



Weekly Precious Metals News Articles: July 1, 2022

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Below is a cross section of relevant news article to the world of Precious Metals:

Markets, Supply & Demand, Investment, and Industrial Applications.

Printable PDF version attached. Enjoy-

Gold

- [U.S. to join Group of 7 in ban of new Russian gold imports to hit Putin](#)
 - U.S. President Joe Biden and fellow Group of Seven leaders will agree to announce a ban on new gold imports from Russia, a person familiar with the plan says, the latest sanctions imposed after the Russian invasion of Ukraine.
- [UK sanctions Russian gold exports](#)
 - New exports of Russian gold will no longer be allowed to be enter the UK, Canada, US and Japan thanks to tough new measures to be announced at the G7 Summit.
- [Gold price see little reaction after U.S., Canada, Britain, and Japan ban new Russian gold imports](#)
 - Sunday, at the G7 meeting, the United States, Britain, Japan, and Canada announced they would ban imports of new gold produced in Russia.
 - The latest news is not having much impact on gold prices. August Comex gold futures are starting the new trading week in roughly neutral territory, last trading at \$1,834.70 an ounce, up 0.24% on the day.
 - Following the announcement, U.S. President Joe Biden said that the new gold ban would deprive Russia of tens of billions of dollars the pariah nation needs to fund its war in Ukraine.
 - Russia is the world's second-largest gold producer, representing 9.5% of the global supply. Last year Russia's gold exports were valued at more than \$15 billion. The new sanction could have the biggest impact on London's gold market. According to Bloomberg, 28% of Russian gold was exported to London.
- [Gold retains mantle as the ultimate hedge as Cryptocurrency's backers lose the faith](#)
 - The blowout in the price of cryptocurrency recently has thrown the spotlight on the asset class to which its backers most sought to compare it – gold.
 - Amid concerns regarding inflation & recession, the yellow metal has done what it's always been able to achieve: retain its value. Investors in Bitcoin, however, appear to have lost belief as its value is -70%.
 - What first seemed like a risk-off approach to Bitcoin is now resembling a meltdown similar in scope to "... the tangle of derivatives that brought down the global financial system in 2008", according to a recent article by Bloomberg News.
- [Spring-loaded connectors that resist structural failure and provide multi contact points offered by Mill-Max](#)
 - Connectors use Omniball contacts, spring-loaded pins in which a gold-plated brass ball replaces the traditional plunger for several contact points

Semiconductor Related Articles (impacting Precious Metals electronics):

- **[Chip makers warn Congress' delay could threaten U.S. expansion](#)**
 - Congress' delay on passing key funding for chips could jeopardize a big opportunity to keep one of America's few tech manufacturing industries.
 - It's expensive to build semiconductors, a vital input for wide swaths of the economy, and other countries have already outpaced the U.S. in incentivizing manufacturing on their shores.
 - Driving the news: News broke Thursday that Intel is delaying its groundbreaking ceremony for its planned \$20 billion chip site in Ohio, citing in part uncertainty around chips legislation, as reported by The Wall Street Journal. Intel says it still plans to build the site and has not pushed back the construction start date, but warned that the scope and pace of "our expansion in Ohio will depend heavily on funding" from Congress.
 - Intel's announcement in January that it would build a leading-edge semiconductor manufacturing plant was cheered by the White House at the time as a sign of progress in the administration's efforts to increase domestic manufacturing.
 - State of play: The Senate passed the bipartisan U.S. Innovation and Competition Act, which includes \$52 billion in funding for chips, last summer. The House passed its version of the bill in February, but the two chambers have yet to agree on a compromise bill.
- **[GlobalWafers to invest US\\$5 billion in new Texas plant](#)**
 - GlobalWafers, the third-largest silicon wafer supplier in the world, on Monday announced plans to open a US\$5 billion 12-inch wafer plant in the U.S. state of Texas by 2025.
 - The site will be based in Sherman City and cover 3.2 million square feet, capable of producing 1.2 million wafers per month, GlobalWafers said.
 - The company said that its first new U.S. facility would be the largest of its kind in the country, with enough space for the company to both produce its flagship product and enable growth.
- **[Samsung is first to mass produce 3-nanometer chips](#)**
 - By applying so-called Gate-All-Around transistor architecture, Samsung's 3-nanometer products reduce power consumption by up to 45 percent and improve performance by 23 percent compared with 5-nanometer chips, it said.
 - *Matt: Article is misleading. SMC has been doing a ramp gate release on its 3nm all year. It will kick the line into full production in the next few months.*
 - TSMC also said it has seen stronger customer engagement for its 3-nanometer technology for the first year, compared with the previous-generation 5-nanometer technology.
 - TSMC adopts a different approach in developing its 3-nanometer technology. The company said it adopts the FinFet transistor structure to deliver the best technology maturity, performance and cost for its customers.
- **[Advanced Logic and Memory Applications require more deposition materials.](#)**
 - TECHCET, the electronic materials advisory firm providing business and technology information, reports that the Total ALD/CVD precursor market grew 21% in 2021, reaching US\$1.39 billion and is forecasted to grow 12% in 2022. The 2022 Precursor market will top US\$1.56 billion due to strong industry growth overall, driven by higher production volumes of < 7nm logic devices and higher increased stacking and layers in 3DNAND devices. The transition to EUV lithography for DRAM fabrication will also result in opportunities for increased precursor revenues. More details on these market trends will be revealed in TECHCET's presentation given at the 2022 ALD Conference,

Silver

- **[First Solar \(FSLR\) Secures Order for 2 GW of PV Solar Modules](#)**

- First Solar, Inc. recently inked an agreement with National Grid Renewables to supply 2 GW of its solar modules, thus further strengthening its strategic partnership with National Grid Renewables.
- The modules, which constitute First Solar's advanced Cadmium Telluride (CadTel) thin-film module technology platform, are lined up for delivery in 2024 and 2025 throughout the United States.
- *Matt: Recall that First Solar is the key producer higher disposal risk with its CdTe design. First Solar is also leading the way on Solar PV Recycle, helping to mitigate the Cd environmental risks.*
- **Solar PV Cost Inflation: [Chinese PV Industry Brief: Polysilicon prices hit high of \\$41.80/kg](#)**
 - The China Nonferrous Metals Industry Association said the price of polysilicon reached CNY 280/kg this week, the highest level ever recorded. The increase was mainly due to a reduction in production output of around 3,500mt. The association said other factories will also start seasonal maintenance in July, and this will continue to weigh on supply and drive-up prices. *The price has been below \$20/kg since 2015.*
- **[LONGi claims new HJT solar cell efficiency record](#)**
 - Solar manufacturer LONGi has set a world record conversion efficiency of 26.5% for silicon heterojunction (HJT) PV cells (M6 (274.4cm²) full-size monocrystalline silicon wafers).
 - Reporting its Q1 results last month, LONGi revealed it is on track to ship 50 – 60GW of modules in 2022 and end the year with 85GW of module manufacturing capacity.
 - *Matt: With nearly 50% higher electrical efficiency, this cutting-edge Solar PV thin film design uses nearly twice the loadings of Silver.*
- **[Silver Institute June 2022 Newsletter](#)**
 - Silver's Use in Brazing and Soldering Applications Forecast to Grow 23% Through 2030
 - New Member: Andean Precious Metal
 - Automated Method Produces Large Batches of Silver Nanoparticles
 - Global X Opens First ETF in Europe Focused on Silver Mining
 - New Book Bullish on Silver
 - Tennessee Latest U.S. State to Drop Bullion Coin Sales Tax
- **[Rays of solar hope for Europe: A Midsummer reflection](#)**
 - As a consequence of the invasion of Ukraine, and the recognition that Europe must move away from Russian fossil fuels, the EU has dramatically increased its renewable energy ambition. May 18 marked a watershed moment for European solar, with European Commission introducing the first dedicated EU strategy for solar expansion. Crucially, we now have a dedicated European target for solar deployment for 2030 – around 750 GWdc. As initial EU 'Fit for 55' package proposals translated into around 420 GWac of solar by the end of the decade, this new 600 GWac or 750 GWdc target represents +43%.
 - *Matt: Incremental 180GW of EU Solar installations by 2030 represents about 180Moz of silver.*

Precious Metals Mining:

- **[Sibanye-Stillwater's Froneman warns PGM wage negotiations "will not have quick outcome"](#)**
 - "I don't think it will be quick outcome," Froneman said in an interview this week. "Positional bargaining is a process, especially if you are going to achieve an inflation-related wage increase. Maybe there's a bit more complexity with profit share which could well be the right thing for PGMs."
 - Anglo American Platinum made relatively short work of its wage negotiations agreeing on May 26 a five-year wage agreement with unions that increased the total labour cost to company an average 6.6%. Northam Platinum signed a five-year wage pact last year after agreeing a 6.5% wage increase.
- **[Impala Platinum signs five-year wage deal](#)**
 - South Africa's Impala Platinum on Tuesday said it had agreed a five-year wage deal with the Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union (AMCU).
 - "The agreement is in line with current mining inflation of ~6.5% and considers the reality of sustained inflationary pressures faced by our employees," Impala said, adding wage deal takes effect on July 1.

- The pay deal covers increases in basic salaries, living-out and home-ownership allowances, medical aid and pension fund contributions, the company said, without providing specific figures.
- [**Implats to sign first ever five-year wage agreement with AMCU for Rustenburg mines**](#)
 - Impala Platinum said it had agreed a new five year wage agreement with the Association of Mineworkers & Construction Union for employees at the firm's Rustenburg and Marula mines.
- [**Amplats will be "challenged" to smelt PGMs if Eskom hikes loadshedding, says Viljoen**](#)
 - Amplats will be "challenged" to refine metal if loadshedding by South Africa's government-owned utility, Eskom was increased from current levels, said the PGM firm's CEO, Natascha Viljoen.
 - "We are going to be challenged to move all of our metal in refining for the rest of the year," said Viljoen today in response to a question over the impact of Stage 6 loadshedding were it to be implemented by Eskom.
 - Andre de Ruyter, Eskom CEO, said the utility was "working hard" to avoid having to rationing power further amid an illegal strike by employees and plant breakdowns. South Africa is currently in Stage 4 rationing which Eskom said earlier this week would persist until June 29 (Wednesday).
- [**Stillwater mine works toward reopening following flooding**](#)
 - Several bridges in the vicinity of the Stillwater mine were damaged by the flooding and sections of the primary access road to the mine were severely eroded or completely gone, restricting access to the mine and requiring rerouting of water, tailings and other piping. Remediation work on the access bridge within the Stillwater mine complex has begun and is expected to be completed in about four weeks.
 - "It is estimated that operations at the Stillwater mine will remain suspended for approximately four to six weeks before safe access to the mine is restored and production can resume," the company said.
- [**Pathways to sustainable smelting**](#)
 - Traditional metal production is inherently polluting. According to data from Wood Mackenzie's Emissions Benchmarking Tool, it is currently responsible for 9% of global greenhouse gas emissions.
 - "Smelting is highly energy intensive. Traditionally, the power for smelting has come from either grids using both renewable and non-renewable sources or via onsite generation from hydrocarbons or coal. Sustainable smelting will therefore require greening the energy supply to smelting plants through a 100% renewable grid, clean onsite generation or buying into offsite renewables," said Wood Mackenzie research manager Dominic Wells.

E-Waste & Precious Metals Recycle Related:

- [**Old is gold: why recycling the precious metal is gaining traction in India**](#)
 - High gold prices and economic uncertainty have led to a surge in recycling of the precious metal in India, one of the world's largest consumers of bullion, industry sources say. 11% of India's gold supply over the past five years has come from "old gold", with consumers selling off or exchanging their jewelry for recycling, according to the World Gold Council.
 - "The gold recycling trend has grown in the past few years because, looking at the pricing of gold, it is increasing," says Pramod Godha, a partner at Shantivijay Jewels, which has its store in Delhi and a factory in Mumba
- [**The Future Of Converter Recycling: What Happens To PGMs If ICEs Become Obsolete By 2030?**](#)
 - North American-based United Catalyst Corporation, a processor of scrap catalytic converters that offer global refining services discusses what will happen to platinum group metals (PGMs) when internal combustion engines (ICEs) become obsolete.
- [**Recycled precious metals: Tanaka Group goes all-in**](#)
 - Precious metals specialist Tanaka has turned to marketing gold and platinum sourced from 100% scrap rather than traditional mining. Tanaka Precious Metals recovers valuable metals like gold and platinum

from anything like automotive catalysts, electronics and waste plating. As a next step, it is providing a premium quality recycle that it believes competes with traditionally mined bullion.

- From now on, the company will commercially manufacture and supply products that use RE Series materials. It reports the first recycled gold for compound plating was successfully produced in April.
- **[Emerging processor plots fast expansion to supply smelter](#)**
 - E-scrap firm evTerra has plans to soon be running four plants across the U.S., part of a strategy to ensure a steady stream of material to the Igneo secondary smelter slated for Savannah, Ga. Igneo is evTerra's parent company and launched the processing arm in 2021.
 - The first evTerra facility is a roughly 100,000-square-foot site in Atlanta that began shredding low- and mid-grade e-scrap in 2022. Igneo (formerly called WEEE Metallica) operates a secondary smelter in France that processes exclusively e-scrap, as opposed to other smelters/refineries that take in a wide variety of virgin mined and scrap resources.
 - A White Plains, N.Y.-headquartered company, Igneo uses a pyrolysis technology to process low-grade electronic scrap into a copper concentrate, which is shipped to refineries for further processing into precious and base metals fractions. Igneo last fall announced plans to build an \$85 million secondary smelter at the Port of Savannah using its technology.
- **[Tesla bursts into flames after sitting in US scrapyards for three weeks](#)**
 - A Tesla Model S spontaneously burst into flames in a Rancho Cordova, California, US scrapyards after the car had spent weeks sitting there after a collision.
- **[Maintenance shutdown at Aurubis plant in Hamburg completed successfully](#)**
 - The planned (smelter facility) maintenance shutdown at the Hamburg Aurubis plant was successfully completed today. Aurubis carried out a total of 480 technical renovations and maintenance measures throughout the smelter, as well as taking action to improve the site's environmental protection. In addition to inspecting the waste heat boiler, the multimetal company renovated the plant's highest forge, which stretches up to 135 meters, installed two new metallurgical cranes and replaced heat exchangers in the contact plant – the latter of which was done in preparation for the second expansion stage of industrial heat extraction project to supply up to 20,000 households in Hamburg with CO2-free industrial heat as early as 2024.

Platinum

- **[WPIC: Driving Change](#)**
 - Demand for emissions-free platinum-based powertrains that run on hydrogen will experience strong growth in the years ahead, especially in commercial vehicles

Fuel Cells/Hydrogen Economy Related Articles:

- **[Hydrogen trains to replace diesel units in Berlin region](#)**
 - Siemens Mobility has won a contract to supply seven two-car hydrogen trains for a line in the Berlin-Brandenburg region of eastern Germany, replacing diesel units.
 - The order was placed by regional transport company Niederbarnimer Eisenbahn for the Heidekrautbahn network (RB27) and the trains are due for delivery in autumn 2024 ready to enter service by the end of the year.
- **[BASF Puristar and Sorbead get Shell's green hydrogen production nod](#)**
 - Shell and BASF have worked together for the evaluation and to de-risk the BASF Puristar R020 (CuZn catalyst) and Sorbead Adsorption Technology (adsorbents are alumino silicate gels in the form of hard, spherical beads) for use in green hydrogen production.
 - The tech can also be used in the liquification and transportation of H2, as a chemical feedstock or as an energy source. Now that they have received the nod, they have been added to Shell's

portfolio so that they have the potential to be used in the global green hydrogen production projects owned by Shell.

- [Cummins and Komatsu to collaborate on advancing development of zero emissions mining haul trucks](#)
 - Komatsu is committed to minimizing environmental impact through its business, targeting a 50% reduction in CO2 emissions from use of its products and production of its equipment by 2030 (vs. 2010 levels) & a challenge target of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.
- [Solid Oxide Fuel Cells Are Having A \(Big\) Moment](#)
 - Earlier this week, the firm Ceres announced an agreement with Shell to build a megawatt-scale solid oxide fuel cell project at Shell's R&D center in Bangalore, India, with the aim of producing green hydrogen for the industrial market.
 - "Shell and Ceres are building this partnership to utilise SOEC technology to deliver high-efficiency, low-cost green hydrogen; now widely viewed as a credible route to decarbonise hard-to-abate parts of the energy system that rely on fossil fuels today," Ceres explained.
 - "Ceres aims to produce hydrogen at efficiencies around 20% greater than other technologies, in the range of mid-80s to 90% efficiency where it is possible to make use of waste heat in industrial processes to drive high efficiency," they add, noting that the aim is to achieve a "market-leading levelised cost of hydrogen of \$1.5/kg by 2025," they add.
- [UK's first mass-produced hydrogen truck unveiled](#)
 - The first hydrogen and electric-powered lorry to be mass-produced in the UK has been unveiled. Start-up firm Tevva, based in Thurrock, Essex, has added a hydrogen fuel cell system to its battery-electric HGV design. The hydrogen tops up the battery, enabling the vehicle to carry heavier loads over longer distances.
- [Gasgrid Finland mandated to promote hydrogen infrastructure development](#)
 - The state-owned company must also promote the H₂ market throughout the H₂ market in the Baltic Sea Region. Gasgrid Finland must not only begin focusing on the national and international hydrogen infrastructure and regional market, but it is also required to do so as soon as possible. The company is responsible for Finnish natural gas transmission.
- [Hydrogen fuel cell vehicle patents rise, China tops list](#)
 - Chinese innovators filed 7,261 applications related to hydrogen fuel cell technology: This amounts to 69 % of the total patents filed between 2016 and 2020. Japan filed 1,186 applications, 11.3% of the total, while Germany filed 646 patents, contributing 6.2%. South Korea and the United States filed 583 and 403 patents related to hydrogen fuel cell technology, respectively. These two countries contributed 5.6% and 3.8% to the total patent filled.
 - The report claims that H₂ fuel cell technology-related patent filings in the transportation sector currently are at the same level as patent filings related to EVs excluding hybrids.

Palladium

- [Why Chemists Can't Quit Palladium](#)
 - A retracted paper highlights chemistry's history of trying to avoid the expensive, toxic, but necessary, catalyst.
 - *Matt: A Fascinating Read. I wrote the author to encourage R&D with Pd now, to align with projected [surpluses](#) as ICE volumes decline and Pd recycle and Pd mining increase.*
- [Russia could limit the supply of palladium to drive prices higher, says insurance company](#)
 - CNBC Video of Interview with Jonathan Barratt of CelsiusPro. He says the palladium market could be the site of a Russian "tit for tat."
- [Palladium: After March Peak And May Plunge, Is Autocatalyst On A Good Run?](#)

- Palladium has gone from record highs to a 50% drop in just two months. Now, with June trading about to close, the autocatalyst metal is exhibiting some signs of life. But with recession fears growing as well, can this technical rebound stick?
- Ahead of Tuesday's open on New York's COMEX, palladium's benchmark contract stood at \$1,877 an ounce. It had risen some \$46, or 2.5%, over the past four sessions.
- While that may not be much in palladium's grand scheme of things, it laid the foundation for a second straight week of gains in a market that had seen a cumulative loss of 13% over three previous weeks.
- *Matt: As expected after market has recoiled from China COVID Lockdowns impact on demand, now today Wednesday June 29th, we see Pd is up +\$115 as industrial buying resumes.*
- **Palladium jumps over 5% as precious metals rise**
 - Precious metals traded higher on Wednesday, with palladium surging over 5%. Investors monitored China's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the supply chain crisis, with President Xi Jinping reaffirming the country's dedication to the zero-COVID policy and stating China is prepared to suffer "temporary impacts" on the economy. Geopolitical tensions remain high amid the NATO summit where Turkey announced it will greenlight Sweden and Finland's accession to the alliance amid protests from Russia.

PGM Minor Metals (Rhodium, Iridium, Ruthenium, Osmium)

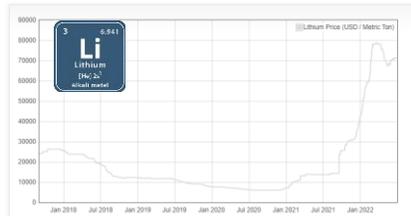
- **The race to make green hydrogen competitive is on. And Europe is building industrial-scale electrolyzers to help**
 - Hydrogen has a diverse range of applications and can be deployed in a wide range of industries.
 - Siemens Energy and Air Liquide have announced plans to focus on the production of "industrial scale renewable hydrogen electrolyzers in Europe."
 - A growing number of multinational firms are attempting to lay down a marker in the green hydrogen sector.
- **TANAKA Establishes New Ruthenium Film Deposition Process That Contributes Toward Improved Durability Of Semiconductors**
 - TANAKA Precious Metals manufacturing business, announced today that TANAKA has established a two-stage film deposition process using the liquid ruthenium (Ru) precursor "TRuST." TRuST is a precursor that has excellent reactivity with both oxygen and hydrogen and can form high-quality ruthenium films. This process is a two-stage atomic layer deposition (ALD) process that uses hydrogen film formation to create a thin anti-oxidation film and oxygen for the deposition of a high-quality ruthenium film. It eradicates concerns that the substrate will become oxidized and, at the same time, can prevent the drop in ruthenium purity that occurs during hydrogen film deposition.
- **Ruthenium: SK Innovation and Amogy to develop the ammonia-powered fuel cell system technology**
 - SK Innovation and Amogy held a signing ceremony on June 12 (local time) in San Jose, California, the United States, wherein they agreed to cooperate on developing the ammonia-powered fuel cell system technology and expanding the market.
- **The Aerospace Industry Is Grappling With A Titanium Supply Shortage**
 - The current geopolitical climate is wreaking havoc on metals markets.
 - Titanium, in particular, is facing a major supply shortage.
 - The aerospace industry depends on titanium.

Clean Energy General News

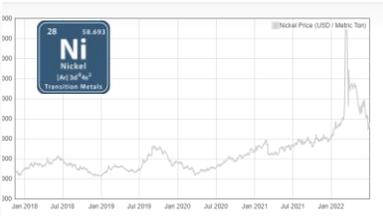
- **China clean energy: electric cars still need coal**
 - Some may have ignored the long term, underlying risks EV battery producers carry
 - Chinese companies have an edge, low raw materials processing and battery production costs. Profitability is impressive, with Tianqi Lithium's operating margins at 55% last year, far above its US peer Albemarle. Shares of Tianqi Lithium have nearly doubled in the past year.
 - But many of their cost advantages depend upon cheap energy, mostly from coal. Coal-fueled electricity accounted for more than half of China's electricity last year. EVs thus rely heavily on this dirty source.
 - The EU and the US are considering implementing carbon border adjustment taxes. These put a price on imported carbon, forcing producers to pay for any carbon they emit from the point of manufacturing.
- **Demand for industrial materials will drop as global economic activity slows: Bart Melek**
 - Bart Melek, global head of commodity markets strategy at TD Securities, joins BNN Bloomberg and discusses recent pressures on copper. He says that he's expecting a breakdown in base metal prices in the months to come as the global urge to stockpile these commodities is lessening. Melek talks on how the latest GDP data in Canada and economic activity in China are indicating slowing global economies, leading him to believe there will be excess of industrial metals.
- **Palladium, Nickel Rise as U.K. Sanctions Norilsk Owner Potanin**
 - Prices of PGMs and nickel rose in London on Wednesday after the U.K. placed Vladimir Potanin, the chief executive and principal shareholder of Russian mining giant Norilsk Nickel, on its sanctions list.
 - Nickel and Palladium both rose around 6% initially in response to the news, before paring gains. By 10:20 AM ET, palladium futures on the London Metals Exchange were +4.5%, while Platinum futures were +0.5%. Nickel futures were also +2.3%. As such, the three metals in which Norilsk has the most significant global market share were all outperforming other base and industrial metals futures, most of which were trading lower on recession concerns.
 - The U.K. government sanctioned most of the oligarchs identified as close to President Vladimir Putin's government immediately or soon after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February. However, it held off from sanctioning Potanin, apparently out of concern at the possible disruption to supplies of vital metal supplies to the world economy. Similar measures applied by the U.S. to Oleg Deripaska, the majority owner of aluminum giant Rusal and Potanin's co-shareholder in Norilsk, had caused extreme volatility in the aluminum market due to the inability of exchange warehouses to accept metal from Russia.
- **Metals Rebound From Their Worst Week in a Year on China Optimism - Bloomberg**
 - *Matt: The real message is China demands are starting to rebound.*
 - China's economy is showing improvement as Covid-19 curbs ease
 - Metals prices are dislocated from fundamentals: Goldman Sachs
- **The weekend read: The stakes are high for solar and green finance**
 - According to the latest SolarPower Europe market outlook, 167.8 GW of solar was added in 2021, pushing cumulative global installations past the 1 TW mark.
 - While the pandemic continues to affect us, particularly when it comes to global supply chains, the world is now facing a new crisis. The Ukrainian-Russian conflict has brought with it a new trifecta of fear: a humanitarian disaster; soaring inflation which is impacting not only commodities like food, but also energy prices (EU households are expected to see energy bills increase 30% in 2022, after witnessing historic price rises already in 2021); and the question of energy security against a backdrop of heavy global dependence on Russian oil and gas.

BEV / LiB Mineral & Battery Market News

Lithium Prices for the Last 5 Years



Nickel Prices for the Last 5 Years



Cobalt Prices for the Last 5 Years



Friday Fix: Lithium \$70,995/mt Nickel \$22,323/mt Cobalt \$70,000/mt

- [What is the equity market getting wrong about lithium? - Battery Materials Review Ltd](#)
 - Today is another day when most lithium equities are heading south and I, and many other industry analysts, scratch my head and wonder why?
- [Nickel Miners News For The Month Of June 2022](#)
 - Nickel spot prices were lower last month and LME inventory was lower. The market appears to have now recovered from the March 2022 spot price spike.
 - Nickel market news, Class 1 nickel for EV batteries looks to have deficits ahead. BMI: Nickel sulphate supply to approach 500,000t in 2022, > than a 3.5x increase.
 - Nickel company news - IGO Limited completes Western Areas scheme of arrangement. Mincor Resources' first payment for nickel concentrate received.
- [BASF to build commercial scale battery recycling black mass plant in Schwarzheide, Germany](#)
 - Annual processing capacity of 15,000 tons of EV batteries and production scrap
 - BASF will close the loop from end-of-life batteries to CAM for new batteries, enabling a circular economy and reduced CO2 footprint
 - Plant will be built to the highest EHS standards
- [BASF expands CAMs in China](#)
 - BASF Shanshan Battery Materials, BASF's 51%-49% joint venture in China, has announced plans to add capacity for cathode active materials (CAMs) to 100,000 mt/year at sites in Changsha, Hunan province, and Shuizuishan in Ningxia province (pictured). This is being done to address booming demand in the electric vehicle market.
 - Due to start up in Q4, the new production lines are designed with high flexibility to produce high-nickel and ultra-high-nickel nickel-cobalt-manganese oxide (NCM) for polycrystalline and single crystalline, as well as manganese-rich NCM products. They also feature energy recovery technologies, including off-gas, waste heat and oxygen recycling, a first in the battery industry.
- [CEO Elon Musk says new Tesla plants are 'money furnaces'losing billions - Hindustan Times](#)
 - Elon Musk said Tesla Inc.'s new plants in Germany and Texas are losing "billions of dollars" as the electric-vehicle maker tries to ramp up production.
 - "Both Berlin and Austin factories are gigantic money furnaces right now," the chief executive officer said in a video interview with Tesla Owners of Silicon Valley posted online Wednesday.
 - The comments, part of a broader discussion filmed May 31, offer new insight into Tesla's operations in the days leading up to Musk's decision to cut costs by laying off employees. The reductions will affect about 10% of Tesla's salaried workers over the next three months, or about 3.5% of its global workforce, Musk told Bloomberg at the Qatar Economic Forum on Tuesday.
- [Sony and Honda agree to joint venture to sell electric cars by 2025](#)
 - Honda, like bigger rival Toyota Motor, has been slower to shift to electric vehicles (EV) than global automakers and is under pressure from investors to make cars that are carbon-free and equipped with newer technology such as self-driving features.

- The car maker, which only offers one EV, Honda e, has said it plans to roll out 30 EV models and make some 2 million EVs annually by 2030.
- [Sibanye-Stillwater Press Release Regarding Keibler Oy](#)
 - Johannesburg, 30 June 2022. Sibanye-Stillwater* (Tickers JSE: SSW and NYSE: SBSW) acquired an initial 30.29% shareholding (“Initial Investment”) in Keliber Oy (“Keliber”), as announced on 23 February 2021, by way of a phased equity investment and is pleased to announce that it intends to exercise its pre-emptive right to increase its shareholding in Keliber to 50% plus 1 share (“the Pre-emptive Offer”). Keliber is a Finnish mining and battery chemical company which owns the Keliber project, an advanced lithium hydroxide project located in the Kaustinen region of Finland which intends to sustainably produce battery grade lithium hydroxide utilizing its own ore.
- [Cobalt headed lower over summer, but higher in long term](#)
 - The price of cobalt has been close to record highs not seen since the surge of 300% in 2018. A fall is coming but, this time, the fundamentals mean the price could spring back and stay higher, for longer.
 - The global cobalt market is dominated by the Democratic Republic of Congo and China. This supply axis is now under severe strain, just as demand is hitting new highs.
- [Redwood Materials partners with Toyota to recycle batteries in US](#)
 - Redwood Materials, the lithium-ion battery recycling startup founded by former Tesla CTO JB Straubel, is partnering with Toyota to collect, refurbish and recycle batteries and battery materials that can be sent to the Japanese automaker’s upcoming North Carolina battery plant.
 - The partnership, which will only collect batteries from Toyota’s hybrid and electrified vehicles, comes as the first wave of Toyota Prius hybrids, which were released over 20 years ago, retire from the roads.
- [Stellantis Warns of Car Market Collapse If EVs Don’t Get Cheaper](#)
 - Carmaker seeks to cut cost of making electric cars 40% by 2030
 - CEO Tavares says access to raw materials remains challenging
- [China’s Huayou Faces Clash with Regulators Over Zimbabwe Lithium Project](#)
 - “For each tonne of battery-grade lithium carbonate production, it needs 2 800 kWh of green renewable power, 500 to 600 cubic metres of natural gas, 2.2 t of concentrated sulfuric acid (98.5%), 2 t of first-class sodium carbonate, 20 kg of first-class sodium hydroxide, 4 t of heavy calcium powder, and 1.6 t of food-grade carbon dioxide,” Huayou said in May when it announced its investment plans for Arcadia.
 - “There is a chronic shortage of these supporting and auxiliary materials in Africa, and the costs incurred by importation would be huge and unaffordable.”

Regards –