The Dawn of 2025, Part 5: Emerging Trends Shaping the Future of Steel Industry in 2025

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: As the steel industry evolves beyond 2024, several key trends are set to redefine its future. These trends span technological innovations, sustainability measures, and shifting production methods that will propel the steel sector into a new era. In this article, we explore the driving forces behind the steel industry's transformation and their potential impact on production, efficiency, and environmental responsibility as we move into 2025.

China's Steel Exports Surge to Nine-Year High, but Future Outlook Faces **Uncertainty**

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: In 2024, China's finished steel exports reached a nine-year high, up 22.7% year-on-year to 110.716 million metric tons. However, despite the strong performance, analysts foresee challenges in 2025 due to rising investigations and potential trade restrictions.

EU Steel Quota System in Full Swing: TRQ Allocations Nearing Limits Amid Surge in Demand

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: According to Dr. Alexander Siryk, the CEO of Metals Consulting International based in Dusseldorf, Germany, the European Union has entered a new period for Tariff Rate Quotas for steel imports, with over 1.5 million metric tons already awaiting allocation. Various categories of steel, including metal-coated steel, pre-painted galvanized iron, and stainless steel from countries like China, India, Taiwan, and Turkey, are nearing their quota limits. With some orders set to exhaust soon, the EU steel market is poised for potential price hikes and supply chain disruptions.

EU Steel Import Market in Q1 2025: Detailed Analysis of Trends and Key Product **Performance**

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Synopsis: According to Dr. Alexander Siryk, the CEO of Metals Consulting International based in Dusseldorf, Germany, steel import activity in the EU for Q1 2025 showed a decrease compared to the previous quarter but a 12% increase compared to Q1 2024. Total steel inflow under Tariff Rate Quotas reached 2.2 million metric tons. Key market developments include strong performance in carbon long products and tubes & pipes,

while carbon flats and stainless products showed mixed trends.

Brazil's Iron Ore Exports Surge in 2024, Pellet Exports Soar as Key Markets

Strengthen

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Synopsis: According to Dr. Alexander Siryk, the CEO of Metals Consulting International based in Dusseldorf, Germany, in 2024, Brazil saw a 2.9% increase in its iron ore exports compared to the previous year, totaling 389 million metric tons. Pellet exports rose by 5%, while iron ore exports saw a 2.7% rise. China and Oman remained key destinations,

and shipments to the Netherlands also grew.

Ukraine's Iron Ore & Pellet Surge: A Remarkable 2024 Export Growth Journey

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: According to Dr. Alexander Siryk, the CEO of Metals Consulting International based in Dusseldorf, Germany, in 2024, Ukraine's iron ore and pellet exports saw a remarkable surge, almost doubling compared to 2023, with a significant increase in shipments by the year's end. Key global markets, especially China, played a pivotal role in this growth.

Brazil's Pig Iron Exports Dip in 2024, Except for US Market Surge

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Synopsis: According to Dr. Alexander Siryk, the CEO of Metals Consulting International based in Dusseldorf, Germany, Brazil's pig iron exports in 2024 saw a 2.2% decrease

compared to 2023, totaling 3.77 million metric tons. While exports to most markets dropped, shipments to the US saw a notable increase, rising from 2.41 million metric tons in 2023 to 3.37 million metric tons in 2024.

Rungta Steel Ventures into Ductile Iron Pipes to Revolutionize Water Infrastructure

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Synopsis: Rungta Steel, a leading Indian steel manufacturer, expands its product range by introducing Ductile Iron Pipes at its Chaliyama Steel Plant in Jharkhand. These advanced pipes, designed for high-pressure applications, offer superior strength, durability, and reliability for water supply, sewerage, and industrial systems. The company's move further cements its role in transforming India's infrastructure, with innovative features like corrosion resistance and leak-proof joints ensuring long-lasting performance.

Italian Ferrous Scrap Market Faces Supply-Demand Challenges Amid Global Uncertainty

Updated on : Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: The Italian ferrous scrap market experienced a period of supply-demand equilibrium in December 2024, with declining prices and scarce scrap collection. Early 2025 offers unclear prospects, while global markets, including Turkey, Asia, and the EU, face weak demand and uncertain outlooks.

<u>Cleveland Cliffs Partners with Nucor in Strategic Bid for US Steel After Nippon's</u> Blocked Takeover

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Cleveland-Cliffs is teaming up with Nucor to make a potential bid for U.S. Steel after the White House blocked Japan's Nippon Steel from acquiring it. The deal would involve Cleveland-Cliffs buying U.S. Steel and selling its Big River Steel subsidiary to Nucor, offering a cash bid in the high \$30s per share.

Shapiro Weighs in on Cleveland-Cliffs and Nucor's Bid for US Steel: A Pennsylvania Steel Deal in the Works?

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro shows cautious optimism for a joint bid by Cleveland-Cliffs and Nucor to acquire U.S. Steel, contingent on protecting jobs and investments in Pennsylvania, particularly in the Mon Valley.

<u>Cliffs vs US Steel: Goncalves Promises All-American Steel Revival Amid Heated Rivalry"</u>

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Cleveland-Cliffs CEO Lourenco Goncalves reignites the battle to acquire U.S. Steel, vowing to keep American steelmaking in American hands and promising revitalization for the Mon Valley.

Thomas Bünger Takes the Helm as CEO of ArcelorMittal Germany Amidst Industry Challenges

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Thomas Bünger has been appointed the new CEO of ArcelorMittal Germany. Having already served as CEO for the flat steel plants in Bremen and Eisenhüttenstadt since February 2024, Bünger now assumes the role of Chairman of the Management Board at ArcelorMittal Germany Holding. He follows in the footsteps of Reiner Blaschek, who moved on to become CEO of ArcelorMittal Europe Flat Products. Bünger aims to address the key challenges facing the steel industry, including energy prices, trade protection, and CO_2 border adjustments, while pushing for rapid government action to secure the future of steel production in Germany.

Alok Verma Takes Charge as Director of SAIL's Rourkela Steel Plant

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Alok Verma has assumed the role of Director In-Charge at SAIL's Rourkela

Steel Plant. With over 32 years of experience, Verma's leadership spans multiple

achievements, including innovative product development and record-breaking

production at the Odisha Group of Mines.

EUROMETAL Urges European Commission to Reevaluate Steel Import Safeguard

Measures

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: EUROMETAL has formally requested the European Commission to reconsider

key aspects of its review on EU safeguard measures for steel imports, including

extending the submission deadline and standardizing customs rules across member

states.

Poland's Huta Częstochowa Steel Plant to Reopen After 15-Month Hiatus

Updated on : Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Huta Częstochowa, Poland's steel plant, will resume production on January

20, 2025, after a 15-month shutdown. Following a successful trial steel smelting, the

plant is preparing to begin full operations, strengthening the domestic steel market and

reducing Poland's dependence on imports.

Marcegaglia Steel & Manni Group Forge Powerful Joint Venture in Insulated Panels

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Marcegaglia Steel and Manni Group have formed a joint venture focused on

insulated and sectional door panels, becoming Europe's second-largest producer in this

sector, with operations spanning 70 countries and projected revenues of €500 million.

Baku Steel & AIC Consortium Eye Major Acquisition of Acciaierie d'Italia SpA

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: The Baku Steel Company and the Azerbaijan Investment Company consortium are among the top three bidders for the acquisition of Acciaierie d'Italia SpA, an Italian steel manufacturing giant. The proposed acquisition aims to secure key assets, focusing on sustainable plant development, job protection, and decarbonization.

SS Steel Faces Auction as Financial Woes Mount: A Struggle Between Growth & Debt

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: SS Steel, amid financial struggles, faces an auction of its assets due to failure to meet loan repayments. Despite achieving significant sales growth in FY24, its mounting liabilities and devalued currency have created a challenging financial landscape.

Saarstahl & Dillinger Group Navigate Shipping Disruptions: Adaptations Amid Moselle River Lock Damage

Updated on : Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: German steel producers Saarstahl and Dillinger Group have adapted to disruptions caused by the Moselle River lock damage. They have rearranged raw material supplies, ensuring production continues at normal levels despite the shipping setbacks.

Egypt-Qatar Partnership Paves the Way for \$100 Million Steel Plant in Qena

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: A new joint venture between Egyptian and Qatari investors plans to establish an iron and steel factory in Qena Governorate, Egypt. With an investment of up to \$100 million, the factory aims to produce rebar for both local and international markets, including the Arab world, Gulf, Africa, and Türkiye.

SSAB to Divest Expandable Rock Bolt Unit to Jennmar in Strategic Business Shift

Updated on : Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: SSAB has entered into an agreement to divest its expandable rock bolts unit in

Virsbo to U.S.-based Jennmar. The move, affecting 66 employees, aligns with SSAB's

strategy to focus on its core business of high-strength steel and value-added products.

Jennmar, with its extensive experience in mining and infrastructure, is well-positioned to

drive growth in this area. The transaction is expected to close in the first quarter of 2025.

Revamping Precision: Primetals Technologies to Modernize Elval's Cold Rolling Mill

Updated on : Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Elval, Greece's leading aluminum producer, has awarded Primetals

Technologies a contract to modernize its cold rolling mill's drive system. The upgrade,

set for completion by January 2026, will involve the installation of a new SL150

cycloconverter and enhance the mill's availability and reliability by resolving issues with

the outdated drive system.

Baosteel's High-End Casing Shatters Depth Records with Qingbei 1 Well Success

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Baosteel has achieved a significant milestone with its high-end casing, setting

a new record for the deepest vertical well completion in Asia. The Qingbei 1 well, drilled

to a depth of 9,056 meters, demonstrates the advanced capabilities of Baosteel's casing

technology in the oil and gas sector.

Metinvest Introduces Al-Driven Product Quality Control at Zaporizhstal for Major

Savings

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Metinvest Group, through its IT company Metinvest Digital, has implemented

an AI solution to control product quality at its Zaporizhstal plant. The AI, named

ForgeCheck, reduces defects during steel slab production, aiming to save the company US\$250,000 annually by reducing customer complaints and improving efficiency.

Huawei Powers Up China's Aviation and Steel Sectors with AI Revolution

Updated on : Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Huawei is teaming up with Hainan Airlines and Fangda Steel to introduce advanced AI and digital solutions to China's aviation and steel industries. The collaboration aims to boost the technological transformation of these traditional sectors and further Huawei's AI business.

GEM Expands Nickel Production for Power Batteries in Indonesia with New Capacity
Boost

Updated on : Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Chinese nickel producer GEM has completed its high-nickel ternary precursor production project in Indonesia and is now expanding its capacity to 50,000 metric tons. Located in Central Sulawesi, the project is set to support the growing demand for power batteries, with significant investment in infrastructure and research.

South Africa's Steel Industry Faces Challenges as NEASA Urges ITAC to Remove Safeguard Duties

Updated on: Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: The National Employers' Association of South Africa has called for the immediate removal of protectionist duties on long steel products. This comes after the closure of ArcelorMittal South Africa's manufacturing sites, which led to significant job losses. NEASA argues that the safeguard and anti-dumping duties have become ineffective, urging a shift towards more affordable imported raw materials for the steel industry.

Steel-Backed Greenhouses: The Hidden Backbone of Dutch Farming Excellence

Updated on : Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Dutch farmers, renowned for producing high-quality food and flowers, rely heavily on innovative greenhouse technologies, particularly steel structures, to boost their yields. Steel makes possible advanced cultivation methods, from specialized gutters to durable pipes, transforming farming practices and enhancing sustainability.

<u>China's Ingenious Use of Stainless Steel for Hypersonic Missiles: A Technological Milestone</u>

Updated on : Jan 14, 2025

Synopsis: Chinese scientists have successfully developed a hypersonic missile component using stainless steel, a more affordable and accessible material compared to tungsten alloys. This breakthrough reduces production costs and paves the way for more efficient missile manufacturing, while maintaining high performance under extreme conditions.