

Press Release

December 1st, 2009 - for immediate release

CRU Indices to launch weekly U.S. Hot-Dipped Galvanised Sheet Index

CRU Indices, whose Hot-Rolled Coil price assessments are used in the settlement of 'CME's U.S. Midwest Hot-Rolled Coil Steel Futures Contract*', have announced that they are launching weekly price assessments for U.S. Midwest Hot-Dipped Galvanised Sheet.

CRU has tracked monthly HDG prices in the US for 25 years and when asked what had driven the increase in frequency, Paul Scott, Managing Consultant with CRU's Steel Team commented, "Our weekly U.S. Midwest Hot-Rolled Coil and Cold-Rolled Coil price assessments are the most widely used in the physical steel sheet market; latest estimates suggest that over 50% of direct mills shipments in the US are priced against CRU. The increase in index based deals negotiated against our prices, and subsequent demand from industry players, has necessitated the move to weekly assessments".

"We will launch the index on December 4th and it will evolve through a shadow period before being officially published during Spring 2010. During this period only registered data providers who contribute verifiable transaction data will see the output of the weekly index", said Glenn Cooney, Head of Operations at CRU Indices.

Anyone wishing to be involved in the evolution of the index by becoming a data provider should register their interest at www.cruindices.com.

Upon completion of the shadow period, the index will be available to data providers and subscribers to CRU'S Steel Sheet Products Monitor**.

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Notes for editors

CRU Indices

A division of CRU Group - the world's leading independent authority on metals, mining, fertilizers and chemicals - who publish market leading, independent price assessment based on verifiable transaction data submitted electronically at www.cruindices.com by registered data providers.

* CME's U.S. Midwest Hot-Rolled Coil Steel Futures contract was launched in October 2008. For further information, visit www.cmegroup.com/metals.

** CRU's Steel Sheet Products Monitor covers the global market for steel sheet products providing accurate price assessments, authoritative market commentary and analysis. Samples available at www.cruanalysis.com

Contacts

Paul Scott
Managing Consultant - Steel Team
CRU Analysis
Tel: +44 20 7903 2185
Email: paul.scott@crugroup.com

Glenn Cooney
Head of Operations
CRU Indices
Tel: +44 20 7903 2056
Email: glenn.cooney@crugroup.com