21-Aug-25

Global Copper Market Daily Pulse

Global Copper Market – A product of Bluglance Consulting
Prices, Spreads, Premiums & Strategies

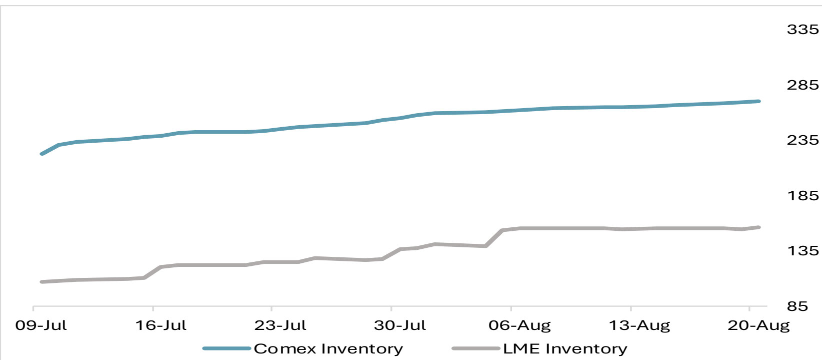
Copper in Local Currencies

	20-Aug	19-Aug	% Change	YTD % Chg.
LME 3M	9721	9692	0.29	10.86
CME	4.4400	4.4225	0.40	9.36
MCX	873.4	873.9	-0.06	9.76
SHFE	78550	78850	-0.38	6.44

Copper in US $ (Without Duty in MT)

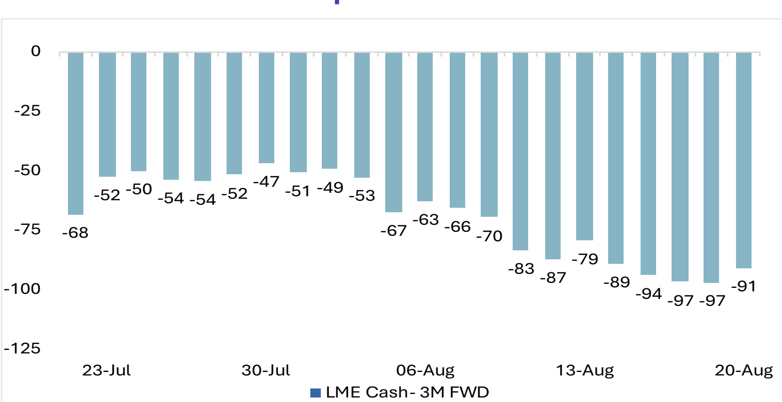
	20-Aug	19-Aug	% Change	YTD % Chg
LME 3M	9721	9692	0.29	10.86
CME	9789	9750	0.40	9.36
MCX	10031	10050	-0.19	7.92
SHFE	10946	10978	-0.29	8.26

Comex vs LME Global Inventory ('000)



Exchange Inventory (MT)				
LME	20-Aug	19-Aug	Change	YTD Chg.
	156350	155150	1200	-115050
CME	20-Aug	19-Aug	Change	YTD Chg.
	270536	269943	593	251186
MCX	19-Aug	18-Aug	Change	YTD Chg.
	920	920	0	87
SHFE	15-Aug	08-Aug	Change	YTD Chg.
	86361	81933	4428	12189

LME Cash - 3M FWD Spread



LME Copper: Opened at $9,679.5/mt, fluctuated early, but trended upward to close at $9,721/mt (+0.38%)—volume: 14,000 lots. Open Interest: 263,000 lots.

MACRO DEVELOPMENT: The latest US Federal Reserve meeting minutes revealed a hawkish stance, with inflation concerns taking precedence over employment risks. However, a minority of officials expressed support for a possible September rate cut, underscoring policy divergence and fueling uncertainty that may sustain volatility across risk assets, including copper.

At the same time, geopolitical risks remain elevated, with Russia–NATO tensions and instability in the Middle East maintaining a persistent risk premium as markets await progress in Ukraine talks. Adding to the backdrop, the rebound in crude oil prices is reinforcing cost-push inflation expectations, indirectly lending support to copper prices.

Price Perspective: Play it safe inside the $400/mt frontier but keep your eyes on the long-term summit.

The three-month forward glued near $9670/9680, failed to break down, and reversed to close higher on Wednesday.

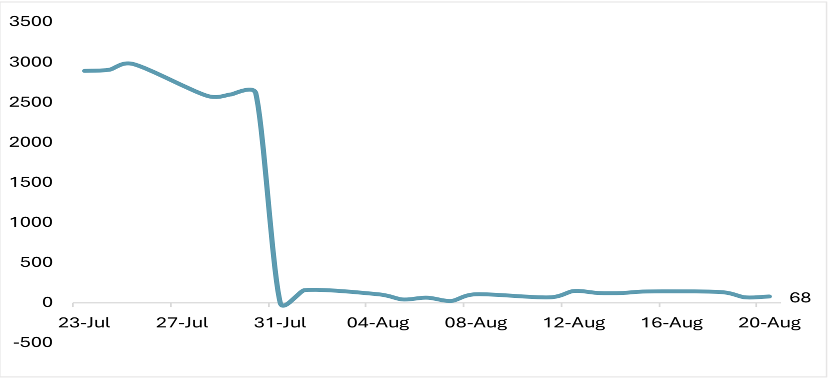
We have been seeing a very sideways trend in copper for the past 8 to 9 weeks in a band of $400 ($9550 on the lower side and $9950 on the higher side). – Macro uncertainty (Fed+ Dollar), supply loosening amid demand softness, geopolitical and energy support, balanced speculative positioning keeping the copper market stable.

Copper is stuck between strong structural demand expectations (long-term bullish) and short-term headwinds of weak demand + improved supply (near-term bearish). Until the Fed's September policy decision and Chinese seasonal demand recovery (Q4), copper is likely to keep oscillating within this ~$400/mt band.

Source: Bloomberg, Bluglance

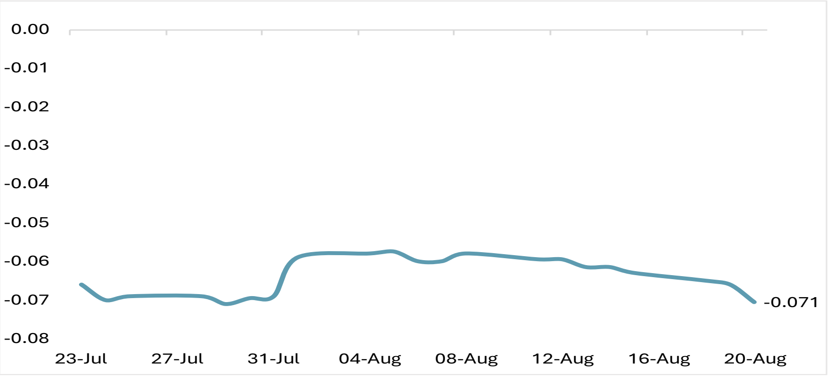
CME–LME copper spread is behaving like the copper market itself — rangebound. US infrastructure and EV demand keep CME supported, while LME is capped by improving supply and cautious Chinese demand. Until either (a) the Fed cuts rates, sparking US-led risk-on, or (b) China's seasonal demand kicks in strongly, the CME–LME spread will likely remain stable, with occasional short-lived spikes driven by currency and logistics shifts.

CME Sep LME 3M Spread



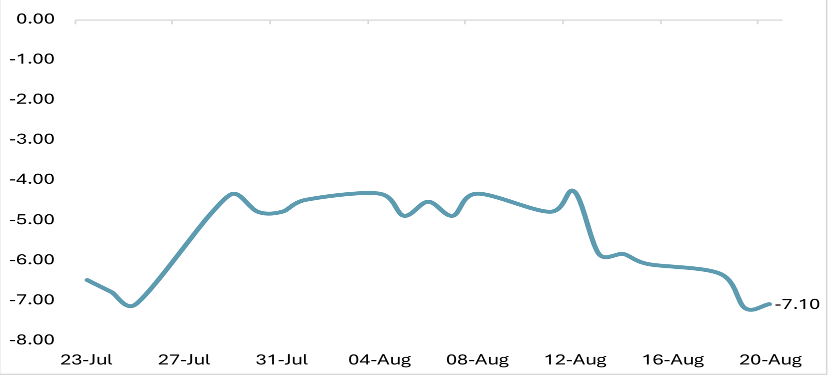
Traders are essentially waiting for September–October cues (Fed rate decision + Chinese demand recovery) before taking aggressive spread bets. Therefore, CME spread is highly stable for some time now.

CME Near-Next Spread



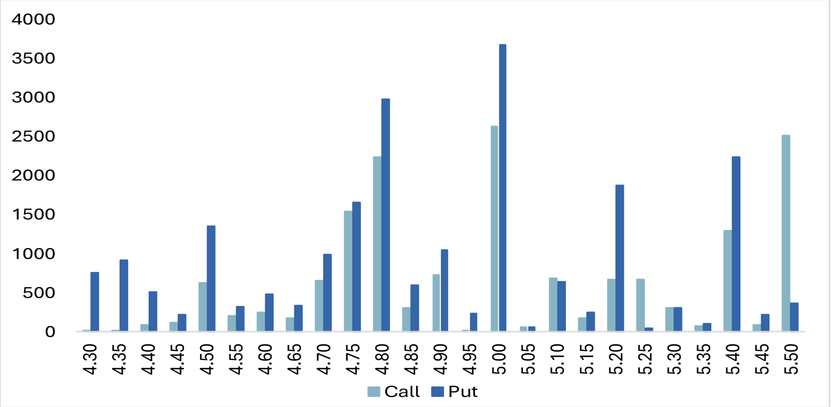
MCX Calendar Spread in negative/CONTANGO, it has become more lucrative for SHORTS/ Hedgers to rollover. Given the limited stocks as of now and expectations of stocks adding up keeping the spread higher.

MCX Near - Next Spread



Maximum OI is at 5 Put and 5 Call
Covering at 5.1 & 5.25 Put

CME Sep Month Option Distribution



 Source: Bloomberg, Bluglance

Technical Analysis

Economic Calendar				
Country	**Event**	**Period**	**Survey**	**Prior**
Japan	S&P Global Japan PMI Mfg	Aug P	--	48.9
India	HSBC India PMI Mfg	Aug P	--	59.1
EC	HCOB Eurozone Manufacturing PMI	Aug P	49.5	49.8
UK	S&P Global UK Manufacturing PMI	Aug P	48.3	48
US	Initial Jobless Claims	16-Aug	225k	224k
US	Continuing Claims	09-Aug	1960k	1953k
US	S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI	Aug P	49.8	49.8
US	Existing Home Sales	Jul	3.92m	3.93m

LME 3M FWD Copper	
Close	**9,721**
Pivot	9,709
Supt.2	9,644
Supt.1	9,682
Resi.1	9,748
Resi.2	9,775

Ratio Analysis

Ratio	Last	1 Day	5 Day	1 Month	3 Month	6 Month	1 Year
Copper/Gold	2.88	2.89	2.92	2.86	2.87	3.25	3.62
Copper/Silver	254.08	256.60	255.79	249.80	285.20	293.68	306.95
Copper/Platinum	7.19	7.30	7.15	6.70	8.84	9.80	9.38
Copper/Crude	144.07	145.85	145.48	140.51	146.71	128.07	119.47
Copper/SPX	1.51	1.50	1.50	1.54	1.60	1.56	1.62
Copper/Alumi.	3.74	3.75	3.72	3.70	3.86	3.48	3.68
Copper/Steel	11.55	11.53	11.67	11.11	10.66	12.24	13.72
Copper/Nickel	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.62	0.62	0.54
Copper/Zinc	3.47	3.48	3.44	3.44	3.55	3.31	3.30
Copper/LMEX	2.31	2.31	2.32	2.29	2.33	2.27	2.24
Copper/DXY	98.04	97.64	98.97	99.38	95.65	89.41	89.92
Copper/Tesla	29.73	29.14	28.65	29.50	27.70	26.90	41.09

Dark shade = Copper outperformance; Light shade = Copper underperformance

Source: Bloomberg, Bluglance