



International Lead and Zinc Study Group

PRESS RELEASE

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The International Lead and Zinc Study Group (ILZSG) released preliminary data for world lead and zinc supply and demand during the first ten months of 2007. A brief summary is listed in the tables below. **Full details are available in the December 2007 edition of the Group's 68 page 'Lead and Zinc Statistics' Bulletin.**

World Refined Lead Supply and Usage 2002 - 2007

000 tonnes	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2006	2007	2007			
						Jan-Oct	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	
Mine Production	2834	3120	3138	3436	3459	2903	3019	307.0	319.5	309.7	318.1
Metal Production	6670	6764	6957	7637	7913	6563	6768	682.4	636.0	654.6	663.5
Metal Usage	6635	6824	7283	7811	8022	6679	6860	701.6	654.2	679.7	691.7

Source: ILZSG

- World lead mine production over the first ten months of 2007 was 4% higher than the corresponding period of 2006. This was primarily due to increases in China, India, Macedonia, Peru and Sweden which more than balanced falls in Australia, Canada, Iran and Mexico.
- A rise in global refined lead metal production of 3.1% was influenced largely by increases in China, Germany, India, Italy, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea and the United States.
- Despite reductions in Europe (-1.5%), Japan (-12%) and the United States (-2.1%), global demand for refined lead metal rose by 2.7%. This was largely a consequence of a further strong growth (18.8%) in China.
- Chinese net exports of refined lead metal for the period January to October 2007 totalled 174,000 tonnes compared to 407,000 tonnes over the first ten months of 2006.
- Total reported stocks of refined lead metal amounted to 264,000 tonnes at the end of October, 19,000 tonnes lower than at the beginning of the year.

World Refined Zinc Supply and Usage 2002 - 2007

000 tonnes	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2006	2007	2007			
						Jan-Oct	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	
Mine Production	8892	9517	9732	10148	10466	8708	9401	950.6	924.8	964.9	994.6
Metal Production	9704	9880	10366	10229	10692	8784	9450	926.0	925.5	961.1	990.1
Metal Usage	9380	9841	10651	10611	11043	9224	9501	928.5	895.1	981.9	1027.8

Source: ILZSG

- An increase of 8% in world zinc mine output over the period January to October 2007 compared to the same period of 2006 was mainly due to increases in Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Kazakhstan, Peru and the United States. Production in Iran was significantly lower due to the partial collapse of the Angouran mine at the end of 2006.
- Global production of refined zinc metal increased by 7.6% principally due to higher output in Australia, China, Finland, India, the Republic of Korea and Mexico.
- An increase in Chinese demand of 11.5% was the principal driver behind an increase in global usage of refined zinc metal of 3%. Demand in Europe rose by 4.2% but in the United States declined by 9.9%.
- Over the first ten months of 2007 Chinese net exports of refined zinc metal amounted to 127,000 tonnes compared to net imports of 70,000 tonnes over the same period of 2006.
- At 550,000 tonnes total reported stock of refined zinc metal at the end of October were 2,000 tonnes higher than at the start of the year.

Further details about the International Lead and Zinc Study Group (ILZSG) together with a full list of publications are available on the Group's website at www.ilzsg.org