AISU Steel News

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Arab Iron and Steel Union holds the second technical committee meeting in Saudi Arabia

The Arab Iron and Steel Union is scheduled to hold the second meeting of the Union's Technical Committee on April 21-22, 2024 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, at the Shangri-La Hotel – Jeddah. At the invitation of the Saudi Iron and Steel Company – Hadeed.

During this meeting, it is scheduled to study the technical data collected from Arab steel companies and determine the topics that will be studied in the 2023-2024 plan.

The committee consists of 13 members from 13 Arab countries: the Arab Republic of Egypt – the Republic of Algeria – the State of Kuwait – the United Arab Emirates – the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia – the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan – the State of Libya – the State of Tunisia – the Kingdom of Morocco – the State of Qatar – the Kingdom of Bahrain – the State of Iraq – Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Latest News

North Africa

Rebar prices in Egypt April 15, 2024

Rebar prices in Egypt witnessed stability this week, as prices ranged between EGP 37,500 – EGP 46,500.

The prices were as follows: Ezz Steel EGP 40,700, Suez Steel EGP 40,500, Bishay Steel EGP 40,700, El Marakby Steel EGP 40,500, Egyptian Steel EGP 46,500, Ashry Steel EGP N/A, Garhy Steel EGP 40,300, Misr Steel EGP 38,000, El Komy Steel EGP 38,000, El Ola Steel EGP 37,500 and Al Gioshy Steel EGP37,500.

Today steel prices are as follows:

Company	EGP/t	Pointer	w-w
Ezz Steel	40,700		0
Suez Steel	40,500		0
Beshay Steel	40,700		0
El Marakby Steel	40,500		0
Egyptian Steel	46,500		0
Ashry Steel	N/A		0
Garhy Steel	40,300		-6,000
Misr Steel	38,000		0
El komy Steel	38,000		+1000
El Ola steel	37,500		+700
Al Gioshy steel	37,500		0

Prices include 14% VA

Ezz Steel turns to losses and incurs 716.53 million pounds during 2023 due to currency differences

Ezz Steel Company explained in a statement to the Egyptian Stock Exchange that it achieved losses amounting to 716.530 million pounds during 2023, compared to profits amounting to 6.647 billion pounds during the comparative period of 2022, affected by its losses from currency differences amounting to 30.9 billion pounds. According to the company's disclosure, taking into account minority rights.
The company's sales rose last year to 142.913 billion pounds, compared to sales amounting to 83.984 billion pounds in 2022.
At the level of unconsolidated business, the independent company's profits declined to 1 billion pounds in 2023, compared to profits amounting to 1.056 billion pounds in 2022.
At the beginning of March, the Central Bank of Egypt allowed the exchange rate of the Egyptian pound against the dollar to fall to 49.45 pounds to the dollar, before the pound rose again at slight rates during the following days to reach about 48.5 pounds to the dollar.

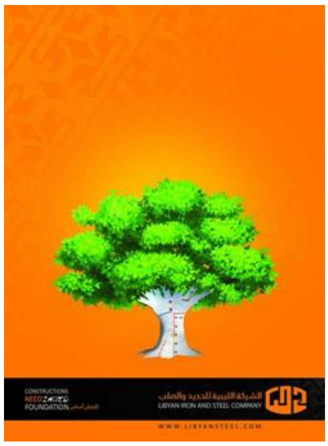
Memorandum of understanding between Libyan Iron and Steel Company and the Italian company Danieli

The Libyan Iron and Steel Company signed a memorandum of understanding with the Italian company Danieli to launch a project to implement a direct reduction plant. The Libyan company made the statement through its official Facebook account. The factory will produce two million tons of sponge iron and hot-molded iron annually.
Sponge or hot-molded iron is in demand in the local market of the Libyan Iron and Steel Company. As well as in global markets, in addition to Danieli's need for them to feed its factories in Italy.
The Iron and Steel Company revealed that the project will be shared by the Italian company Danieli by 51%. The Libyan company owns 49%, expecting to recover its capital within 8 years, after completing implementation work estimated at 3 and a half years. The project will be localized within the Libyan Iron and Steel Company, where it will benefit from the infrastructure available there, in addition to the storage, handling and screening systems for raw materials.
Its operation will depend mainly on the use of Danieli's EnergIron technology, which is a technology competing with the American Midrex technology. Danieli is one of three major international companies operating in the field of iron, steel, and metal industries, which are:
-Primetals, a subsidiary of the German company Siemens.

-German SMS Company (SMS)
-Italian Danieli Company (Danieli Co.)

The company revealed that the Italian company Danieli has a long history of cooperation with it, as it has implemented several projects with the Libyan Iron and Steel Company, in addition to ongoing cooperation in the field of supplying spare parts and technical services, including:
-Implementation of a steel bars factory with an annual production capacity of 400 thousand tons, which was opened in 1997

-Implementation of a steel bars factory with an annual production capacity of 800 thousand tons, which was opened in 2018.
It is worth noting that this project comes within the second phase of the company's general development plan approved in 2007, the first phase of which was implemented and completed with the opening of the Bar Rolling Mill 2 in November 2018.



Latest News

Gulf Area

UAE: Rebar prices rise by 8% during the first quarter of 2024

Rebar prices in the UAE markets moved in a narrow range during the first quarter of 2024, ranging around 2,745 dirhams/ton, compared to an average of 2,538 dirhams/ton during the same period in 2023, an increase of 8%.

Prices reached levels of 2,680 dirhams/ton in January of this year, while they ranged around 2,734 dirhams/ton last February, settling at 2,745 dirhams/ton in March. Workers in the construction and building materials trade sector attributed this rise to reasons related to supply and shipping lines and their high cost, in addition to opportunities for the availability of basic raw materials that are used in this industry in light of global geopolitical conditions.

Rebar prices ended the year 2023, rising by 1.6% during the months of December and November to 2,260 dirhams/ton, compared to their counterparts in October, which stabilized at 2,222 dirhams/ton.

Prices in the local market recorded a decrease of 6.5% to 2,351 dirhams/ton in September, compared to 2,516 dirhams/ton in August and July. It reached about 2,750 dirhams/ton in June, after declining by 13%, compared to May prices, which reached about 3,174 dirhams/ton.

Prices rose during the month of April by 21% to 3,120 dirhams/ton, compared to 2,587 dirhams/ton in March, which also achieved a 4% increase, compared to the months of February and January, which recorded 2,488 dirhams/ton, against the backdrop of the start of the crisis in Ukraine. , during the last week of February.

Al Jazeera Steel's profits increased to 1.82 million riyals by the end of Q1of 2024

The profits of Al-Jazeera Steel Company, which operates in the iron pipe industry, rose to 1.82 million Omani riyals (15 baisa/share) at the end of the first quarter of 2024, compared to profits of 1.49 million riyals achieved in the same period in 2023, as the following table shows:

Period	First Quarter 2023	First Quarter 2024	Change
Revenues (million Omani Riyals)	37.95	36.19	(5 %)
Net income (million Omani Riyals)	1.49	1.82	+22 %
Average number of shares (million)	124.90	124.90	—
Earnings per share (baisa/share)	12	15	+22 %

World

Steel prices in the third week of April 2024

According to the prices announced in the global steel markets, scrap prices amounted to $384/ tonne, unchanged from last week's prices. and iron ore prices $117/ tonne, $6 up compared to last week's prices.

While the prices of billets ranged between 500– 540 Dollars per tonne, while it was between 500– 540 dollars per tonne last week, and rebar prices ranged between 550 – 590 dollars/tonne, while it was between 550 – 600 dollars per tonne last week.

The following is the **steel prices** statement in the global markets on 20 April 2024

Product	Place	Min	Max	Date	w-o-w
Scrap HMS 1&2(mix 80:20)	CFR Turkey	384	384	20/04/2024	0
Iron ore Fe 62%	CFR-Australia	117	117	20/04/2024	6
Billet	FOB Russia	500	505	20/04/2024	0
	Turkey FOB	520	540	20/04/2024	0
Rebar	FOB Turkey	590	590	20/04/2024	-5
	FOB Ukraine	550	560	13/04/2024	0
Wire Rod	FOB Turkey	600	600	20/04/2024	-10
HR coil	FOB Russia	555	560	20/04/2024	0
CR coil 1mm	FOB China	600	610	20/04/2024	0

Biden pledges that America will retain ownership of US Steel

President Joe Biden pledged that America would retain ownership of United States Steel Corp., and called for increasing tariffs on Chinese steel and aluminum, as part of his effort to win over union workers before the presidential elections scheduled for next November.

"US Steel has had a distinguished status as an American company for more than a century," Biden said before a crowd of members at the headquarters of the United Steelworkers union in Pittsburgh. "The company must remain fully American, owned by America, and managed by American steelworkers' unions." "It is the best in the world." "I promise you this," he added.

The union strongly opposes the offer made by Japan's Nippon Steel Corp. to acquire US Steel for $14.1 billion, and the president last month escalated his opposition as well.

US intends to increase duties 3 times on imports of Chinese steel and aluminum

US President Joe Biden called for increasing customs duties on steel imported from China by three times "to protect American producers from the flood of cheap imports coming from Beijing."

This step reflects the intersection of Biden's international trade policy with his efforts to attract voters in Pennsylvania, which is likely to play a pivotal role in determining the presidential elections next November.

In addition to enhancing tariffs on steel, Biden will also seek to increase duties on Chinese aluminum by three times.

According to data from the US Department of Commerce, the current customs rate is 7.5% on steel and aluminum, amid the US administration's strictures on what it has described on more than one occasion as "fighting Chinese dumping of goods."

The White House also announced the opening of an investigation into what it described as "China's unfair practices in the fields of shipbuilding, maritime transport, and logistics activities," and stressed that "steel is an essential component of our national shipbuilding industry."

Last week, US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said, following a visit to Beijing, that China is distorting markets and eroding competition by unfairly flooding the market with steel below market cost.

China's steel exports almost hit 10 million mt in March, highest since July 2016

In March, China's finished steel exports amounted to 9.888 million mt, up 37.9% month on month, according to the latest data released by China's General Administration of Customs (GACC).

The finished steel exports in March hit the highest level since July 2016, when they had totaled 10.3 million mt.

The strong exports caused market players be more confident as regards the prospects for finished steel prices in the local market in April.

In the January-March period this year, China's finished steel exports rose by 30.7% year on year to 25.8 million mt.

So, for now, steel exports have increased at a higher pace than expected, signaling slow domestic consumption and rising inventories.

China's finished steel imports totaled 617,000 mt in March, up 16.4% month on month.

But in the first three months of the current year, China imported 1.748 million mt of finished steel, declining by 8.6% year on year.

Price of iron ore may fall to $100 per ton again at the end of 2024

The price of iron ore is expected to relapse to $100 per ton again by the end of this year, before falling further to reach $85 per ton in 2025, in light of the worsening Chinese housing market crisis, according to estimates by Capital Economics.

Declining steel production and combating emissions from highly polluting ore blast furnaces could cause Chinese demand for iron ore to shrink by 1% in 2024, and 2% in subsequent years, the London-based research firm said in a note on Tuesday. This coincides with the plans of major mining companies to increase production, which will lead to a glut in supply and greater pressure on prices.

Capital Economics added that demand growth elsewhere in the world is unlikely to absorb enough surplus supplies, given China's nearly 70% share of the global market.

The price of iron ore has seen a weak recovery this month, after falling below $100 per ton due to disappointing demand in China. Crude futures contracts were last traded at $111.10 per ton on the Singapore Stock Exchange, which represents a 1.1% increase on the day, but is still more than 20% lower than prices at the beginning of the year.

New metal sanctions strengthen Russia's dependence on China

It is expected that the US and British sanctions on Russian metals will consolidate China's position as a last resort for purchasing basic goods from Russia, while enhancing Shanghai's role as a center for determining prices for metals that are extremely important to the global economy.

The London Metal Exchange's ban on newly produced Russian-origin aluminum, copper and nickel metals is likely to lead to a further increase in Chinese imports, and will also make the Shanghai Futures Exchange the only major commodities exchange in the world to accept shipments of the three metals from Russia.

Wang Rong, senior analyst at the brokerage firm "Guotai Junan Futures" (based in Shanghai), believes that "Russian metal supplies in the European and American markets may decrease further, and the features of global trade flows will also change."

The sanctions on Russia in the energy markets following its invasion of Ukraine had a significant impact on Chinese purchasing trends, as Russia surpassed Saudi Arabia to become the largest oil supplier to China last year, and also ranks second in coal imports, and is likely to become the largest supplier of natural gas to Beijing this year.

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To subscribe, please contact us on

E-mail info@aisusteel.org

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