# X Simexmin: Brazilian Symposium on Mineral Exploration

Steel decarbonisation and its effects over the new "two tier" iron ore chain 28 November 2022







## Steel consumption to slow on inflation and the Russia-Ukraine conflict

India and Southeast Asia to be the key growth drivers and China the major deterrent





### Steel output to rebound in all major economies barring China

Fall in Chinese output will be compensated by India; global production to rise a meagre 0.5%





## Hot metal to be negatively impacted due to rising EAF preference

Scrap and DRI rapidly becoming the most sought after metallic due to its low carbon footprint



	Hot Metal (MT)			Scrap (MT)			DRI (MT)			EAF Share (%)		
	2021	2050	CAGR	2021	2050	CAGR	2021	2050	CAGR	2021	2050	VAR.
China	887	513	-2%	244	347	1.2%	1	41	14%	12%	35%	+23pp
India	78	270	4%	22	94	5.2%	39	45	0.5%	55%	35%	-20pp
SEA	23	86	5%	21	58	3.5%	1	11	8.8%	67%	56%	-11pp
JK	117	75	-1%	69	86	0.8%	-	10	10x	28%	47%	+19pp
EU+UK	85	33	-3%	100	133	1.0%	1	20	13%	60%	80%	+20pp
USA	23	20	-1%	74	88	0.6%	4	8	2.6%	70%	78%	+8pp

#### woodmac.com Iron ore mining emits 70-75 Mt of operational emissions (28 kg CO2 / t)

Australian miners emission intensity lowest; higher pellet share weighs on Brazil; polluting Chinese mines

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## Iron ore majors set net zero targets, no noise by tier II and III players

Majors allocate around 10% of their annual capital budgets towards creating zero carbon mines

Top 5 miners set emission cut targets

Top four miners allocate US\$23-24 bn for decarbonising their mines (across businesses)



them in their climate change reports.

Source: Company Climate Change reports, Wood Mackenzie



## Iron ore demand to decline; pellet market to gain traction

Anorexic hot metal production and displacement by scrap to act as key deterrents under AET1.5







- DRI will benefit the most during steel's decarbonisation pathway
  - Commercial adoption of hydrogen based DRI route which will account for a third of total production by 2050
  - This shall augur well for DR pellet and pellet feed market which will rise by 5.4-5.5x in AET 1.5 (over 2021)

Global iron ore consumption is around 240 Mt lower than our base case forecast by 2050 led by scrap displacement which picks pace from mid 2030s. DR pellet demand across key regions (million tonnes)

## DR pellet demand to rise 2.4x by 2050 in base case and 5x under AET 1.5 China, North America, Brazil to be key epicenters of demand under AET 1.5



DEMAND

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# **4.2x of current DR pellet capacity needed to feed green steel under AET 1.5** World will need 630 Mt of new DR pellet capacity under AET 1.5





AET 1.5 will warrant nearly 634 Mt of new capacity additions over the next three decades (i.e 4.2x of current capacity base)

**DR pellet current supply landscape –** *key players* 

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SUPPLY



Captive pellet feed Purchase pellet feed from 3rd parties

# Brazil, Middle East and Africa will invest more in DR pellets under AET1.5

SUPPLY

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#### Proximity and access to high grade ore and associated ecosystem to be key determinants



10



# Just 8% of current production is prime grade for green steel

Another 15-20% can be beneficiated or processed to become prime grade

#### Market analysis by Fe grade and impurities



- Only 8% of current production is ideal DR grade, while 15-20% will need minimal beneficiation or processing.
- **Swing supply**: Another 10% will need high investments in beneficiation, processing, grinding and can swing on either side depending on ore's mineralogy.

Analysis for key miners (2021)



Note: The aforementioned chart is volume weighted average for fines and pellet feed



## Brazil holds a vast low-strip ratio reserve base

Most of Brazil's high-grade reserves are concentrated at Carajás

Overall, Brazil and Australia's reported raw reserves are comparable in size and quality...



...but, if it wasn't for Carajás, Brazil's reserves would be far inferior to Australia's



DR pellet feed demand supply gap analysis



# DR pellet feed market to face deficit of 350 Mt by 2050 under AET 1.5

#### Miners would need to invest in high grade ore new mines



DR pellet feed supply build-up under base and AET 1.5

The world will potentially face DR pellet feed deficit post 2030 in an AET 1.5 case (with current planned supply). Activation of new high grade ore projects in Brazil, Africa, and Australia will become pivotal to feed green steel.

Expansion by operating mines and upcoming high probability mines will add 120-130 Mt of pellet feed supply. Beyond that the world will need an additional 350 Mt to feed green steel under AET 1.5.

# **Key Takeaways**

- Green steel transition is a reality
- Capacity switch from BOF to EAF to gradually materialise
- Carbon emissions reduction increasingly committed by the mining companies
- Demand for direct high-grade feedstock like DRI/HBI, briquettes and pellets to spike
- Brazil is one of the main beneficiaries of those trends mainly as a high-quality iron ore base
- Lower to mid-grade producers, like India and Australia, to face more challenges to supply their products without investing in new/undeveloped technologies





## **Our offerings – Steel | Iron Ore | Coal | Emissions Benchmarking Tool**



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