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**KUWAIT STEEL** حديد الكويت  
الشركة المتحدة لصناعة الحديد (ش.م.ك.م.)  
United Steel Industrial Co. (K.S.C.C.)

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### Latest News

#### Maghreb Steel revenues rise 15% to MAD 4.42 billion over nine months

Maghreb Steel posted a strong performance in the third quarter and the first nine months of 2025, driven by higher sales in the domestic market, which positively impacted revenues and sales volumes.

The company, the sole producer of flat steel in Morocco, announced that its revenues for the period from January to September 2025 increased by 15% year on year to MAD 4.42 billion (approximately USD 480 million), compared with MAD 3.85 billion in the same period of 2024.

In the third quarter of 2025, Maghreb Steel recorded revenues of MAD 1.48 billion, marking a 14% increase compared with the same quarter last year, supported by improved domestic demand.

In terms of sales volumes, deliveries rose by 15% during the first nine months of the year to 445,000 tonnes, up from 387,000 tonnes in the corresponding period of the previous year. Third-quarter sales reached 146,000 tonnes, an increase of 12% compared with the third quarter of 2024.

As part of efforts to support growth in domestic consumption and strengthen its operating capabilities, the Moroccan steelmaker invested around MAD 53 million during the third quarter of 2025.

The company has an annual production capacity of about 1 million tonnes, producing hot-rolled, cold-rolled, galvanized and pre-painted steel coils and sheets.

USD 1 = MAD 9.17

#### Rebar Prices in Egypt – December 08, 2025

Rebar prices in Egypt ranged this week between EGP 31,200 and EGP 34,200 per ton.

Major producers kept their prices unchanged compared to the previous week, with Ezz Steel maintaining its price at EGP 34,200 per ton, while Suez Steel remained at EGP 33,700, Beshay Steel at EGP 34,000, and El Marakby Steel at EGP 34,000. Ashry Steel also kept its price stable at EGP 33,500, Garhy Steel at EGP 33,400, El Komy Steel at EGP 31,500, and Al Gioshy Steel at EGP 31,500.

On the other hand, Misr Steel posted a price of EGP 34,500, marking an increase of EGP 400, while Al Ola Steel recorded EGP 31,200, also up by EGP 400. Meanwhile, Misr Steel (Egypt Steel) registered a price of EGP 31,600, down by EGP 2,300.

Rebar prices were as follows:

Company	EGP/t	Pointer	w-w
Ezz Steel	34,200	-	0
Suez Steel	33,700	-	0
Beshay Steel	34,000	-	0
El Marakby Steel	34,000	-	0
Egyptian Steel	34,100	▲	400
Ashry Steel	33,500	-	0
Garhy Steel	33,400	-	0
Misr Steel	31,600	▼	-2300
El komy Steel	31,500	-	0
El Ola steel	31,200	▲	400
Al Gioshy steel	31,500	-	0

Prices include 14% VAT

MAGHREB STEEL 

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**Qatar Steel and QPMC sign pact to boost steel recycling from demolition waste**

Qatar Steel has signed a cooperation agreement with Qatar Primary Materials Company (QPMC) to recycle iron and steel recovered from construction and demolition waste at the Rawdat Rashed site. The partnership supports Qatar’s push toward a circular economy by converting reclaimed metals into reusable industrial inputs.

Under the agreement, QPMC will extract and sort steel from construction waste, which will then be sent to Qatar Steel for melting and reprocessing into finished products for future national projects. Qatar Steel said the initiative will reduce reliance on imported raw materials, strengthen local industrial supply chains, and promote sustainable resource use.

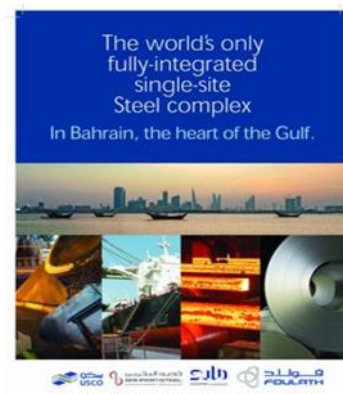
Both companies noted that the collaboration aligns with Qatar National Vision 2030 by reducing waste, enhancing recycling practices, and fostering closer integration between industrial and operational sectors.

Qatar Steel, a subsidiary of Industries Qatar, is a leading integrated steel producer and the first steel plant established in the Arabian Gulf in 1974. Based in Mesaieed, with a subsidiary in Dubai’s Jebel Ali Free Zone, it produces DRI/HBI, billets, rebars, and wire rods. The Mesaieed plant has an annual capacity of 2.35 mln tons of DRI/HBI, 2.57 mln tons of billets, and 1.8 mln tons of rebars, while the UAE unit produces 240,000 tons of wire rods and 300,000 tons of rebars. Qatar Steel also operates rebar fabrication and coating facilities and holds stakes in Q-Coat (Qatar), Foulath Holding (Bahrain), and SOLB Steel (Saudi Arabia).

**Infrastructure and Real Estate Drive Steel Demand in UAE**

The steel industry in the United Arab Emirates continues to record sustainable growth in 2025, supported by strong demand from the construction sector, as well as from manufacturing activities and major projects in housing and infrastructure. Industrial data shows that the country’s crude steel production reached 3.25 million tons in 2024, while the output of finished steel products amounted to 2.835 million tons, with a notable focus on rebar, which totaled around 1.77 million tons, according to figures from *Emirates Steel*—the largest domestic steel producer—reported by Al Khaleej newspaper. These figures highlight the sector’s capability to meet a significant portion of local demand, noting that the data reflects the company’s production only and not the entire national market. This growth is driven by rising investments in housing developments, smart cities, and renewable energy projects, with cumulative investments in the sector exceeding AED 20 billion by the end of 2025. These investments include expanding rolling lines, upgrading furnaces, and adopting advanced digital monitoring and control technologies to enhance operational efficiency, reduce energy consumption, and strengthen environmental sustainability.

Forecasts indicate that the UAE steel sector will continue to grow at an annual rate of 4% to 6% through 2030, supported by government-led projects, private-sector urban development initiatives, and the increasing adoption of modern technologies that reduce costs and improve product quality. Indicators also point to the expansion of national steel plants and their ability to meet rising domestic demand, while exporting surplus production to GCC and East African markets. This reinforces the UAE’s position as a leading regional hub for the steel industry, built on substantial investments, advanced technologies, and international partnerships. Moreover, there is growing emphasis on producing low-carbon and recycled steel to support the country’s goals in circular economy development and sustainable industrial transformation.



## Emsteel Contributes to the Construction of the Zayed National Museum by Supplying Steel and Building Materials

Emsteel Group, one of the region's largest publicly listed producers of steel and construction materials, has announced its key contribution to the development of the Zayed National Museum located in the Cultural District on Saadiyat Island. The museum was inaugurated by His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, may God protect him, in the presence of Their Highnesses, Members of the Federal Supreme Council and Rulers of the Emirates, coinciding with the nation's celebrations of the 54th Union Day. The museum stands as a leading cultural landmark, honoring the legacy of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan and celebrating the unity, rich heritage, and remarkable development journey of the UAE.

During the construction phase, Emsteel supplied the project with essential steel and building materials, including up to 24,000 tonnes of rebar, as well as direct deliveries of concrete products totaling 25,000 units. The company also provided approximately 100,000 tonnes of bulk cement over a three-year period to support the museum's construction works.

On this occasion, Engineer Saeed Ghumran Al Remeithi, CEO of Emsteel Group, said:

"The inauguration of the Zayed National Museum on the 54th Union Day marks a significant milestone in the UAE's history. It reflects the vision of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, may his soul rest in peace, and highlights the UAE's exceptional progress. As pioneers of the national industrial sector, we at Emsteel are proud that our steel and construction materials contributed to a landmark of such cultural and historical importance. This project underscores our role in supporting the UAE's long-term development and our dedication to strengthening an industrial sector that continues to shape the nation's future."

Emsteel has long played a central role in shaping the UAE's cultural and architectural landscape by supplying steel and construction materials to some of its most iconic landmarks, including Louvre Abu Dhabi, the newly built Natural History Museum Abu Dhabi, and the upcoming Guggenheim Abu Dhabi in the Saadiyat Cultural District, in addition to major national projects such as Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque and the Museum of the Future in Dubai.

Collectively, these projects reflect the UAE's heritage, ambition, and global cultural presence. Through its role in enabling such achievements, Emsteel continues to strengthen its position as a trusted partner in national development, remaining committed to advancing sustainability through reliable local supply, promoting low-carbon manufacturing, and enhancing industrial capabilities that support the nation's long-term progress.

## Saudi Iron and Steel Company (Hadeed) Announces Price Increase for December Rebar

The Saudi Iron and Steel Company (Hadeed) has announced an increase in rebar prices (12–32 mm) for the month of December by SAR 40 (USD 10), bringing the new price to SAR 2,120 (USD 565) per ton. Wire rod prices (6.5–16 mm) have also risen by SAR 25 (USD 6), reaching SAR 2,270 (USD 605) per ton.

It is worth noting that the announced prices are based on the official exchange rate in Riyadh and do not include the 15% value-added tax. Hadeed is the largest steel producer in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), with an annual production capacity of approximately 3.8 million tons of long products and 2.2 million tons of flat products.



## World

### Steel Prices in the Second Week of December 2025

Global steel markets recorded limited price fluctuations during the second week of December 2025, according to data obtained by the Arab Iron and Steel Union.

Prices of HS1&2 scrap (80:20 mix) imported into Turkey from the United States remained stable at USD 369 per ton CFR, reflecting a slight week-on-week increase of USD 1.

As for iron ore (62%), prices declined to USD 104 per ton CFR Australia, marking a USD 2 decrease compared with the previous week.

Billet prices showed variation depending on origin. Russian billet prices ranged between USD 432 and USD 442 per ton FOB, unchanged week on week. In contrast, Chinese billet prices recorded a notable weekly decline of USD 10, trading between USD 431 and USD 433 per ton FOB. In the Turkish market, billet imported from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) remained stable at USD 455–460 per ton CFR.

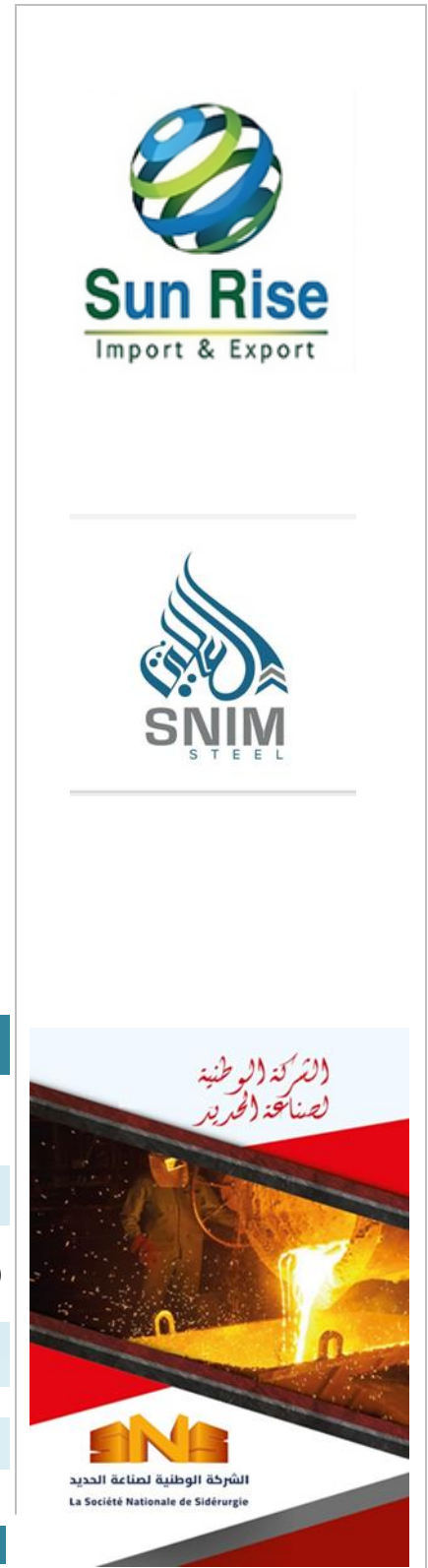
Regarding rebar, prices in the Turkish market declined to USD 565–575 per ton FOB, posting a weekly drop of around USD 3, while rebar prices exported from the CIS remained stable at USD 495–510 per ton FOB with no significant change. Prices of Turkish wire rod also remained steady at USD 580–590 per ton FOB, unchanged from the previous week.

In the flat steel segment, Russian hot-rolled coil (HRC) prices stood at USD 415–420 per ton FOB, while Chinese cold-rolled coil (CRC) 1 mm prices remained stable at USD 515–525 per ton FOB.

The following is the steel prices statement in the global markets on 22 November 2025:

Product	Place	Min	Max	Date	W-0- W	
ScrapHMS 1&2(mi x 80:20)	ex,USA,CFR Turkey	369	369	13/12/2025	▲	1
Iron ore Fe 62%	CFR- Australia	104	104	13/12/2025	▼	-2
Billet	FOB Russia	432	442	13/12/2025	-	0
	China FOB	431	433	13/12/2025	▼	-10
	Turkey FOB	455	460	13/12/2025	-	0
Rebar	FOB Turkey	565	575	13/12/2025	▼	-3
	FOB Ukraine	495	510	13/12/2025	-	0
Wire Rod	FOB Turkey	580	590	13/12/2025	-	0
HR coil	FOB Russia	415	420	05/15/2025	-	0
HR coil 1mm	FOB China	515	525	13/12/2025	-	0

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## South Korea's Trade Minister Voices Concern Over Canada's Steel Protection Plan

South Korean Trade Minister Yeo Han-koo expressed concerns over the Canadian government's plan to strengthen protective measures for its steel industry, which could negatively affect South Korea's steel product exports, according to officials.

During an online meeting with Canadian Trade Minister Mary Ng, Yeo conveyed his "deep concern" regarding Canada's decision to implement the new measures starting December 26, and requested preferential treatment for Korean industrial products in light of the longstanding trade relations between the two countries, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy said.

Canada's plan includes reducing current tariff-rate quotas on steel imports in an effort to safeguard its domestic steel industry amid a global supply glut. Under the new measure, tariff-rate quotas for countries that have free trade agreements with Canada — including South Korea — will be cut from 100% to 75% of 2024 levels.

The ministry noted that Yeo pointed out that Canada's quota system violates the principles of free trade under the World Trade Organization and also breaches the bilateral free trade agreement between the two nations.

## Chinese Iron Ore Trade: Prices Climb Unjustifiably Due to Speculation

China Mineral Resources Group, the state-backed trading arm, has warned that iron ore prices are drifting away from real market fundamentals as intensified speculative activity pushes prices higher at a pace that does not reflect actual supply and demand conditions.

In a report issued by its research unit — published on the WeChat account of the China Iron and Steel Association — the company stated that what it described as a "false rally" has re-emerged in the market, driven more by speculative trading than by genuine consumption-based transactions.

Data from the association showed that spot prices for iron ore jumped by more than 5% over a period of just over three weeks between November 7 and December 2, reaching around \$107.80 per ton, despite several factors that should have exerted downward pressure on prices, including rising port inventories, weakening steel demand, and a decline in average molten iron output.

Despite this surge, prices later showed some correction, while futures prices have remained within a relatively narrow range above \$100 per ton over the past four months.

China Mineral Resources Group also criticized what it described as unfair pricing practices within the sector, noting that such behavior significantly increases costs for Chinese steel mills. Earlier this year, the trading giant demonstrated its bargaining power by suspending acceptance of certain iron ore shipments from BHP Group in an effort to secure more favorable contract terms.



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## Iron Ore Prices Decline Amid Growing Expectations of Ample Supply

Iron ore futures prices fell during Tuesday's trading, following the shipment of the first batch of production from the Simandou project in Guinea, which strengthened expectations of increased supply at a time when demand in China—the world's largest consumer—is expected to weaken.

The most actively traded iron ore contract for May 2026 delivery on the Dalian Commodity Exchange closed down 0.7% at 757.5 yuan (\$107.22) per ton.

On the Singapore Exchange, iron ore futures for January 2026 delivery dropped 0.35% to \$101.70 per ton as of 1:12 p.m. Makkah time, after touching \$100.85 earlier.

Although supplies from Australia and Brazil—the two main iron ore exporters—account for around 80% of China's imports, analysts expect this share to decline with the start of production from the Simandou project, which has an annual capacity of 120 million tons.

This anticipated increase in supply comes as China's crude steel output is expected to fall below one billion tons this year for the first time in six years, indicating a potential decline in demand, according to Reuters.

## European Steel Industry Poised for Recovery in 2026

Europe's steel sector, which has struggled through weak demand, high energy costs and a surge of low-priced imports, is expected to move into a more stable phase by 2026.

According to analysts, a combination of proposed EU trade measures and gradual price improvement is likely to lift utilisation rates and support earnings across major European steelmakers.

The European Commission is considering a significant tightening of safeguards, including halving import quotas for several steel categories and doubling tariffs on out-of-quota shipments. These steps are aimed at curbing the influx of competitively priced steel from regions such as Asia and the CIS, which has kept domestic mills under pressure. If implemented, the measures could lift mill operating rates from the current subdued levels to 80–85% in 2026.

Pricing momentum is also expected to improve. Benchmark hot-rolled coil (HRC) prices, which remained depressed for most of 2025, are now forecast to rise toward \$750 per tonne next year as supply tightens and demand stabilises across automotive, construction and machinery sectors.

While the recovery is expected to be gradual rather than sharp, analysts say the combination of stricter import controls and firmer pricing will provide a more favourable environment for European steelmakers after two challenging years.



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## Vale Cuts 2026 Iron Ore Production Forecast Amid Global Demand Slowdown

Brazilian mining giant Vale, one of the world's leading iron ore suppliers, has lowered its production outlook for 2026 amid weakening global demand and the arrival of new supply from Africa.

The company stated, ahead of its Investor Day event in London, that it now targets production of 335–345 million tonnes of iron ore in 2026, compared with its previous estimate of 340–360 million tonnes, marking a clear downward revision of its earlier expectations.

Vale is expected to deliver around 335 million tonnes of iron ore this year, a level close to the upper end of its annual guidance range.

It is worth noting that Vale was the world's top iron ore producer before the 2019 tailings dam collapse in Brazil, which halted operations at one of its key facilities and had a long-lasting impact on its production capacity.

## Turkey's Billet Imports Rise by 31.1% in January–October 2025

Turkey's imports of billet reached 398,715 tons in October, marking an increase of 15.5% compared to September, but a decline of 36.6% year-on-year, according to preliminary data from the Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK).

During the same month, the total value of these imports amounted to USD 195.90 million, up by 13.0% from the previous month but down by 41.4% on a yearly basis.

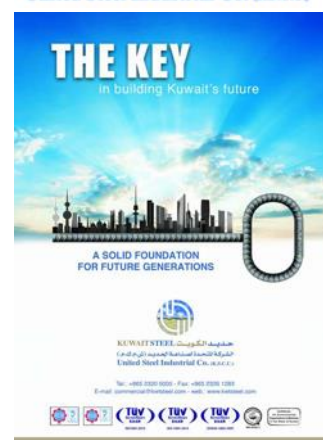
From January to October 2025, Turkey's imports of billet totaled 3.65 million tons, representing a 31.1% year-on-year increase. The value of these imports also rose by 17.2% to USD 1.81 billion.

China was the largest supplier during the period, exporting 832,919 tons—a strong increase of 225% year-on-year—followed by Russia with 788,663 tons, up 45.7%. Malaysia ranked third with 753,469 tons, showing a 41.7% rise.

Algeria came fourth with 162,594 tons, recording a 30.4% decline, while Oman ranked fifth with 155,421 tons, posting a significant 349% increase. The UAE ranked tenth with 61,572 tons, reflecting a 289% rise.



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## China's steel exports near 10 million tons in November

According to statistics from the General Administration of Customs of China, China's steel exports reached 9.98 million tons in November, a 2.0% increase from the previous month. The cumulative exports from January to November amounted to about 107.7 million tons, up by 6.7% year on year.

In terms of raw materials, imports of iron ore and concentrate totaled 110.54 million tons in November. In the first eleven months of this year, iron ore imports reached 1.139 billion tons, a 1.4% hike over the same period last year.

Meanwhile, steel imports had a decline, dropping by 1.4% month on month to 496,000 tons, bringing the January-November volume to 5.54 million tons, falling by 10.5% year on year.

## China Imposes Restrictions on Steel Exports

China's Ministry of Commerce has announced that it will implement a steel export licensing system in an effort to control the record volumes of metal shipments flowing out of the country.

The ministry said in a statement that exporters will be required to obtain a permit to ship a range of steel products starting January 1.

The statement did not provide any reason for the new regulations, but they come at the end of a record year for Chinese steel exports.

The ministry listed around 300 specific steel products that will be covered by the rules, including certain types of billets and stainless steel.

The latest trade data indicates that steel exports are on track to set a record in 2025, with volumes exceeding 100 million tons in the first 11 months of the year.

## Decarbonizing Japan's Steel Industry Pathways

Reducing emissions from Japan's steel industry is a central pillar of the country's strategy to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. The sector alone accounts for around 13% of national emissions due to its heavy reliance on coal for smelting and reduction processes.

As global competition intensifies, cutting emissions has become a key benchmark for preserving the competitiveness of Japan's steel exports and maintaining its industrial standing.

In 2024, Japan ranked as the world's third-largest producer of crude steel; however, domestic demand continues to decline due to population shrinkage, driving production down from 120.2 million tons in 2007 to 84 million tons in 2024. Meanwhile, global demand is rising, supported by growing consumption in emerging economies such as China and India, which have significantly increased investments to expand production capacity for infrastructure and manufacturing needs.

Against this backdrop, a recent report—reviewed by the Energy Research Unit—outlined the main pathways to reduce emissions in Japan's steel sector and accelerate its decarbonization efforts.




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## Production Structure in Japan: Persistent Challenges

Globally, steel production relies mainly on two routes:

1. Blast Furnace–Basic Oxygen Furnace (BF–BOF), which accounted for 71% of global crude steel output in 2023, and represents 74% of Japan’s production.
2. Direct Reduction with Electric Arc Furnaces (DR–EAF), which emits 1.4 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per ton of steel, compared with 2.2 tons from traditional furnaces. Japan has not yet adopted this technology on a commercial scale due to high gas costs.

Both routes rely on fossil fuels for heat and chemical reduction, while scrap-based secondary production is largely carried out in electric arc furnaces, which offer substantially lower emissions.

Japan faces significant challenges due to its heavy dependence on the carbon-intensive BF–BOF route, with coal used in these furnaces accounting for about 93% of direct fuel-related emissions in 2024. The construction and automotive sectors are the main domestic consumers of steel.

According to Bloomberg New Energy Finance (BNEF), reducing emissions from existing assets will be crucial for achieving national climate goals.

## Decarbonization Pathways: Multiple Options, High Costs

There is growing global consensus among governments and steelmakers on the need to reduce emissions through various pathways, including:

- Retrofitting traditional furnaces with carbon capture systems
- Using biomass inputs in BF–BOF operations
- Direct reduction combined with electric arc furnaces
- Direct reduction with carbon capture and storage (CCS)
- Hydrogen-based direct reduction

Although traditional furnaces remain the cheapest route in the absence of carbon pricing, scrap-based EAFs powered by renewable energy stand out as a promising low-emission solution. Producing a ton of steel via this route is expected to cost around \$720 by 2030, about 18% higher than traditional furnaces, yet with near-zero emissions.

Pathways relying on hydrogen or CCS are significantly more expensive, exceeding \$1,000 per ton by 2030, and are not expected to reach cost competitiveness before 2050.

Expanding scrap-based EAF production is therefore one of the most cost-effective approaches for Japan to reduce emissions.

The report also highlights that redirecting currently exported scrap to the domestic market, and powering EAFs with clean electricity, could reduce emissions by up to 23.7 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>.



## Key Challenges and Proposed Solutions

Japan's steel sector faces rising pressures from the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and China's rapid progress in low-carbon steel technologies.

To accelerate decarbonization, BNEF proposes a roadmap built on four major pillars:

1. Establishing unified standards for green steel
2. Expanding the deployment of electric arc furnaces
3. Strengthening the carbon market
4. Supporting domestic demand for low-emission steel

Long-term planning for infrastructure, supply chains, clean and affordable electricity, and robust steel recycling systems will be essential to avoid future market volatility.



#### Primetals Technologies Partners With SAIL Bokaro to Advance Green Steelmaking

Primetals Technologies and the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) Bokaro Steel Plant have partnered to engineer a hydrogen gas injection system for a blast furnace at the facility in Bokaro Steel City, Jharkhand.

The project focuses on integrating hydrogen gas injection technology at the blast furnace tuyere level. Primetals Technologies said it will engineer the hydrogen injection system where hydrogen gas will partially replace conventional fuels.

It is estimated the approach will reduce CO2 emissions and improve blast furnace permeability and process efficiency.

The companies said the initiative's aim is to achieve emission reductions and support SAIL's environmental goals. The project is funded by the Indian government under a carbon reduction scheme.

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