

## METAL NEWS REVIEW

### Winlock Metal Prices Update

What's happening in the world of metals ? Here's the Winlock Guide....

#### ZINC

"Zinc prices must fall at some point but it could be a long time coming" – that was our last update, and zinc has finally fallen ! It has dropped by around 20% in a month and is now below \$2600. This is the lowest this year but it is still well above the long term average of \$2000 per tonne. Here in the UK we won't see the full benefit of this fall as it has coincided with sterling's fall against the US dollar since May. Nevertheless we should start to see the price of zinc items falling.

#### ALUMINIUM

The last quarter has been something of a roller coaster ride for aluminium prices, with a sharp spike up to \$2600 per tonne in April but an equally sharp drop back to \$2200 in May. It has since fallen slowly to \$2075 which is close to it's long term average.

#### COPPER

Like Aluminium Copper has seen some short term volatility, rising from \$6700 in April to \$7250 in June but since falling back to \$6000. At current prices, with the sharp fall in zinc recently, we can expect to see lower brass prices shortly.

#### STEEL

The main news on carbon steel prices is that Chinese production continues to get more expensive as capacity cuts (and US tariffs ) have an effect. Year on Year prices are about 15% up in China, and this should ensure mild steel stays no lower than current levels for the short term. Stainless steel prices have risen slowly over the last year although marine grade (316) has risen about 10%. Stainless door hardware is beginning to become more popular in the UK market and prices may be going up soon.

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