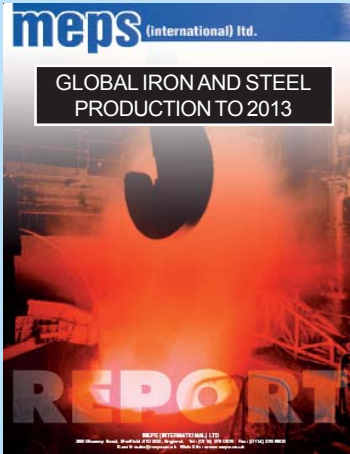


GLOBAL IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTION TO 2013

Now Available

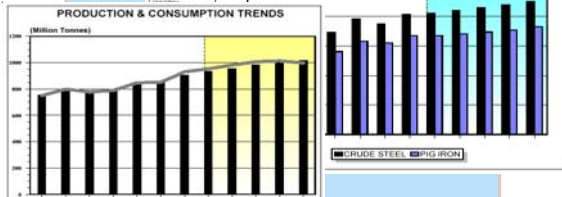
STEEL MARKET DOWN BUT NOT OUT

Recovery forecast for 2010 - New record consumption in 2012



REPORT SUMMARY

- Introduction
- Executive Summary
- Economic Overview
- Steel Demand - 12 regions
 - Apparent Consumption of finished steel
- Production forecasts - 54 countries and 12 regions:
 - Crude Steel
 - Blast Furnace Iron
 - DRI
- Future steelmaking by process - 54 countries:
 - BOF
 - Electric
 - Others
- Supply-Demand Balance
- Conclusions
- Risks
- Appendices
 - charts showing historical and future trends.



INTRODUCTION

MEPS (International) Ltd. has revised its previous forecast in light of the new economic situation. Crude steel production in 2008 was slightly below the previous years's outturn, despite increasing by more than 6 percent in the first eight months. Output will continue to be weak in 2009 but forecast to climb to 1.475 billion tonnes in 2013.

In the previous edition, we warned about the slowdown in construction in the industrial nations during period to 2011. This came quicker and more intense than we anticipated and has extended into the developing countries.

The questions we will address in this report are:

- *How deep will the recession be?*
- *When will the pick up occur?*
- *Where and how much will be produced in the future?*
- *How will Indian and Chinese new capacity impact on global output?*

METHODOLGY

We commence our economic roundup with an examination of forecasts from OECD, IMF, World Bank and other official sources. We then apply our considerations for the short and medium term prospects based on discussions with steel consumers in all regions.

Our experience of inventory cycles are then inputted. Finally, we draw together these elements to produce predictions for apparent consumption of steel in each region.

Iron and steel production forecasts are then made for selected countries, based on the following key elements:-

- *future domestic and regional demand*
- *changing patterns of trade*
- *existing and planned capacity changes*

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- *Steel industry analysts*
- *Government agencies*

