

Annual Coke Market Survey

A Research Proposal by Resource-Net

Introduction

The next update of the “Coke Market Survey” will be available in November 2021. As well as updated market data and price forecasts, this report will include detailed information on the coke and coking coal industries. The report will be approximately 250 pages in length.

Since it was first produced in 2003, the *“Coke Market Survey”* has been of value to the following types of company:

- Producers & traders of coke & metallurgical 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.

Market Situation

China continues to play a key role on the world coke market. For many years the world’s leading exporter, China become a major importer of coke last year. Its imports reached 3m tonnes, a significant level given world coke trade last year was around 24m tonnes. This year’s imports will be lower, however. Due to unattractive pricing and rising costs, Chinese exports last year were just 3.5m tonnes, the lowest level since 2012. It is difficult to see these exports resuming on significantly higher levels in the future.

Restricted Chinese availability kept keep the world coke market in balance in 2020, even though demand was obviously lower than in previous years. Coke supply from countries such as Australia, Colombia, Japan and Russia is taking much of the available market, especially in the “western hemisphere” region.

Investment in coke capacity is being discouraged because of price uncertainty, environmental issues and falling demand. In Europe and elsewhere, capacity closures have occurred and more can be expected. **We therefore expect coke shortages to emerge in the future, once the current economic crisis is over, maybe by 2023-24.**

Likewise, expansion to coal capacity is becoming politically unacceptable in many parts of the world. This is leading to a greater likelihood that high-quality coking coal will also become relatively scarce in the future. Pricing for coking coal clearly has a major impact on that for coke.

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Outline Coverage

The “Coke Market Survey” will include the following:

Metallurgical Coke Supply

- Effective capacity data by major coke plant, plus comments on status and future developments;
- Historical coke production data by country 2012-20, estimates for 2021;
- Coke capacity forecast by country to 2031;
- Expansions and upgrades to coke-making capacity, permanent battery shutdowns in the past three years;
- Coke export availability, historical and forecast – China, Colombia, Japan, Poland, Russia, other exporters, plus export data;
- Discussion of Chinese coke production & policies, impact on its export potential.

Demand for Metallurgical Coke

- Historical coke consumption (all grades combined) by country 2012-2020, estimates for 2021;
- Forecast coke demand by country to 2031, developed by statistical modelling techniques;
- Potential for replacement of coke in steelmaking with alternatives (hydrogen etc);
- Demand outlook for coke users in the foundry and submerged-arc furnace sectors.

Metallurgical Coal Markets

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

Price Analysis & Forecasts

- Price forecasts for blast furnace coke and coking coal to 2031;
- 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.

The report’s coverage is similar to that of recent years. **We are open to ideas on how it might be enhanced!**

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Methodology

We source information for the “*Coke Market Survey*” primarily by communications with participants in the market, i.e. consumers, traders and producers in all parts of the world.

Other sources of information will include:

- Statistical data on production and demand from industry associations and producers;
- Conference papers and company information;
- Trade data on coke and metallurgical coal.

Costs, Conditions & Timing

The “*Coke Market Survey*” will be completed by the end of November 2021. 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.

At €3300 or US\$4000 for all customers, the subscription cost for this report remains on a moderate level. Companies wishing to subscribe should confirm by contacting Resource-Net via email without delay! Full payment will be required before the report is dispatched.

Background

Andrew Jones has more than twenty years' experience of analysing the global commodities sector as well as an extensive 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*.

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