

April 2018

FAQ: Battery metals

WHAT DOES PLATTS LITHIUM CARBONATE ASSESSMENT REPRESENT?

S&P Global Platts is assessing lithium carbonate delivered into North Asian ports.

Lithium carbonate is the bellwether product for understanding Li-ion battery fundamentals.

This assessment is focused on lithium carbonate deliveries to China, Japan and South Korea, but also considers deliveries to other countries, normalizing where applicable.

The specifications reflected are minimum lithium content of 99.5%. Cargo size reflected is between 5-40 metric tonnes per shipment. Different cargo sizes are considered but may be normalized.

The assessment is an outright price in dollars per metric ton.

WHY IS PLATTS ASSESSING BATTERY GRADE LITHIUM CARBONATE?

The advent of the electric vehicle (EV), driven by a shift in global policy with a stronger focus on more

environmentally friendly transportation modes led to governments starting to phase out the Internal Combustion Engine (ICE), which increased the demand for metals needed to produce batteries.

Platts is seeking to bring transparency and essential intelligence to the lithium market, which has a lack of robust pricing information.

Platts decided to use its vast experience of over 100 years in the commodities markets, its existing network in the metals market as well as its worldwide offices and multi-lingual work force to close the gap in this market.

Platts is adhering to the IOSCO PRA Principles since 2013. This helps to ensure an internationally-consistent approach which minimizes market disruption. As part of this, Platts retains an independent accountancy firm to conduct voluntary reasonable assurance reviews of its alignment to the PRA Principles.

WHEN WILL LITHIUM CARBONATE BE ASSESSED?

Lithium Carbonate assessment is timestamped to 4.30pm Singapore time. This is a weekly assessment, with

monthly and quarterly averages also being provided. The first assessment is scheduled for May 4, 2018 at 4.30pm Singapore time.

WHAT IS THE PLATTS CODE FOR THIS ASSESSMENT?

The weekly assessment can be found at BATLC04. The monthly average can be found at BATLC03 and the quarterly average can be found at BATLC05.

WHERE WILL THE ASSESSMENT BE PUBLISHED?

The assessment is published in the Platts Metals Daily publication on Page 4 under the heading “Battery Metals”. The assessment is also available on page PMA8888.

HOW WILL PLATTS COVER THE MARKET?

Market coverage is led by a global team across three offices: Singapore, London and Sao Paulo.

These regions cover the supply and consumption hubs for lithium carbonate. Platts publishes all information considered in the assessment to make sure market participants have full transparency into calculation methods and process.

Platts collects data from market participants across the supply chain and aims to produce a balanced assessment by engaging with suppliers, traders and consumers of all size and scale.

Platts price methodology is adaptive to market needs and tried and tested over 100 years' history. Platts looks forward to entering this exciting space and moving the market forward with all participants.