficient H2 is available. The operation will be switched to 100% H2 afterwards.

Furthermore, the direct reduction plant will be combined with advanced SMS group melt technology to significantly increase operating efficiency and reduce CO2 emissions by more than 3.5 million tonnes annually. The plant is scheduled to start operating at the end of 2026.

MIDREX Flex technology provides the flexibility to operate on different percentages of natural gas (NG) and hydrogen (H2), up to 100% H2.

ThyssenKrupp will be allowed to use natural gas, which significantly reduces CO2 compared to a conventional coke oven until hydrogen H2 is available in sufficient quantities, which is expected in 2027.

The hydrogen-based direct reduction plant is a significant step in ThyssenKrupp's integrated steelworks transition to a climate-neutral production site.

"Midrex is proud to be a leader in technology, and with our partners in the SMS Group, we are proving leadership in green steel production," said Stephen Montague, President and CEO of Midrex.

Moreover, we have decarbonisation solutions that can be tailored to each steelmaker's situation to ensure long-term sustainability while contributing to profitability in the near term.

Midrex and Paulwurth are collaborating on the world's first all-green steel plant H2 Green Steel in Boden, Sweden. MIDREX H2 <sup>™</sup> technology will be used to produce 2.1 million tonnes/year of HDRI and hot-broken iron (HBI). The plant is expected to start production in 2025 and increase production during 2026.



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# **Arab Iron and Steel Union**



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### **General Secretariat**

P.O. Box 04 Chéraga - Algeria Tel: + 21323304221 Fax: + 21323304254 Email: relex@solbarab.org www.aisusteel.org

#### **Cairo Regional Office**

P.O. Box: 515 Dokki - Giza - Egypt Tel: + 20233356219 Fax: + 20233374790 Email: aisucairo@solbarab.org

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