INTERNATIONAL COPPER STUDY GROUP



Survey of Brass Mills, Copper Products and Foundries in China: Industrial Copper First Users ex-Wire Rod

2014

- The survey completed in March 2014 covered 343 Chinese producers with 6,345kt/a capacity for copper and copper alloy products excluding copper wire rod. All the operational Chinese plants surveyed are currently using either copper scrap or refined copper as a raw material.
- Different groups of plants of semifabricated products are included in the survey:
 copper and copper alloy flat products as sheet/strip (PSS), rod/bar (RBS), tubes, alloy
 wire, foil, powder and castings. Among the 343 plants, 100 mills with 4,047kt/a capacity
 are surveyed in detail: 30 copper and copper alloy PSS mills, 25 RBS mills, 25 tube mills,
 2 casting mills, 3 powder mills, 7 foil mills and 8 alloy wire mills are included with some
 plant visits. The remaining 243 mills were surveyed by phone, email but not visited.
- The 37 page survey report provides a detailed overview of past, current and expected capacity, output and use of copper scrap and refined copper. Every industrial group of fabricators of copper and copper alloy products across China is included with the exception of copper wire rod producers. The study allows readers to understand the transformation of the industrial sectors using copper in China, the closure and replacement of old plants and the evolution of new plant capacities. The relative importance of copper scrap versus refined copper in every industry group is described and explained in detail, in particular for scrap intensive brass rod and alloy wire. Finally the role of scrap availability, scrap spreads, Chinese prices and other factors impacting the Chinese copper industry are discussed. Forecasts for the period 2014-2016 are included for each product included in the survey.

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