



China Alumina import declines 68% in August

China's total alumina imports declined 68.31 per cent over the same period previous year to stand at 128,729 million tonnes (mt) in August. The volume shrunk during the first eight months of the current fiscal as well. It dropped 26.66 per cent YoY to stand at 2,027,202mt for January-August 2016.

Alumina imports from Australia slid 61 per cent YoY to 96,317mt in August whereas during January-August period, it declined 21 per cent YoY to 1,297,790mt. Shipments from Indonesia, however, soared considerably during the periods under review.

China imported 28,105mt of alumina in August and 30,146mt during January-August



of the current financial year. Alumina imports from countries like Japan, Italy, and Austria also grew significantly but they do not contribute much to the total imports of the mineral used in aluminium smelting.

Alumina shipments from India also dropped during both the periods under review. China imported 185,067mt alumina during the first eight months of the current

financial year, down 57 per cent from the corresponding period previous year.

China's alumina exports to the international markets also faced a slowdown in August and January-August periods vis-à-vis previous year's export volumes. Its first eight months shipment to the US dropped 37 per cent YoY, while to Iran it shrunk 88 per cent YoY.

China exported 265mt of alumina to India, a rise from previous year's export volume, and 257mt to Vietnam, a 58 per cent surge from the same period last year. Alumina shipments to Russia during January-August period also grew by 80 per cent over the corresponding period previous year.

China Alumina prices set for more gains



Alumina prices in China major markets are logging healthy growth trends. Shanghai Metal Market analysts say a number of positive factors will further support the rise.

Increasing costs and speculations triggered by the recently introduced transport regulations will continue adding momentum to the uptick in alumina prices, analysts explained.

According to the latest SMM data, alumina costs surged 100 yuan per tonne in the past two months driven by the rising bauxite prices, caustic soda lye, lime and coal.

China has lowered the ceiling of vehicle loading capacity from the earlier 55 tonnes to 49 tonnes for 6-axle trucks, effective September 21. This would result in over 30 per cent increase in overall vehicle transport costs.

Tri-Arrows Aluminum opens new office in Kentucky

Tri-Arrows Aluminum Inc., which has brought \$500 million in industrial expansion to Warren and Logan counties in recent years, established a satellite headquarters office on the third floor of Bowling Green's historic Pushin Building.

Tri-Arrows is a subsidiary of the UACJ Corporation, a Japanese company and majority shareholder with additional ownership by Sumitomo Corporation and Itochu.

"We want to be on the square," said Henry Gordinier, Tri-Arrows Aluminum president, prior to a ribbon cutting inside the 5,500 square foot office space set up to initially serve eight to 10 people. Gordinier told that his vision of the office space is it allows Tri-Arrows room for expansion as his company grows. Currently, Tri-Arrows is surfing the growing wave of light-weight metal vehicle manufacturing, a market expected to grow to 1 million kilotons in the coming years, something Gordinier called a renaissance for the industry.

Gordinier also noted that the rolled aluminium can sheet market is looking up better now than it has in years.

"We have an over 30-year tradition in



Logan County. We have had people staying in hotels every day, coming down from Louisville and visiting Logan County." He said the Bowling Green office will serve as a hub for many activities.

The company president said the new aluminium markets are bolstered by technological advances in the industry. "It's not just volume; its volume and technology and human capital. This space gives us better accessibility and allows more of the Louisville staff here and us the ability to grow talent here. "We continue to have a presence in the community."

Formerly ARCO Aluminum, Tri-Arrows was established in 2011 and is headquartered in Louisville. Tri-Arrows makes and markets rolled aluminium can sheet to the North American container industry. Annual production is more than 325,000 tons, a release said.