Weekly Precious Metals News Articles: March 11, 2022

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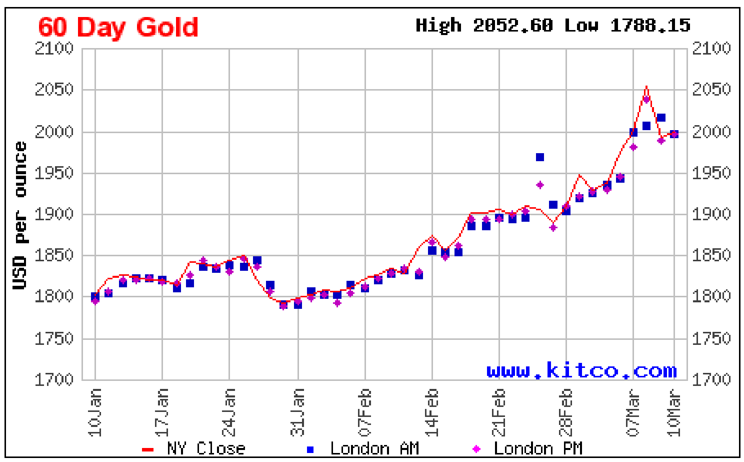
Below is a cross section of relevant news article to the world of Precious Metals:

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

Printable PDF version attached. Enjoy-

Gold



Gold ask price Friday March 11 @ 9:06 am PST: $1,999.00

- **Gold Settles Above $2,000 as LBMA Suspends Russian Gold and Silver Refiners**
  - Gold breaks above $2k as the metal sector continues to rally hard.
  - Gold's long-term technical setup looks bullish.
  - Nickel spikes in price raising fears of margin defaults.

    https://menafn.com/1103811928/Gold-Settles-Above-2000-as-LBMA-Suspends-Russian-Gold-and-Silver-Refiners&source=25
- **Gold steadies near $2,000/oz as Ukraine worries support**
  - Gold steadied near the $2,000 an ounce level on Thursday, after big gyrations over the past couple of sessions, as its safe-haven appeal was supported by a lack of progress in talks between Russia and Ukraine. Spot gold were steady at $1,992.37 per ounce by 1544 GMT, after tumbling as much as 3% on Wednesday. U.S. gold futures inched up 0.5% to $1,998.60.
  - A rush to safe-haven assets earlier this week had pushed gold near the record levels hit in August 2020.

    https://www.nasdaq.com/articles/precious-gold-steadies-near-%242000-oz-as-ukraine-worries-support
- **Gold Gains 6% Outperforming Treasuries to Be Top Safe Haven Against World War Risk**
  - Gold has risen 5.8% and has gained more than US bonds, bunds and Swiss franc in 2022 as markets react to the Ukraine invasion and the risk of a wider war

- US 30 Year Treasuries have fallen over 1% and the S&P is down 9.5%
- Gold has risen by 8.6% in euros and 7.7% in sterling and is again acting as an excellent hedge and safe haven as stocks globally fall sharply
- It is also acting as an excellent hedge against surging inflation which is set to get much worse due to the surge in energy, food, base and precious metal prices
https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/gold-gains-6-outperforming-treasuries-top-safe-haven-against-o-byrne/?

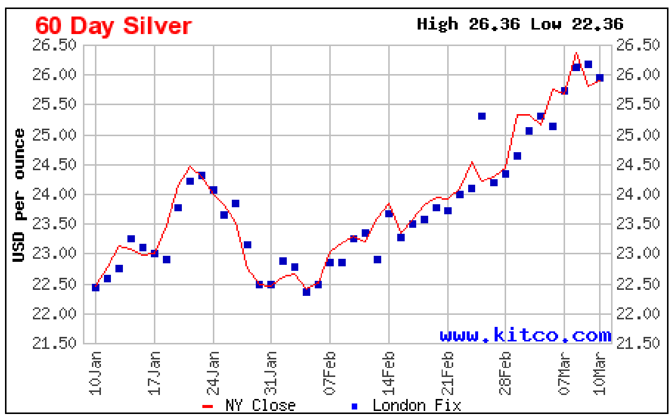
Semiconductor Related Articles (impacting Precious Metals electronics):

- **China's chip-making ambitions face setbacks**
    - Chip makers in China held an 8.5 percent market share in 2021 by revenue, and that will grow to just 8.8 percent in 2026.
    https://www.theregister.com/2022/03/09/chinese_chipmaking_ambitions/
- **Global Semiconductor Sales Increase 26.8% Year-to-Year in January**
    - "Following record sales and units shipped in 2021, global semiconductor sales remained strong at the beginning of 2022, reaching the second-highest-ever monthly total in January," said John Neuffer, SIA president and CEO. "Global sales in January increased by more than 20% for the tenth consecutive month on a year-to-year basis, and sales into the Americas increased by 40.2% year-to-year in January to lead all regional markets."
    https://www.semiconductors.org/global-semiconductor-sales-increase-26-8-year-to-year-in-january/
- **Folding phones could soon be mainstream, with Apple thought to have one in the works**
    - South Korea's Samsung and China's Oppo were among several smartphone makers showing off devices that can fold in various ways, often doubling a user's screen size in an instant.
    - One obvious omission from the flexible device market is Apple, but it's only a matter of time, according to CCS Insight Chief Analyst Ben Wood.
    - Last May, renowned Apple analyst Ming-Chi Kuo, reportedly said in a note to investors that Apple is planning to launch a foldable iPhone with an 8-inch display in 2023.
    https://www.cnbc.com/2022/03/04/apple-folding-phone-could-come-soon-after-samsung-galaxy-z-fold.html
- **TSMC Exceeds 3nm Yield Expectations & Production Can Start Sooner Than Planned**
    - Equipment vendors to suggest that TSMC might "freeze" its design parameters for the N3E node as soon as by the end of this month. This is due to better-than-expected yield for the process and it indicates that volume production for the process, which is one of the final stages before a chip node enters mass production, might start by the Q2'2023.
    - Matt: TSMC, like all foundries, are pulling in more Ru & Pt Targets for Embedded MRAM (non-volatile memory, equivalent of an HDD on a chip), building up pool accounts with the likes of Furuya. At 3nm node, look for even more Ru 300mm targets to enter into service for buried power rails. Lead R&D volume shipments underway.
    https://wccftech.com/tsmc-exceeds-3nm-yield-expectations-production-can-start-sooner-than-planned/
- **Toshiba worried Ukraine war could deepen chip crisis**
    - Supply challenges for electronic components are unlikely to abate for another year as chronic shortages remain, while Russia's invasion of Ukraine, a key supplier of chipmaking materials, might also have an impact, Toshiba Corp said. "The sense of shortages hasn't changed at all," Hiroyuki Sato, the head of Toshiba's devices unit, said in an interview. "We expect the current tight supply will last until March next year" at the earliest.
    - Ukraine is a major supplier of purified rare gases such as neon and krypton, which are essential to making semiconductors. It accounts for almost 70 percent of the world's neon gas capacity, according to Taipei-based market researcher TrendForce Corp data.
    https://www.taipeitimes.com/News/biz/archives/2022/03/08/2003774364
- **2022 to Mark the Third Year in a Row of ≥20% Growth for the Foundry Market**

- After dropping 2% in 2019, the foundry market logged a strong 21% rebound in 2020 as application processor and other telecomm device sales into 5G smartphones acted as strong drivers. The foundry market continued its growth surge in 2021, registering a 26% jump. If IC Insights' 20% increase now forecast for the foundry market in 2022 comes to fruition, the 2020-2022 timeperiod would mark the strongest three-year growth span for the total foundry market since 2002-2004.
https://www.icinsights.com/news/bulletins/2022-To-Mark-The-Third-Year-In-A-Row-Of-20-Growth-For-The-Foundry-Market/

- **Intel picks Magdeburg in Germany for new European chip factory**
  - Intel has chosen the east German city of Magdeburg as the site for a new multibillion-euro European chip factory and will make the decision public on March 4.
  - The company said in September it could invest as much as $95 billion in Europe over the next decade and announce the locations of two major new European chip fabrication plants by the end of 2021, but no announcement has been made.
https://www.reuters.com/technology/intel-picks-magdeburg-germany-new-european-chip-factory-2022-02-27/

Silver



Silver ask price Friday March 11 @ 9:06 am PST: $26.09

- **Silver Markets Bounce From Crucial Support**
  - Silver markets initially fell during the trading session on Thursday but found the $25.50 level supportive enough to keep the market afloat again. By doing so and ended up forming a very supportive and strong-looking hammer. At this point, it looks like silver is going to try to reach towards the highs again, just above the $27 level.
https://finance.yahoo.com/news/silver-markets-bounce-crucial-support-163229653.html
- **Investing News Network: Silver Mine Supply Needs to Double, What's in Store for Prices?**
  - Video Interview with yours truly.
https://youtu.be/UygOMZrESrg
- **The Many Forces Driving Silver Higher. Should You Increase Allocation?**
  - If you've been following financial markets recently, you would have noticed the rising price of silver.
  - From just above Rs 60,000/kg at the start of the year, the price went up close to Rs 72,000/kg. In dollar terms, during the same period, it's up from US$ 22 per troy ounce to almost US$ 27 per troy ounce.
  - This is a jump of around 20% in just 2 months.
  - There are many reasons why the price of the white metal is going up. And many of these reasons are long-term, i.e. structural in nature.
https://www.equitymaster.com/detail.asp?date=03/11/2022&story=3&title=The-Many-Forces-Driving-Silver-Higher-Should-You-Increase-Allocation

Precious Metals Mining:

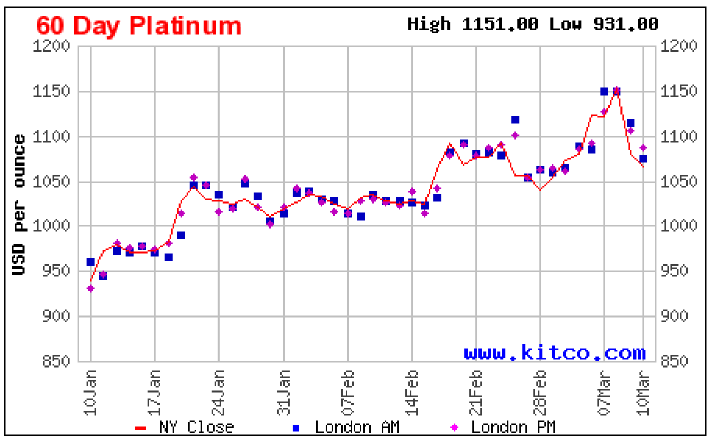
- **This Russian Metals Giant Might Be Too Big to Sanction**
  - Norilsk Nickel is a key supplier of nickel and palladium, two metals that are key for electric-vehicle batteries and semiconductors
    https://www.wsj.com/articles/this-russian-metals-giant-might-be-too-big-to-sanction-11646559751
- **Sibanye-Stillwater locks out employees from gold mines as curtain rises on painful strike**
  - SIBANYE-Stillwater played hardball with the coalition of unions that voted to strike at its gold mines by locking out employees, including members of the Solidarity union.
  - The coalition, which consists of the National Union of Mineworkers, the Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union (AMCU), UASA as well as Solidarity rejected Sibanye-Stillwater's revised pay offer that included a 7% improvement for entry level miners.
    https://www.miningmx.com/top-story/49036-sibanye-stillwater-locks-out-employees-from-gold-mines-as-curtain-rises-on-painful-strike/
- **Union say strike at Sibanye Gold mines will 'change mining landscape forever'**
  - The Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union (AMCU) and the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), have issued Sibanye-Stillwater with a notice of intention to embark on protected strike action at the company's gold mines, starting on Wednesday evening.
  - After months of protracted wage talks, Sibanye and workers represented by the two unions have failed to come to an agreement.
    https://www.news24.com/fin24/companies/mining/unions-issue-48-hour-strike-notice-to-sibanye-gold-mines-20220308
- **SA mining firms say options limited to export into European supply deficits**
  - The newswire cited Sibanye-Stillwater, the world's largest primary producer of platinum, as saying some clients had asked about its ability to produce more platinum group metals (PGMs). The mining firm said that it had very little flexibility to increase production in "any material way" in the short to medium term. "Accelerating projects is possible but … this is not a quick fix and will generally still take months or even years before the benefits are apparent," Sibanye said in response to Reuters' questions.
    https://www.miningmx.com/trending/49062-sa-mining-firms-say-options-limited-to-export-into-european-supply-deficits/

E-Waste & Precious Metals Recycle Related:

- **How much could battery recycling actually aid cobalt, lithium supply shortages?**
  - A recent report by IDTechEx estimates that <8% of the global cobalt demand and <6% of the lithium demand, will be supplied by recycled Li-ion batteries by 2030. According to the market analyst, a combined total of over 180,000 tonnes of lithium, cobalt, nickel, and manganese could be recovered by 2030 through Li-ion recycling, a value which is forecast to grow by approximately 10x by 2042.
    https://www.mining.com/how-much-could-battery-recycling-actually-aid-cobalt-lithium-supply-shortages/
- **'Staggering': Phoenix Police sees nearly 6,500% spike in reported catalytic converter theft cases**
  https://www.fox10phoenix.com/news/staggering-phoenix-police-sees-spike-in-reported-catalytic-converter-theft-cases
- **Catalytic converter theft deterrent bill passes Washington state Legislature**
  - The bill places new requirements on scrap yards and auto wreckers that purchase used catalytic converters for recycling, launches a new grant program for local law enforcement sting operations, and creates a task force to recommend further changes to state law.
    https://www.king5.com/article/news/politics/catalytic-converter-theft-bill-cleared-state-legislature/281-189e9713-1e5d-4183-8377-39f6cea786ed
- **Researchers demonstrate solar panels made from recycled panels**
  - Recently, researchers from Fraunhofer Center for Silicon Photovoltaics and the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems announced their development of an industry-scale solar recycling method to take old, degraded panels and use them in modern PERC solar cells.

- To reclaim the silicon, the researchers started by grinding panel fragments to sub-millimetre pieces that were then filtered based on type (glass, plastic etc.). The second stage involved using wet chemical etching to remove silver contacts, anti-reflective layers, and emitter layers.
- The third recycling stage turns the remaining clean silicon powered into silicon ingots using standard processes that are then used to create wafers. However, the most crucial step was then recrystallising the silicon without the need for adding pure silicon to the mixture (this is generally needed to crystalise old material). The resulting recrystallised silicon, which was 100% recycled, was then used to create new PERC solar cells whose efficiency was 19.7%. https://www.electropages.com/blog/2022/03/researchers-demonstrate-solar-panels-made-recycled-panels

Platinum



Platinum Ask Price Friday March 11 @ 9:20 am PST: $1,089

- **Russian Invasion May Drive Switch to Platinum From Palladium**
  - That could generate as much as 400,000 ounces of additional demand in the next year if automakers aggressively accelerate substitution in light of the war, according to Trevor Raymond, director of research at WPIC. Russia produces 40% of freshly mined palladium, and Western companies are increasingly shunning its exports. https://www.bloombergquint.com/business/russian-invasion-may-drive-switch-to-platinum-from-palladium
- **Platinum surplus forecast to reduce significantly**
  - The platinum surplus in 2021 is forecast to reduce by 47% in 2022 as Covid-related and operational disruptions gradually settle, the World Platinum Investment Council states in its Platinum Quarterly. https://www.miningweekly.com/article/wpic-2022-03-09
- **WPIC: Platinum Quarterly Q4 2021**
  - 32-page summary of Q4 supply and demand fundamentals for the platinum market. https://platinuminvestment.com/files/541296/WPIC_Platinum_Quarterly_Q4_2021.pdf

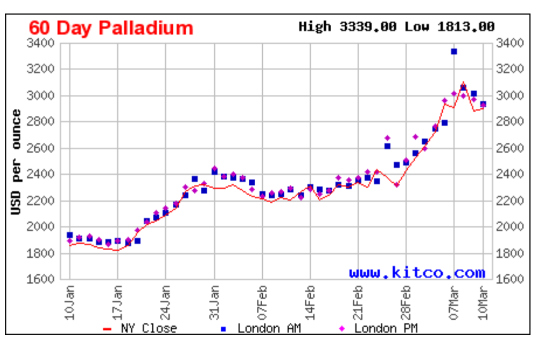
Fuel Cells/Hydrogen Economy Related Articles:

- **TES launches green hydrogen hub Green Gas terminal fast tracking**
  - It will be located in Wilhelmshaven, Germany as a secure sustainable energy alternative
  - Tree Energy Solutions has announced that it has launched the acceleration of its world-scale green hydrogen hub for renewable gas importing in the German port of Wilhelmshaven.
  - Fast-tracking of the project is aimed at offering alternative energy security in Germany & EU. https://www.hydrogenfuelnews.com/green-hydrogen-hub-tes/8551639/?awt_a=1jpsU&awt_l=LyQiC&awt_m=h7bxZ4p4I85DlsU
- **Nikola Corp is building its first hydrogen fuel plant**

- The company didn't generate any revenue in 2021, but it managed to make its way through a challenging stretch that included an SEC investigation that was launched by a former executive chair. Now, it is moving forward to begin making battery-powered semi-trucks and is getting ready to build a large-scale hydrogen fuel plant for trucks powered by H_2. https://www.hydrogenfuelnews.com/hydrogen-fuel-plant-nikola/8551622/?awt_a=1jpsU&awt_l=LyQiC&awt_m=h7bxZ4p4I85DlsU

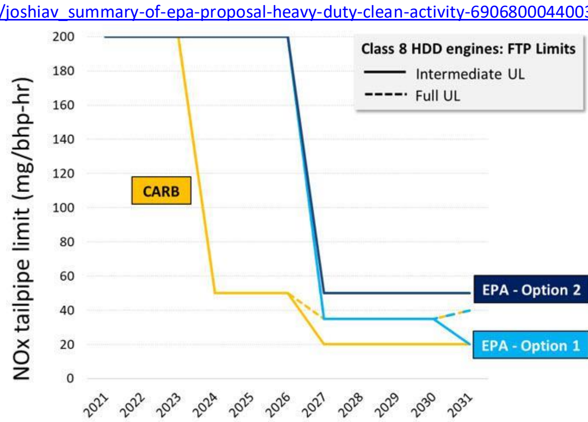
- **Texas will be home to the world's biggest green hydrogen plant**
  - Green Hydrogen International (GHI) has announced that it will be building a 60 GW green hydrogen plant in Texas near the Piedras Pintas salt dome. The company is aiming to use its facility for the production of 2.5 billion kilograms of clean H_2 annually. Should it achieve that goal, it could indeed be aligning itself for precisely that achievement.
  - Matt: S. Texas is the perfect locations with access to $0.06 kWh industrial power including renewables and hydrogen storage capability in the Salt flats outside Houston.
  - The green hydrogen plant will pipe its H_2 to Corpus Christi, a coastal city, as well as to Brownsville. In those locations, industries will convert the renewable H_2 into other products. https://www.hydrogenfuelnews.com/green-hydrogen-plant-texas/8551694/?awt_a=1jpsU&awt_l=LyQiC&awt_m=ftOgFgdjs85DlsU
- **Honeywell unveils new green hydrogen production technology**
  - "Honeywell is a proven leader in developing innovative membrane technologies, and our latest technology has been validated in lab tests by third-party hydrogen electrolyzer technologists," said Honeywell Sustainable Technology Solutions Vice President and General Manager Ben Owens. "By accelerating the development of these high-performance CCMs, Honeywell is contributing to the transition to a hydrogen-based economy." https://www.hydrogenfuelnews.com/green-hydrogen-production-ccm/8551701/?awt_a=1jpsU&awt_l=LyQiC&awt_m=ftOgFgdjs85DlsU
- **Bloody hard – but possible': EU plots renewables and green hydrogen dash from Russian gas**
  - The European Commission unveiled proposals to further boost renewables and quadruple current 2030 targets for green hydrogen supplies as part of a hastily assembled strategy to cut the EU's reliance on Russian gas by two-thirds as soon as the end of this year.
  - On renewables, REPowerEU proposes beefed-up ambitions beyond those already set out in its 'Fit for 55' decarbonisation strategy, which currently foresees deployment of 900GW of wind and solar by 2030. The Commission wants 'front loading' of wind and PV to speed build-out and an extra 80GW of capacity to support more green hydrogen production.
  - For H2, REPowerEU proposes a 'Hydrogen Accelerator' programme to spur an additional 15 million tonnes of renewable hydrogen by 2030 on top of the 5.6 million tonnes already foreseen under its existing Hydrogen strategy. https://www.rechargenews.com/energy-transition/bloody-hard-but-possible-eu-plots-renewables-and-green-hydrogen-dash-from-russian-gas/2-1-1181308

Palladium

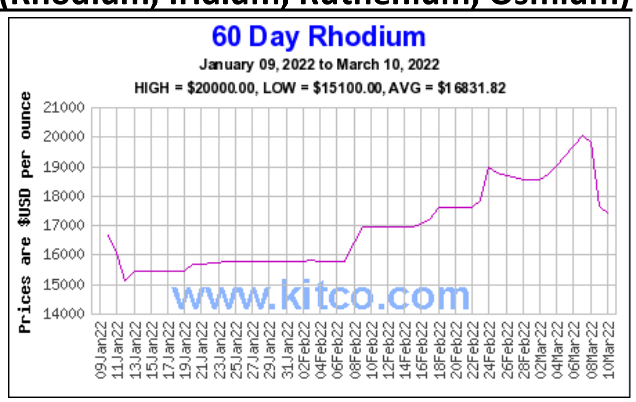


Palladium Ask price Friday March 11 @ 9:21 am PST: $2,895

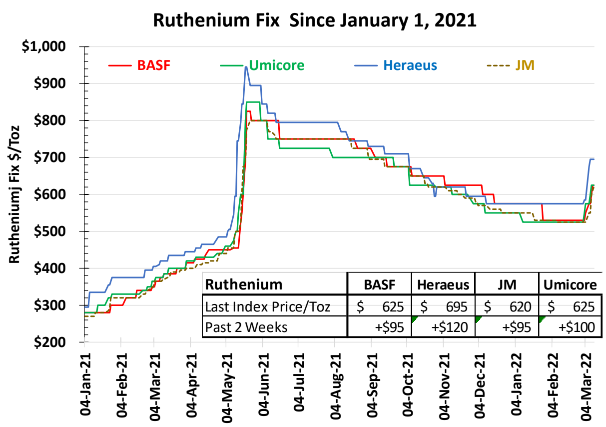
- **London market greenlights Russia's palladium while blocking its gold**
  - A market authority said on Tuesday that Russian refiners can continue to sell platinum and palladium in London, the world's biggest precious metals trading centre, a day after new Russian gold and silver bars were blocked from markets in London and New York.
  - Traders and analysts said removal of the palladium refiners from London trading would have worsened worries over Russian supply that have sent prices to record highs. https://www.mining.com/web/london-market-green-lights-russias-palladium-while-blocking-its-gold/
- **Russian refiners still OK to trade, says London Platinum and Palladium Market**
  - Russian Gold Refineries removed from Good Delivery List. The London Bullion Market Association (LBMA) on Monday suspended all six gold refineries it accredits from its good delivery lists on Monday, blocking gold and silver they produce from the London market.
  - Russian PGM Refineries remain on Good Delivery List. The London Platinum and Palladium Market (LPPM) said on Tuesday it would maintain its accreditation of two Russian precious metals refineries, meaning they can continue to sell metal in the London market, the world's largest. The two refiners accredited by the LPPM were JSC Krastsvetmet and the Prioksky Plant of Non-Ferrous Metals. https://www.nasdaq.com/articles/russian-refiners-still-ok-to-trade-says-london-platinum-and-palladium-market
- **Summary of EPA Proposal: Heavy-Duty Clean Trucks Plan - Mobility Notes**
  - The US EPA has announced their proposal to reduce tailpipe NOx from heavy-duty trucks by ~ 90% starting model year 2027. Here is an early summary of the proposal and a comparison of the two options presented with previous set regulations in California.
    https://mobilitynotes.com/summary-of-epa-proposal-heavy-duty-clean-trucks-plan/
    https://www.linkedin.com/posts/joshiav_summary-of-epa-proposal-heavy-duty-clean-activity-6906800044003983360-8YYC

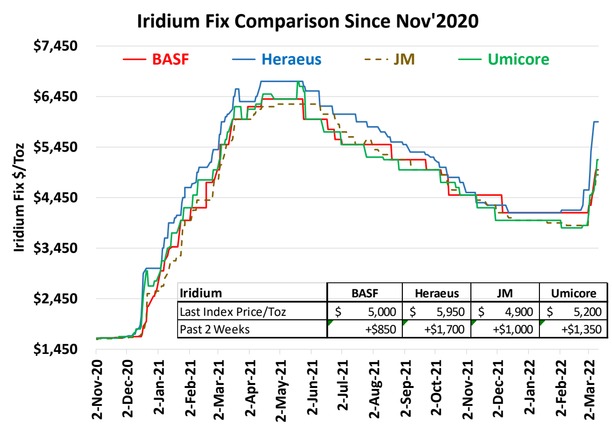


PGM Minor Metals (Rhodium, Iridium, Ruthenium, Osmium)



Rhodium Ask price March 11 @ 9:21 am PST: $219,400





Ruthenium & Iridium Producer Index Price Friday March 11
Ruthenium +$100/Toz past 2-weeks, Iridium +1,220/Toz past 2-weeks
As predicted at March 2 IPMI Orlando Winter Conference PGM Minors bouncing

- **Ruthenium Catalysts: Fertilizer giant Yara slashes production in Europe**
  - Norway's Yara, one of the world's largest fertilizer makers, is curtailing its ammonia and urea output in Italy and France due to the surge in natural gas prices, it said on Wednesday, in another sign of rising costs for food production. The price of natural gas, which is used in the fertilizer manufacturing process, hit record highs in recent days following the Russian invasion of Ukraine. https://edition.cnn.com/2022/03/09/business/food-costs-fertilizer-yara/index.html
- **Ruthenium Catalysts: Nitrogénművek suspends ammonia production**
  - Nitrogénművék, Hungary's only producer of artificial fertilizer, on Wednesday said it is temporarily suspending production of ammonia because of higher energy prices. https://bbj.hu/business/industry/manufacturing/nitrogenmuvek-suspends-ammonia-production
- **Iridium & Platinum Catalysts: The world's largest green hydrogen plant will be built in Texas**
  - Green Hydrogen International (GHI) has unveiled its plans to build a 60 GW green hydrogen production facility near the Piedras Pintas salt dome in Texas. The company is hopeful that its proposed plant, capable of producing 2.5 billion kilograms of green hydrogen every year, will do exactly that. https://interestingengineering.com/largest-green-hydrogen-plant

Clean Energy General News

- **China calls on rare earths companies to bring prices back to 'reasonable' level**
  - China summoned some key rare earths companies amid continuously-rising product prices and urged them to ensure a steady supply chain to help cool prices, the regulator said on Friday.
  - The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology said in a statement that it had instructed producers including China Rare Earth Group, China Northern Rare Earth Group and Shenghe Resources to regulate their operation and trading, and to prevent any market speculation or hoarding. https://www.reuters.com/business/china-calls-rare-earths-companies-bring-prices-back-reasonable-level-2022-03-04/
- **'Mining their own business' | Groups call anew for scrapping of PH mining law**
  - Republic Act No. 7942 (Mining Act of 1995) was aimed to revive the mining industry and attract more foreign investors. However, environmental advocates said that the law caused the "massive plunder of natural resources, destruction of biodiversity, displacement of communities and violations of the collective rights of indigenous peoples over their ancestral domains."
  - In the Philippians province of Zambales, a fishing community bore the brunt of the nickel tailings from open-pit mining operations that started in 2006 until then-Environment Secretary Gina Lopez ordered their suspension in 2017, said Pamalakaya.

    - “Nickel tailings have adversely affected the livelihood of small fisherfolks because of fish-catch depletion and environmental degradation. Traditional fish that used to thrive in the municipal waters have vanished. The contamination also resulted in the death of several reefs that used to be the breeding grounds and habitat of fish. We have been demanding accountability and just compensation from the big mining companies responsible for this environmental catastrophe but to no avail.” https://www.bulatlat.com/2022/03/04/mining-their-own-business-groups-call-anew-for-scrapping-of-ph-mining-law/
- **Chile’s leanest January since 2011 is another bullish copper sign**
    - Production tumbled 15% in January from December and 7.5% from January 2021, its lowest January output since 2011, without giving a clear reason for the drop.
    - Chilean output is typically lower in the new year, and can ebb and flow depending on whether mines are encountering sections of higher or lower quality ore. Some mines may be catching up on earthworks and maintenance that was postponed during the pandemic. After more than a decade of drought, water scarcity may also be playing a role in central Chilean operations, while seasonal rains during the so-called highland winter may have impacted some far-northern operations. https://www.mining.com/web/chiles-leanest-january-since-2011-is-another-bullish-copper-sign/

BEV / LiB Mineral & Battery Market News

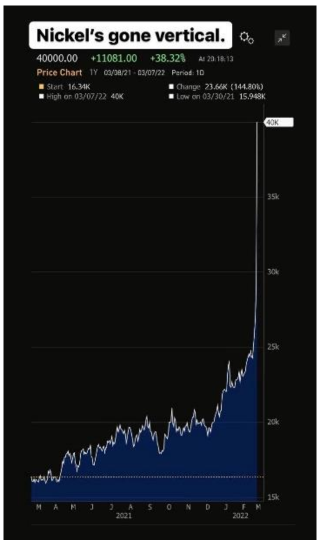
Today’s Prices:

- Lithium Carbonate $77,830 USD / mt
- Nickel $46,397 / mt ← LME Trading Halted this week, as high as $101k/mt before halt.
- Cobalt $82,000 / mt

- **BASF acquires site for North American cathode active materials and recycling expansion in Canada**
    - BASF signed an agreement to secure land for its future cathode active materials and battery recycling site along Saint Lawrence River in Bécancour, Quebec, Canada. https://www.greencarcongress.com/2022/03/20220309-basf.html
- **Why All Those EV-Battery ‘Breakthroughs’ You Hear About Aren’t Breaking Through - WSJ**
    - Type the words “battery” and “breakthrough” into your search engine of choice, and you’ll encounter page after page of links. They include breathless news articles and lofty pronouncements from battery startups. And yet, according to scientists, engineers, startup founders and analysts, the use of the word “breakthrough” in the context of battery technology is misleading at best. Claims that the latest research finding or startup launch will bear fruit in the near future are almost always nonsense, they say.
    - “You don’t have to be in the field long to hear the phrase ‘Liar, liar, battery supplier,’ ” says Charlotte Hamilton, chief executive and co-founder of battery startup Conamix. https://www.wsj.com/articles/why-all-those-ev-battery-breakthroughs-you-hear-about-arent-breaking-through-11645851613
- **Korean battery makers reportedly to launch cells with higher energy density**
    - The companies would upgrade their current flagship 4.8-5.0Ah products to 5.3-5.6Ah within this year, as global EV startups, including Tesla, are increasing the use of small cylindrical batteries, South Korea's ET News reported, citing sources in the industry.
    - "These new cylindrical batteries use high nickel as a cathode material and have advanced silicon-based anode material technology to increase the mobility of lithium ions," the report said.
    - "LG Energy Solution was the first to apply NCMA (nickel, cobalt, manganese, aluminum), a new high nickel technology, meanwhile Samsung SDI increased the nickel content to 90% for NCA cathodes, for the first time," it added. https://www.digitimes.com/news/a20220301PD208/auto-components-battery-mobility.html?chid=13
- **Chinese Nickel Giant Tsingshan Faces $8 Billion Trading Loss as Ukraine War Upends Market**

- Chinese nickel titan Tsingshan Holding Group faces billions of dollars in trading losses, people familiar with the company said, after Russia's war in Ukraine set off an unprecedented rise in the price of a key metal used in stainless steel and electric-vehicle batteries. The paper loss stood at $8 billion on Monday, before violent moves in nickel prices led the LME to suspend trading in the metal on Tuesday, one of the people said. The exchange said it anticipates trading won't resume before Friday. https://www.wsj.com/articles/chinese-nickel-giant-tsingshan-faces-8-billion-trading-loss-as-ukraine-war-upends-market-11646765353

- **LME nickel soars by a record 30% on Russia supply concerns**
  - London nickel prices soared as much as 30.7% on Monday, their biggest daily percentage gain on record, as supply disruption fears gripped markets amid an escalating Russia-Ukraine conflict and mounting sanctions against Moscow.
  - LME London Cash Bid Ni Fix: On Friday $30,400/mt, Today Monday 9:30 am PST at $48,546/mt

  - xhttps://www.msn.com/en-us/money/markets/nickel-prices-see-biggest-single-day-jump-ever-on-worries-about-shortages-from-major-supplier-russia/ar-AAUK1hq?ocid=uxbndlbing

- **'Consent was never given': indigenous groups oppose restarting Guatemala nickel mine**
  - **Another Ni Mining ESG Heartbreak:** A decision to restart operations at one of Central America's largest nickel mines is being questioned by campaigners, after an investigation appeared to show the company co-opted indigenous leaders and smeared potential opponents.
  - In that investigation, residents alleged that the mine – which is owned by Solway, a company based in Switzerland – was to blame for failing crops, polluting the lake and pressing local authorities to quash dissent. Fisher Oscar Cuc Tiul, said that fish populations in the lake continue to dwindle. "There is so much contamination," he claimed, adding that he now catches deformed tilapia and bream, sometimes referred to by local people as "devil fish". https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2022/mar/06/indigenous-groups-oppose-restarting-guatemala-nickel-mine

- **Panasonic plans new massive battery plant in U.S. to supply Tesla -NHK**
  - Japan's Panasonic Corp is looking to purchase land in the U.S. for a mega-factory to make a new type of electric vehicle EV battery for Tesla Inc, public broadcaster NHK reported on Friday. https://www.reuters.com/business/autos-transportation/panasonic-planning-massive-battery-plant-us-supply-tesla-nhk-2022-03-03/

- **Northvolt Cathode Plant to Boost Europe's Capacity by 75% by 2025**
  - The battery startup said this week it would build a cathode and cell production plant on the site of a closed paper mill in Borlänge, Sweden. Starting in 2024, the plant will produce up to 100 gigawatt-hours' worth of cathode material using renewable energy, it said.

  https://www.benchmarkminerals.com/membership/northvolt-cathode-plant-to-boost-europes-capacity-75-by-2025/

- **Metal traders group urges Germany to stockpile cobalt, cut reliance on Russia**
  - The German government should stockpile palladium and minor metals such as vanadium and cobalt as part of its raw materials strategy to reduce reliance on countries such as Russia, the Association of German Metal Traders (VDM) said on Thursday.
    https://www.reuters.com/world/china/metal-traders-group-urges-germany-stockpile-cobalt-cut-reliance-russia-2022-03-03/
- **Large-megawatt hydrogen fuel cells eyed by shipping industry in move away from fossil fuels**
  - The shipping industry is vital to the global economy, with about 90% of all globally traded goods transported by sea. But, with about 100 000 commercial vessels in deployment, it accounts for about 3% of global greenhouse-gas emissions. The International Maritime Organization, a United Nations agency responsible for regulating shipping, aims to reduce GHGs from ships by at least 50% from 2008 levels by 2050.
    https://www.engineeringnews.co.za/article/large-megawatt-hydrogen-fuel-cells-eyed-by-shipping-industry-in-move-away-from-fossil-fuels-2022-03-04/rep_id:4136

Regards –