

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN SEPTEMBER 2007

Domestic primary aluminum production in September was 216,000 metric tons (t), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The average daily production was 7,209 t, 1% higher than that of the previous month and 18% higher than the rate for September 2006. The average daily primary aluminum production in the third quarter was 3% higher than that of the second quarter and 16% higher than that of the third quarter of 2006. Primary aluminum production for the first three quarters of 2007 was 10% higher than that for the same period in 2006.

Ormet Corp. announced that it delayed the restart of the sixth potline at its smelter in Hannibal, OH, which had been scheduled for production by the end of September. The delay was owing to a shortage of alumina coming from the Jamalco refinery in Jamaica that was damaged by Hurricane Dean. Energizing of the potline was now projected by yearend. Loading of alumina at the Rocky Point, Jamaica, port resumed on November 5 but the refinery was still not operating at full capacity (Ormet Corp., 2007; Platts Metals Week, 2007).

Total aluminum recovered from scrap in September 2007 was 272,000 t, 8% lower than the revised total for August and 9%

higher than that in September 2006. In September 2007, 166,000 t of aluminum was recovered from new scrap, which was 3% lower than the revised figure for August and 4% higher than that in September 2006. Aluminum recovered from old scrap totaled 106,000 t in September, which was 15% lower than the revised figure for August and 18% higher than that in September 2006.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot in September declined to \$1.113 per pound from \$1.174 per pound in August. The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased to \$1.135 per pound in October.

References Cited

Ormet Corp., 2007, Ormet reschedules restart of sixth potline: Hannibal, OH, Ormet Corp. press release, September 24, 1 p.
Platts Metals Week, 2007, Jamalco refinery resumes shipping: Platts Metals Week, v. 78, no. 46, November 12, p. 11.

Used beverage can prices, cents per pound¹

September 1	78-80
September 5	76-78
September 11	75-77
October 2	79-81
October 9	75-77
October 16	79-81
October 23	81-83

¹Source: American Metal Market.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery ²			Imports for consumption			Total new supply ³	Total stocks, end of period ⁴
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2006 ^{p, 5}	2,284	2,310	1,230	3,540	3,440	1,220	4,660	10,500	1,410
2006:									
September	183	160	90	250	289	102	391	823	1,480
October	190	161	80	241	259	100	359	790	1,410
November	188	163	84	247	233	99	332	766	1,400
December	196	153	89	242	241	89	330	768	1,410
January-September	1,710	1,430	830	2,290	2,710	929	3,640	7,640	10,200
2007:									
January	202	193	113	307	251	98	349	827	1,460
February	185	165	97	262	258	86	344	761	1,460
March	217	185	120	305	238	93	332	823	1,410
April	209	171	108	279	259	94	353	810	1,430
May	210	176	115	292	220	97	317	788	1,400
June	209	179	111	289	255	92	347	845	1,330
July	219	189	104	292 ^r	236	102	337	848	1,370
August	220	171 ^r	124 ^r	295 ^r	267	91	358	873 ^r	1,390
September	216	166	106	272	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-September	1,887	1,600	998	2,590	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised. NA Not available.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

²Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

³Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

⁴Inventory levels reflect total for both U.S. and Canadian producers; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

⁵Includes annual reports.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM
PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery	Con- sump- tion	Metal recovery
	2006 ^{p,2}	2,260	1,640	901	807	1,070	1,000	87	76	10	9	4,340
2006:												
September	135	98	77	69	80	75	8	7	(3)	(3)	300	250
October	130	94	69	62	83	78	8	7	(3)	(3)	289	241
November	139	103	76	61	81	76	8	7	(3)	(3)	304	247
December	134	98	82	66	76	71	8	7	(3)	(2)	299	242
January-September	1,260	918	674	604	750	701	72	63	5	5	2,760	2,290
2007:												
January	184	143	81	73	89	83	8	7	(3)	(3)	363	307
February	148	110	69	62	89	83	8	7	(3)	(3)	314	262
March	181	138	90	81	85	79	8	7	(3)	(3)	365	305
April	160	120	80	72	86	80	8	7	(3)	(3)	334	279
May	155	116	94	84	90	84	8	7	(3)	(3)	347	292
June	148	110	88	79	99	92	8	7	(3)	(3)	344	289
July	158	118	77	69	104	98	8	7	(3)	(3)	347	292
August	154 ^r	115 ^r	93	83	96	90	8	7	(3)	(3)	352 ^r	295 ^r
September	155	116	75	66	88	82	8	7	(3)	(3)	325	272
January-September	1,440	1,090	747	669	826	771	72	63	4	4	3,090	2,590

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes annual reports.

³Less than ½ unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN SEPTEMBER 2007¹

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
	Secondary smelters	129,000	155,000	96,900
Integrated aluminum companies	74,800	74,800	66,400	66,400
Independent mill fabricators	73,100	87,700	68,300	82,000
Foundries	6,520	7,820	5,720	6,870
Other consumers	321	386	321	386
Total	284,000	325,000	238,000	272,000

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN 2007¹

(Metric tons)

	September			January-September		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts ²	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts ²	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Extrusion	27,400	75,000	78,100	24,300	722,000	729,000
Can stock clippings	3,430	15,000	15,800	2,690	208,000	206,000
Other wrought sheet/clippings	4,180	21,900	21,900	4,190	211,000	211,000
Casting	1,600 ^r	8,040	8,370	1,270	57,800	59,300
Borings and turnings	2,720	14,100	13,900	2,910	133,000	133,000
Dross and skimmings	3,620	35,100	35,100	3,580	324,000	324,000
Total new scrap	42,900 ^r	169,000	173,000	38,900	1,660,000	1,660,000
Old scrap:						
Used castings	2,730	12,200	12,700	2,210	125,000	127,000
Used extrusion	2,110	4,220	4,220	2,110	39,100	39,000
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	689	54,200	54,400	440	500,000	503,000
Other wrought products	3,150	27,600	27,600	3,150	256,000	256,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	1,060	10,800	10,900	966	108,000	109,000
Total old scrap	9,740	109,000	110,000	8,870	1,030,000	1,030,000
Sweated pig	--	582	582	--	5,460	5,460
Total all classes	52,700 ^r	279,000	284,000	47,800	1,690,000	2,700,000

^rRevised. -- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES IN 2007^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	September			January-September		
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,960	1,920	1,960	2,920	18,700	18,600
380 and variations	3,260	14,100	13,900	3,530	144,000	144,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	1,740	2,770	2,770	1,750	24,900	25,000
No. 319 and variations	2,310	5,370	4,730	2,950	51,200	51,100
F-132 alloy and variations	834	1,310	1,290	851	13,000	13,000
Al-Zn alloys	299	203	194	308	1,750	1,750
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	177	213	213	177	1,920	1,920
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	283	411	411	283	3,700	3,700
Other ³	3,690	10,900	9,880	4,670	95,400	95,500
Wrought alloys, extrusion billets	11,100	41,700	41,600	11,200	380,000	379,000
Total all alloys	26,600	78,900	76,900	28,600	734,000	734,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	13,800	XX	XX	127,000	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	1,890	XX	XX	21,300	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	506	XX	XX	7,130	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot ⁴	XX	62,700	XX	XX	579,000	XX

XX Not applicable.

¹Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

⁴No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2007¹

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	August	January- August	August	January- August	August	January- August	August	January- August
Argentina	7,270	41,600	--	56	--	--	7,270	41,700
Australia	6,130	39,100	5	77	--	2,730	6,130	42,000
Bahrain	1,750	29,200	1,460	12,200	--	--	3,220	41,400
Belgium	18	76	1,180	8,430	--	14	1,200	8,520
Brazil	7,480	57,200	1,360	20,500	--	1	8,840	77,600
Canada	160,000	1,260,000	38,000	306,000	26,100	216,000	225,000	1,780,000
China	2,820	30,100	13,300	124,000	--	40	16,100	154,000
France	2	380	297	2,330	--	34	299	2,740
Germany	204	1,640	7,960	69,400	43	265	8,210	71,300
Hungary	--	--	16	107	--	--	16	107
Italy	--	513	847	5,940	19	59	865	6,510
Japan	(2)	140	1,730	10,400	45	418	1,770	11,000
Korea, Republic of	118	2,140	476	2,150	--	58	594	4,340
Mexico	2,450	12,800	1,580	13,900	10,100	69,200	14,100	95,900
Netherlands	58	549	466	1,830	--	--	523	2,380
Norway	403	3,220	--	139	--	--	403	3,360
Russia	46,800	316,000	4,460	38,300	--	1,660	51,300	356,000
South Africa	4,530	39,900	3,180	34,300	--	--	7,710	74,200
Spain	--	73	35	436	--	--	35	509
Sweden	--	--	180	1,120	--	--	180	1,120
Switzerland	--	115	574	3,870	--	--	574	3,990
United Arab Emirates	12,500	74,600	--	--	--	18	12,500	74,600
United Kingdom	254	2,830	574	3,390	72	396	900	6,620
Venezuela	10,600	40,500	575	5,670	--	313	11,200	46,500
Other	2,970	31,600	12,700	89,000	3,010	27,400	18,700	148,000
Total	266,000	1,980,000	91,000	754,000	39,300	319,000	398,000	3,050,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Less than ½ unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN AUGUST 2007¹

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	August	January- August	August	January- August	August	January- August	August	January- August
Australia	21	212	289	1,060	19	104	329	1,380
Azerbaijan	--	--	--	9	--	--	--	9
Belgium	44	357	164	2,160	--	--	208	2,510
Brazil	138	393	1,040	7,480	1,210	2,820	2,380	10,700
Canada	10,300	75,500	38,500	288,000	15,100	108,000	63,900	472,000
China	4	265	2,250	12,900	75,600	494,000	77,800	507,000
Czech Republic	--	2	10	175	--	--	10	177
Dominican Republic	12	23	32	290	--	--	44	313
France	51	313	692	7,430	2	5	744	7,750
Germany	426	2,200	1,050	6,620	94	653	1,570	9,470
Hong Kong	119	558	1,930	13,200	3,940	22,700	5,980	36,500
India	--	157	148	845	1,470	10,600	1,620	11,700
Israel	137	919	443	3,680	--	--	580	4,600
Italy	1,680	3,960	370	2,650	302	758	2,360	7,370
Japan	1,350	12,500	2,210	12,300	3,240	26,900	6,800	51,700
Korea, Republic of	20	337	1,600	12,100	17,000	136,000	18,600	148,000
Malaysia	--	13	1,840	6,640	122	7,670	1,960	14,300
Mexico	15,500	131,000	18,600	167,000	8,730	55,300	42,900	353,000
Netherlands	11	1,580	229	995	508	927	747	3,500
Russia	--	516	1	178	--	38	1	733
Saudi Arabia	--	18	2,300	18,900	--	--	2,300	18,900
Singapore	41	295	259	1,940	118	125	418	2,360
Spain	140	579	80	1,070	261	460	481	2,110
Sweden	--	30	18	332	--	1,250	18	1,610
Taiwan	1	326	853	4,280	8,540	79,400	9,390	84,000
Thailand	2	526	1,120	8,510	1,700	10,200	2,830	19,200
Ukraine	--	--	--	55	--	--	--	55
United Kingdom	5	177	1,510	11,000	88	1,590	1,600	12,700
Venezuela	1	1	101	1,010	3	80	106	1,090
Other	213	3,780	4,360	36,000	2,190	12,900	6,760	52,700
Total	30,300	236,000	82,000	628,000	140,000	973,000	252,000	1,840,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.