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 Global scrap use in steelmaking edged up in 2016: BIR - Wednesday, 24th May 2017

Ferrous scrap

Final figures for 2016 show a small increase in world crude steel output and in the use of ferrous scrap as a raw material for steel production, according to data published by the Bureau of International Recycling on Tuesday.

Ferrous statistics adviser Rolf Willeke told BIR's meeting in Hong Kong that crude steel production increased 0.9% from 2015 to 1.63 billion metric tons: 406 million mt of this production was from electric furnaces.

Scrap usage increased to 560 million mt in 2016, up 0.9% from 2015. This put the global ratio of steel scrap to crude steel production at 34.36, a very slight movement from the 34.37 ratio in 2015.

Turkey retained its crown as the largest net importer of scrap globally at 17.716 million mt, up 9% from 2015 -- when imports of lower-priced semis dampened scrap melting. US yards led the charge on volume sold into Turkey at 3.261 million mt (down 15.1%), followed by the UK at 2.606 million mt (up 6.2%).

Material sourced from the US by Turkish steelmakers has shrunk over the last few years, the data showed, with just over 5 million mt being imported from the US in 2013.

Largest global exports came from the EU-28 bloc, at 17.807 million mt. Some 10.420 million mt was bought by Turkey from the EU-28 as a whole, with the UK being the largest seller to non-EU countries.

-- *Simon Price*

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