



MCX Aluminium up by 0.4% on Strong Demand



Aluminium prices edged up 0.44% to INR 103.35 per kg in the futures trading as participants enlarged positions, supported by strong demand in the spot markets and base metals strengthened overseas.

Aluminium for delivery in current month inched up 45 paise, or 0.44%, to INR 103.35 per kg in a business turnover of 141 lots in futures trade at the Multi Commodity Exchange.

Likewise, the metal for delivery in March was trading higher 45 paise, or 0.43%, to INR 104.10 per kg in one lot.

Marketmen said besides increased domestic demand, strength in base metals pack at the London Metal Exchange as China's central bank sought to support the property market with steps that may spur investment in the country and demand from the construction industry, helped aluminium futures to rise.

China Zhongwang Upbeat about Automotive Aluminium Market



China Zhongwang Holdings, China's top aluminium extrusion producer, is pinning hopes on the automotive sector for pulling up demand for aluminium extrusions, reported sources close to the company.

Zhongwang's managing director perceives three areas of growth that will buoy aluminium applications consumption in automobile manufacturing; these are- car body, car door, and car parts.

A recent survey report published by one international authority showed that a 100 kg reduction in vehicle weight could save fuel consumption by 0.3-0.6 liters per 100 km.

KSPG Supplies Exhaust Gas Technology to Indian Manufacturer



Only a few days after the Detroit kick-off for this year's major international automobile events comes India's biggest auto fair, the Auto Expo held New Delhi every two years. In addition, from February 4 to 7, international auto-industry suppliers will be showcasing forward-looking technical solutions for the automobile market at Auto Expo Components.

With almost 3.8 million units produced in 2015, the Indian market for vehicles up to 3.5t GVW once again recorded a positive trend and in fact was up 5.9 percent on the 2014 figure. Contributing to current and forecast market growth is first-tier auto-component supplier KSPG which, besides displaying at Auto Expo Components, is also expanding its local production base. "Our

focus in India this year is on our core competencies of emission reduction and reduced fuel consumption," is how KSPG CEO Horst Binnig summarizes his company's show presentation in New Delhi, adding, "The Indian subcontinent is also facing another tightening in emission targets for road traffic, and efforts in this direction are gaining momentum all the time."

Fully in line with this trend is a recent large order in the double-digit million euro range, which an Indian manufacturer placed with this international specialist in emission control and engine efficiency. It concerns modern electric-motor-driven exhaust-gas recirculation systems, to be delivered as from December 2016 for a series of mid-size commercial vehicle engines. These engines

fulfill India's emission standard BS-IV (comparable with EURO IV). The standard has already been introduced in northern India and will gradually take effect elsewhere in the country by the spring of 2017. Instead of SCR catalytic converters, Indian automotive manufacturers are largely using exhaust-gas recirculation systems for achieving the limits allowed by BS-IV.

At present, the KSPG Group employs a workforce of around 900 in India; its two locations in Pune and Ahmednagar generated sales of some €40 million in 2015, an increase of 26 percent over 2014. Apart from plain bearings, bushes and thrust washers, the Group manufactures components for emission reduction such as exhaust-gas flaps, exhaust-gas recirculation systems and valves as well as pumps for cars and commercial vehicles. The company also operates on the aftermarket.

For many years now, the KSPG Group has had a successful partnership with India's Shriram Pistons & Rings Ltd., in which it holds a 20-percent stake. For fiscal 2014/15, Shriram reported sales of around €170 mn.