



Two New China Copper Reports Now Available

“Substitution in China’s Copper Industry” &

“The China Factor in Global Copper Usage and its Consequences - 2007”

As a direct result of China’s outstanding economic performance in recent years, China is now the biggest copper user in the world and is becoming the main driver of overall global copper usage. Due to China’s important role in the world copper industry, more and more producers and users need to understand how China will impact on the copper market and where future Chinese demand will come from and if it is economically sustainable. With the high copper prices prevailing in the market for some time now, worries arisen concerning possible substitution, especially in China.

With the aim of providing a better insight into different issues affecting the copper industry in China, and its impact on the world copper market, the International Copper Study Group (ICSG) undertook two studies: one focusing in detail on the historical and futures trends of copper production and usage in China, and the other focusing on the substitution effects in Chinese copper usage in response to high copper prices.

Report: “Substitution in China’s Copper Industry”

Substitution has become a serious issue in the China copper market because of the sharp increase in the price of copper starting in 2005 and continuing through 2007. China is the largest copper consuming country in the world, but its use of copper is structurally different to that of most other countries and it is defined by different characteristics. Substitution can take place quite easily and rapidly in China as a result of these differences.

This report, prepared by BGRIMM (Beijing General Research Institute of Mining and Metallurgy), analyses the main factors causing substitution and the main forms of substitution, and shows where (by sector) and in what quantity substitution has occurred. It also gives an evaluation of the future trends for substitution in the Chinese copper industry until 2015.

Report: “The China Factor in Global Copper Usage and its Consequences - 2007”

Commissioned by the ICSG, with the co-sponsorship of COCHILCO (Chilean Copper Commission) and MERIJ (Metal Economics Research Institute, Japan), a major report was prepared by BGRIMM (Beijing General Research Institute of Mining and Metallurgy) and released in 2006; a new updated version is now available. The report, containing more than one hundred pages, aims at identifying the impact of China and its rapid growth on the global demand for refined copper. The report presents historical production data since 1994 for Chinese copper mining, smelting and refining sectors (the copper semis sector and recycling/scrap issues are also included); reviews Chinese overseas investments in copper production; identifies the main foreign semis manufacturing operations in China; analyses the copper content in major manufactured products and the copper usage in each major product group/end-use sector; overviews the Chinese copper industry until 2015 and the potential of import substitution in fabricating, smelting/refining, mining; and analyzes China’s macro economy, the base point of China’s copper demand in the future. Copper production and usage forecasts are presented for each major product group, including construction, infrastructure, industrial equipment, transport, home appliances and consumer goods.

A PDF version of each of the above mentioned reports is available for immediate sale. In case of interest, a copy of each report’s list of contents can be obtained prior to purchase. Purchasing details can be found in the order form attached to this press release.

International Copper Study Group Order Form

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