

Annual Coke Market Survey

A Research Proposal by Resource-Net

Introduction

The next update of the “Coke Market Survey” will be available in November 2017. For companies that subscribed to the 2016 report, the cost will be €3000 (or US\$3400); for new subscribers, the cost will be €500 (US\$4000). These rates are unchanged from last year.

As well as updated market and price forecasts, this report will include detailed information on the coke and coking coal industry. Contents are detailed below. The report will be approximately 250 pages in length.

The report will focus on blast furnace coke as well as coking coal. **In fact, this version will include more coverage of coking coal than in previous years.**

The “*Coke Market Survey*” has been of value to the following:

- Producers & traders of coke & coking coal;
- Consumers of coke in the metallurgical and other industries;
- Equipment & technology suppliers to the coking industry;
- Financial institutions with an interest in coke and coking coal.

The removal of export restraints on Chinese coke from 2013 has led to an increase in volumes and price collapse. Exports were 10.2m tonnes last year, the highest volume since 2008. Trade is mostly to countries in Asia, but Chinese supply plays a major role in pricing worldwide.

Due to erratic prices, environmental issues and falling demand, further investment in coke capacity is being discouraged. In Europe and elsewhere, capacity closures have occurred and more can be expected. **We therefore expect coke shortages to occur again in the future.**

Recent price spikes in coke have been due to the coking coal market, however. Adding to the uncertainty is the shift in pricing methodology in 2017, in that the coking coal benchmark agreed by negotiation is being replaced by index-based pricing. The impact is likely to be an increase in the market volatility, as indices are largely based on demand from China where purchasing can be erratic.

Annual Coke Market Survey

Outline Coverage

The “Coke Market Survey” will include the following:

Metallurgical Coke Supply

- Production data by major coke plant 2015-17, plus comments on capacity status (2017 figures will necessarily be estimates);
- Historical coke production data by country 2008-16, estimates for 2017;
- Coke capacity forecast by country to 2027;
- Discussion of expansions and upgrades to coke-making capacity, permanent battery shutdowns in the past three years;
- Average battery age (excluding non-recovery) by coke plant and country, battery age profile by region;
- Coke export availability, historical and forecast – China, Japan, Poland, Colombia, Russia, Ukraine, other exporters, plus available export statistics;
- Discussion of Chinese coke production & policies, impact on its export potential.

Demand for Metallurgical Coke

- Historical coke consumption (all grades combined) by country 2008-2016, estimates for 2017;
- Forecast coke demand by country to 2027, developed by statistical modelling techniques.

Metallurgical Coal Markets

- Export volumes from major suppliers i.e. Australia, Canada, Russia, United States, other;
- Current supply developments for coking coal;
- Estimated coking coal production by country - historical development and future availability;
- Coking coal pricing methodologies by region;
- Historical pricing for coking coal, plus forecast development.

Price Analysis & Forecasts

- Price forecasts for blast furnace coke and coking coal;
- Balance of likely coke import demand versus potential export capacity (five years ahead);
- Comparison of future coke demand versus available capacity (6-10 years ahead);
- Analysis of long-term coke and coking coal price development.

Annual Coke Market Survey

Methodology

The approach to sourcing information for the “*Coke Market Survey*” is primarily by communications and interviews with participants in the coke market, i.e. consumers, traders and producers in all parts of the world.

Sources of information will include:

- Statistical data on production and demand from industry associations and producers;
- Conference papers and company information;
- Trade data when available;
- Interviews and communications with industry participants.

Costs, Conditions & Timing

The “Coke Market Survey” will be completed by the end of November 2017. The completed document will be sent along with key data in “Excel”. Companies subscribing are required to restrict access to the research to their own personnel, as according to Resource-Net’s standard conditions of supply.

The subscription costs for this report remain on a moderate level:

Summary of charges:

<i>For subscribers to the 2016 Survey:</i>	€3000 / US\$3400
<i>New subscribers:</i>	€3500 / US\$4000

Invoices for the full amount will be issued from August. Companies wishing to subscribe should confirm by contacting Resource-Net via email without delay. Full payment will be required in all cases before dispatch of the report.

Please note that no discounts arise on the basis of a subscription to the monthly reports.

Background

Andrew Jones has more than twenty years' experience of analysing the global commodities sector as well as an extensive technical knowledge of the steelmaking and non-ferrous metals industries. Prior to establishing “Resource-Net” in 1999, he had been employed in commodities research and equity analysis in several countries.

He has an Honours Degree in Metallurgy from the University of Sheffield (UK) and an MSc in Multinational Commerce from Boston University.

Any questions or expressions of interest in this proposal should be addressed to *andrew@resource-net.com*.

July 3, 2017