# CRU

Proyecciones para 2024: acero crudo y metálicos

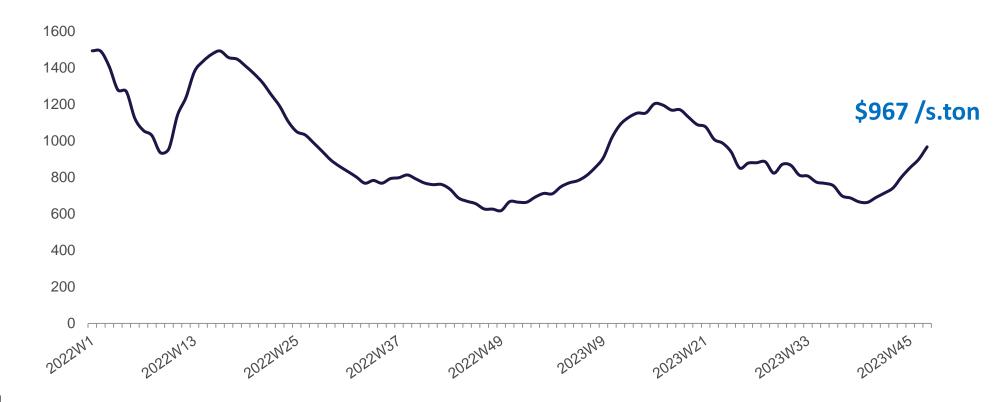
**Convención CONADIAC 2023** 





# Before I start...The CRU US Midwest HR coil price for today:

HR coil weekly prices, US Midwest, \$/s.ton





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- 50+ commodities covered
- 1,000+ assessed prices
- Cost analysis data for **4,000+** assets in **134** countries
- Granular emissions data on 3,000+ assets, representing nearly 1/6th of global emissions
- 450+ staff on 5 continents





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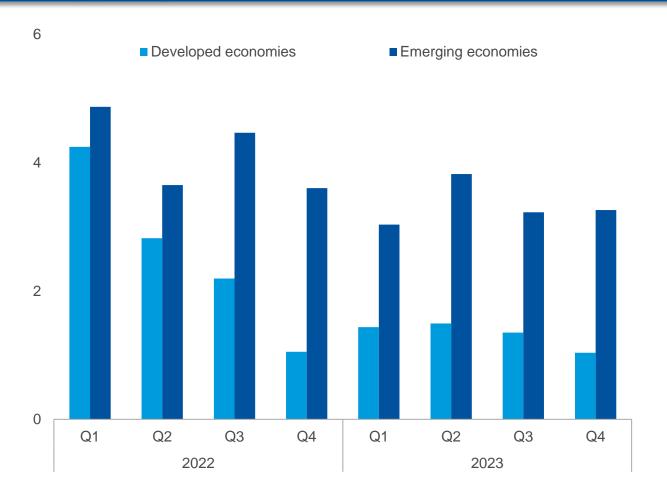
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# Global economic growth has slowed down

### GDP growth, y/y change, %



# Developed economies are suffering more, but overall growth is lower

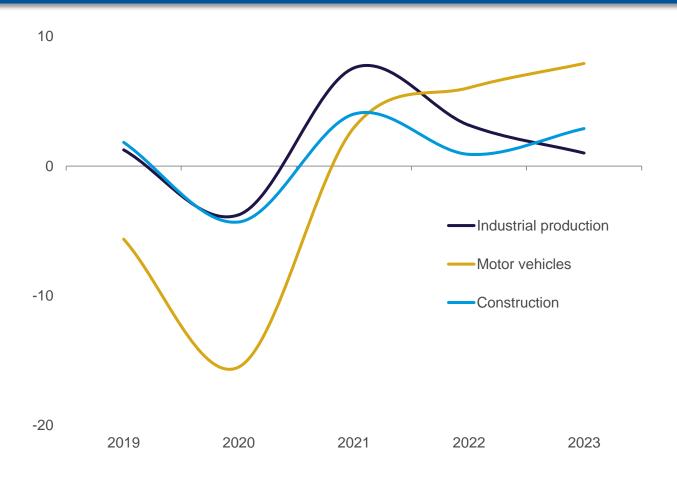
- High inflation and interest rates, and low confidence have been weighting on developed economies, particularly in Europe.
- Emerging economies growth has been supported by stimulus in China and strong growth in India. However, y/y growth will be lower.

DATA: CRU, OE



# Steel consuming sectors output performance also weakened

### World metal demand drivers, y/y change, %



# Steel consuming sectors are growing less this year

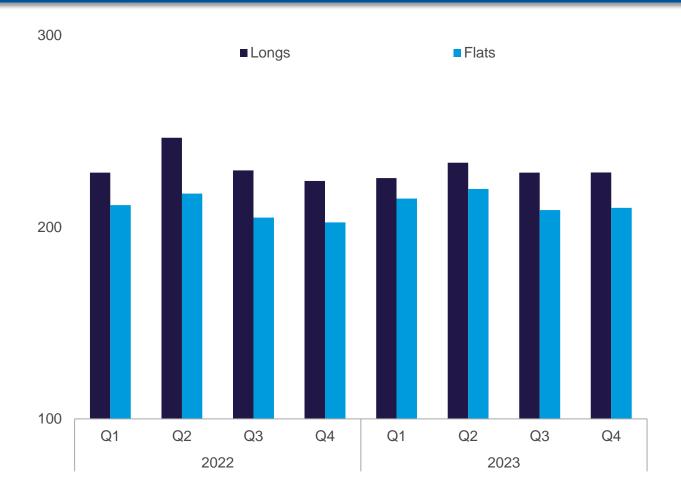
- Growth of main steel consuming sectors is decelerating.
- Exception is the automotive sector, that is recovering from the 2019-2020 crisis.

DATA: CRU, OE



### As a result, steel demand conditions have been deteriorating

#### Finished steel apparent consumption, Mt



# Weak economics weigh on steel demand

- After a strong 2023 H1, steel demand started losing steam.
- In 2023 Q3, longs demand dropped 2% q/q, and flats 5% q/q.
- Restocking after the summer was disappointing, and there are no signs of as strong pick up.
- In 2023, longs demand will fall by 1% y/y and flats increase by 2%.

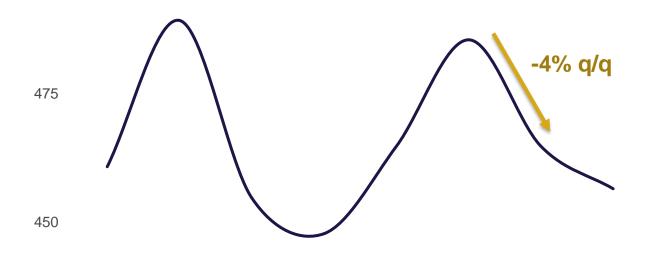
DATA: CRU, World Steel Association, S&P Global



### Production cuts were implemented to adjust to demand conditions...

#### **Crude steel production, Mt**







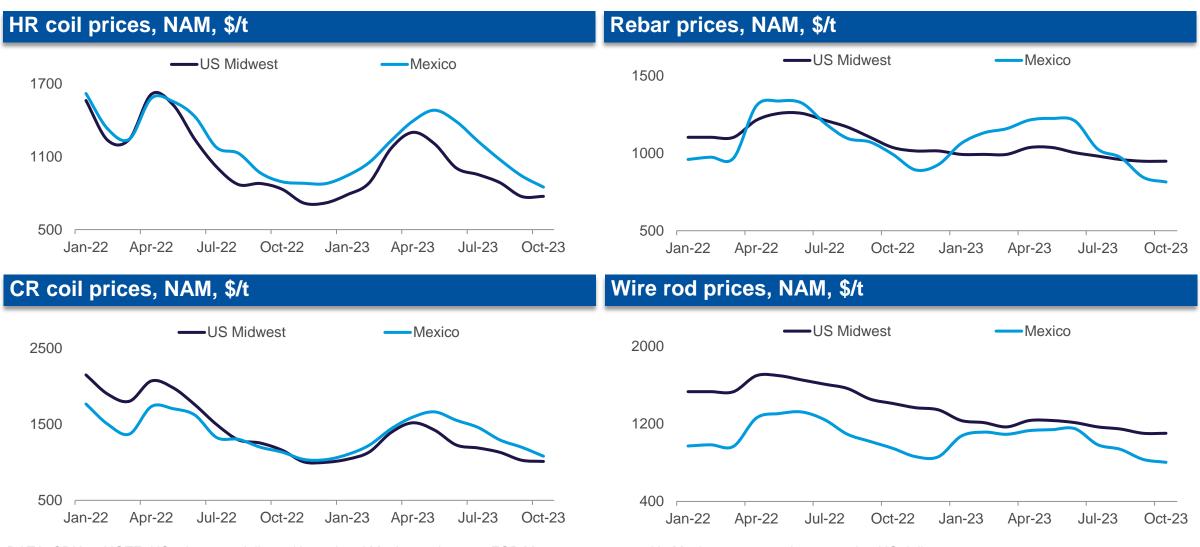
#### Sluggish demand led to production cuts

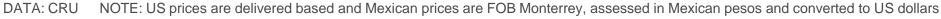
- Supply cuts started in 2023 Q3 in attempt to adjust to weak demand conditions – similar move observed in 2022.
- Production dropped in all regions, more pronounced in Europe, where it fell by 9% q/q. In North America, drop totalled 2% q/q.

DATA: CRU, NBS, World Steel Association



### ...and prevent further price falls

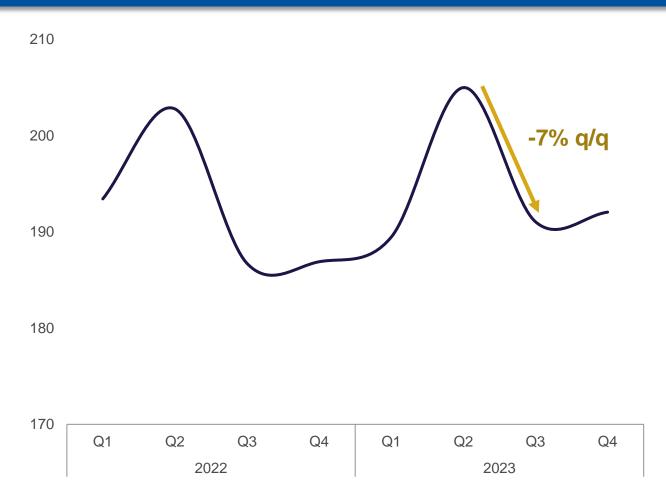






### Lower crude steel output meant lower metallics demand...

#### Cold metallics demand, Mt



# Metallics demand dropped by 7% q/q in Q3

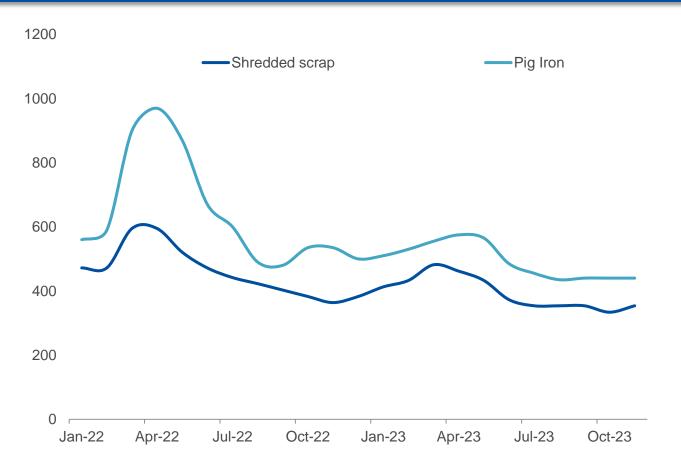
- Weaker longs market put extra pressure on EAF-based output, and metallics demand dropped more than crude steel production.
- In Q4, we see a small recovery based on more EAF production in North America and Europe.

DATA: CRU NOTE: Cold metallics include scrap, DRI/HBI, and pig iron



# ...and put pressure on metallics prices

### Metallics prices, USA, \$/t



# Lower steel production and prices pushed metallics prices down

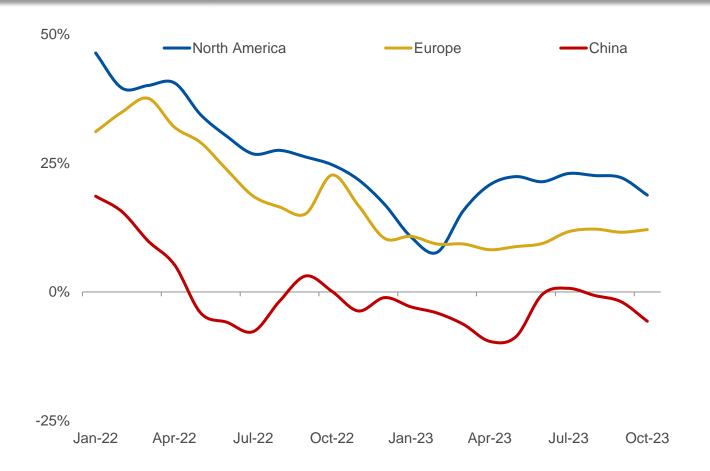
- In 2023 Q3, shredded scrap prices fell by 16% q/q and pig iron dropped 18% in the same period.
- Entering Q4, prices stabilised and found some support in restocking in November, following the end of the UAW strike.
- HMS grade prices are better supported now given seasonally lower supply and higher export quotes.

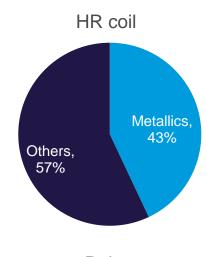


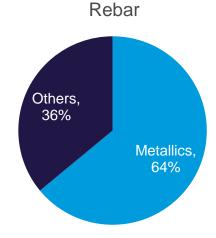
### Lower metallics costs protected margins in North America

### HR coil producer's margins, %

#### Metallics as % of costs, NAM





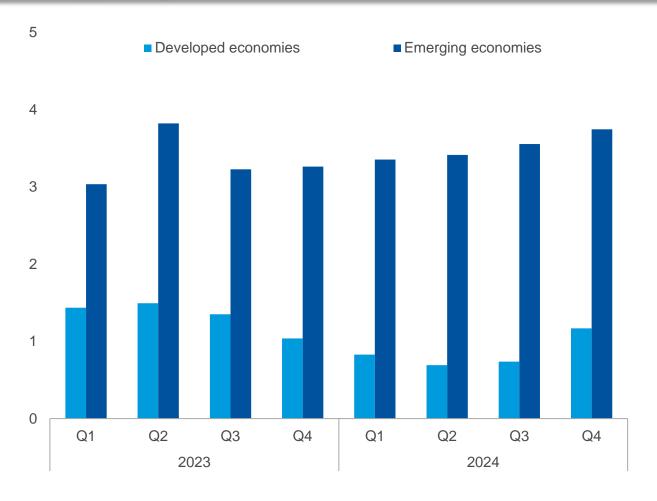


DATA: CRU Steel Cost Analysis Tool



### In 2024, we expect improvement in the economic environment, particularly in H2

### GDP growth, y/y change, %



# Developed economies will reverse the slowdown from 2024 Q3

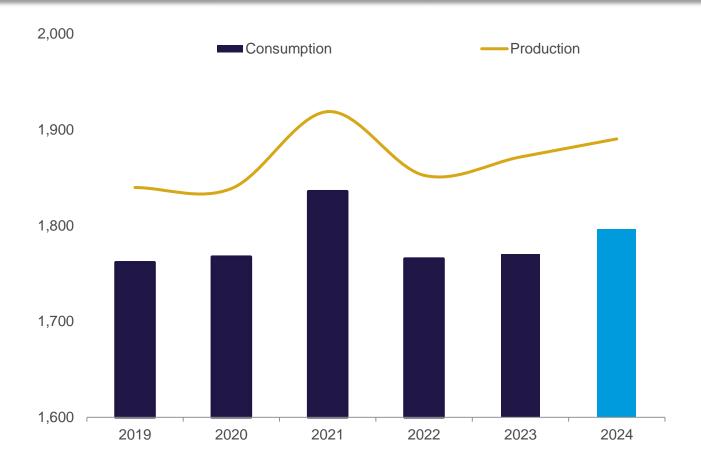
 Emerging economies will keep growing, while an improvement is expected in developed regions in 2024 H2.

DATA: CRU, OE



# Steel demand and production will increase accordingly

#### Finished steel consumption and crude steel production, Mt



# Steel production and consumption will pick up

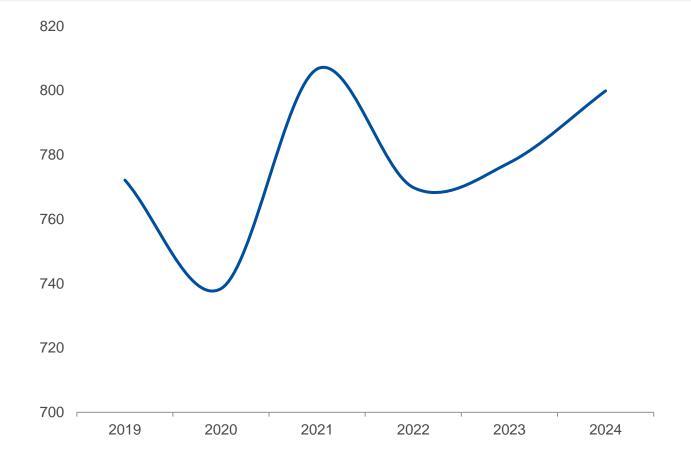
- After a weak 2023, we expect finished steel consumption to increase by 1.5% y/y and crude steel output to expand by 1% y/y in 2024.
- Ex. China growth will be stronger,
   5% and 6% for production and consumption, respectively.

DATA: CRU, World Steel Association, S&P Global



### Metallics demand will also increase

#### **Cold metallics demand, Mt**

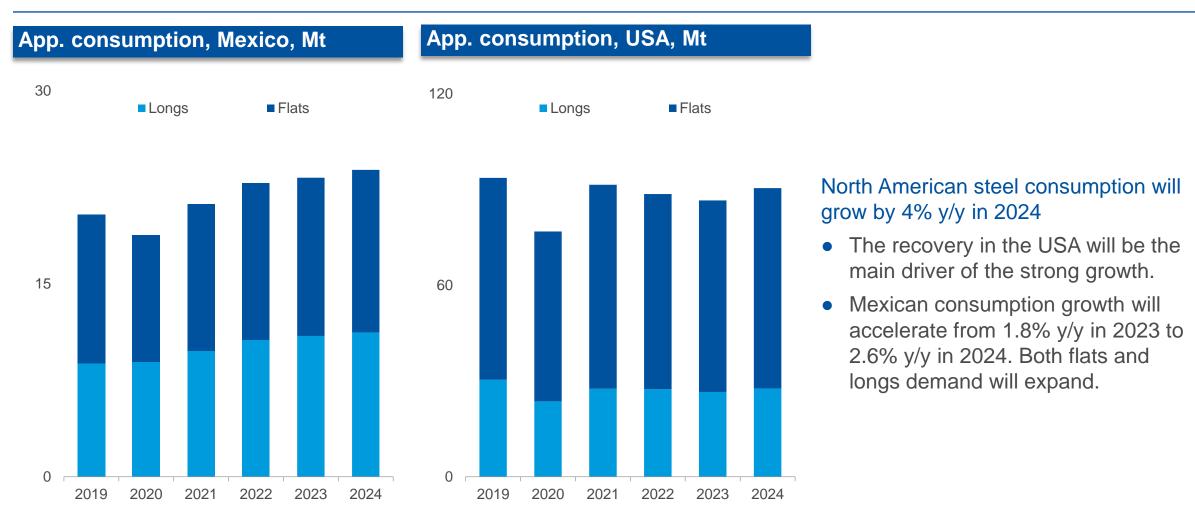


#### Metallics demand will also increase

- Decarbonisation efforts will push up demand growth.
- Cold metallics are part of the enablers to reduce emissions.
- More EAF-based production and more scrap charges in the BF-BOF mix.



# In Mexico and USA, steel demand will outperform global growth

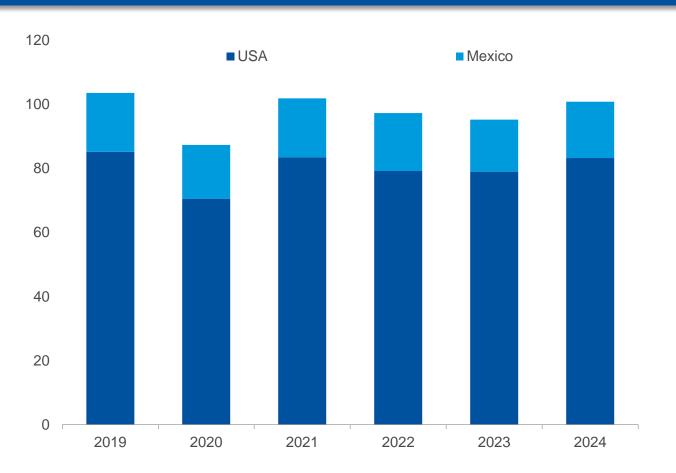


DATA: CRU, World Steel Association, S&P Global



### Crude steel production will expand, but imports will continue to be required

#### **Crude steel production, Mt**



# Crude steel production will follow the trend in demand

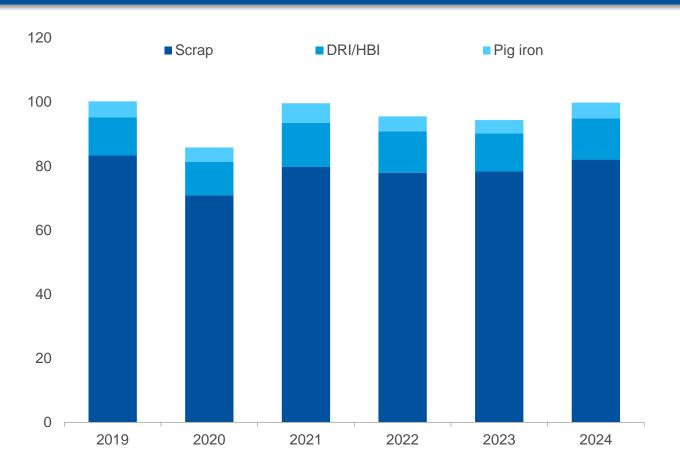
- New capacity ramping up and coming online in the USA will support production growth.
- In our base case, AHMSA resumes operations partially in 2024. This is a relevant downside risk to our forecast.
- Despite domestic growth, around 11Mt of imports will be needed to meet local demand.

DATA: CRU, World Steel Association



# Metallics demand will go back to 2021 high levels in 2024

### **Cold metallics demand, North America, Mt**



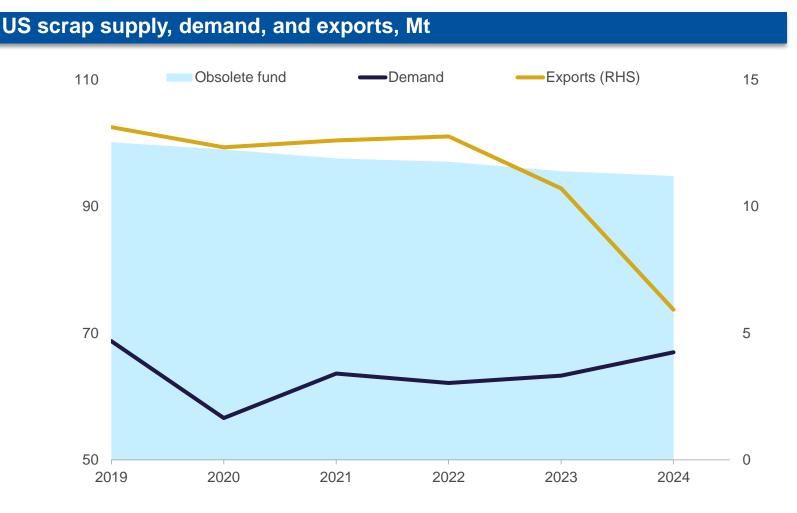
# North American metallics demand will increase by 6% y/y in 2024

- More production of pig iron domestically will support higher usage.
- Scrap will be highly demanded by higher EAF-based production.
- More DRI/HBI import will be required to meet demand. Supply options are limited.

DATA: CRU, World Steel Association



## We expect US scrap exports to fall fast as demand increases more than supply



# Scrap supply will not grow, so exports need to be lower

- The obsolete scrap fund will drop in the USA in 2024. This will limit scrap supply amidst increasing demand.
- To balance the market, scrap exports are expected to drop significantly.

DATA: CRU, S&P Global



### Vertical integration with scrap yards is a trend that should stick

#### Announced acquisitions of scrap yards by steelmakers



# Vertical integration with scrap supply to gain momentum

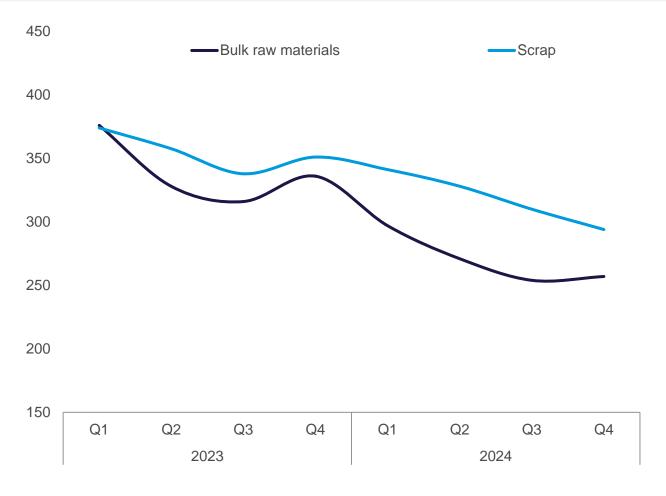
- Integration is a way to secure scrap volume and quality in a high demand environment.
- Trend observed in Europe and in North America. Should intensify with more EAFs coming online in the future.

DATA: CRU, Company reports



### Despite the supply tightness in the USA, scrap prices will drop

#### HMS scrap price in the USA<sup>(1)</sup> and bulk raw materials costs <sup>(2)</sup>, \$/t



# Bulk raw materials will dictate the trend in scrap prices

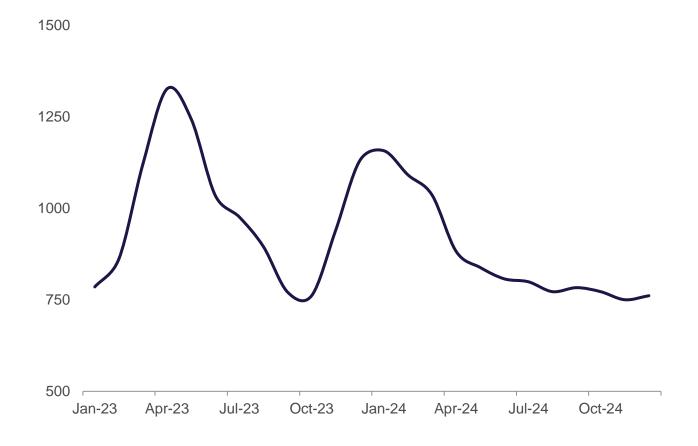
- We expect both iron ore and metallurgical coal prices will fall in 2024 amid better balanced markets.
- Hot metal/pig iron is a substitute for scrap, and thus, scrap prices correlate with those of bulk raw materials.
- Therefore, with falling bulks prices, we also expect scrap prices to trend downwards next year, despite the tightness in the US and some other markets, such as JKT.

DATA: CRU NOTES: #1 HMS, delivered, Great Lakes; (2) Iron ore and metallurgical coal prices lagged 4 weeks,



### Current upcycle of steel prices in the USA to last until 2024 Q1

#### HR coil prices, US Midwest, \$ /t



#### Inbound material will limit price upside

- Current price spike led by increasing lead times / restocking.
- It should last until 2024 Q1. After that, supply will increase with less outages and restocking demand will slowdown.
- Prices will correct to meet marginal costs. Margins will be lower than in the last 3 years and should near the historical average.



### Risks to the prices forecast



# Downside risks focus on steel demand worsening

- China keeps production high despite falling demand and margins, increase exports further, and global prices drop more than expected.
- Global economy fail to recover in 2024 H2 and steel demand remains sluggish. Supply increase and imbalance weigh on prices.
- Presidential elections in 2024 in India and the USA could hold back steel demand and put pressure on prices.
- Delays in EAF projects would lower metallics demand and loosen the market balance and result in even lower prices.



# Upside risks focused on restocking and stimulus

- New steel-intensive stimulus measures in China could give support to domestic demand and reducee exports availability, pushing steel prices up globally.
- Restocking could last longer than expected and prices remain high entering in 2024 Q2.
- Higher bulk raw materials costs could give support to higher metallics and steel prices. Both iron ore and coal prices have proven resilient so far in 2023.









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