

h to net zero: Miners pursue decarbonization despite regulatory rollbacks.

ARE MINERS NET ZERO READY? >

4 / bbl 0.67% Palladium \$ 1433.25 / ozt -6.99% Crude Oil \$ 57.25 / bbl 0.53% Natural Gas \$ 3.47 / Btu 1.43% Silver Futures \$ 2 GO TO MDC MARKETS

MINING.COM



- TREASURE HUNT
- JOBS
- MARKETS
- BUYER'S GUIDE
- TNM MAPS
- ADVERTISE
- RSS
- NEWSLETTER
- SUBSCRIPTIONS
- BUY GOLD & SILVER
- TNM MARCO POLO
- 
- 

**Your Streamlined Global Mining Data Solution**

Access to Thousands of Companies, Properties, and Executives Across the Industry

Learn more at [marcopolo.tnm.global](https://marcopolo.tnm.global) [Learn more](#)

Commercial Mounting. Made in Canada.

Engineered for B2B installs — from restaurants to hospital transit hubs.

Melnik Mounts [Contact](#)

China tightens rules on new copper smelters to curb overcapacity

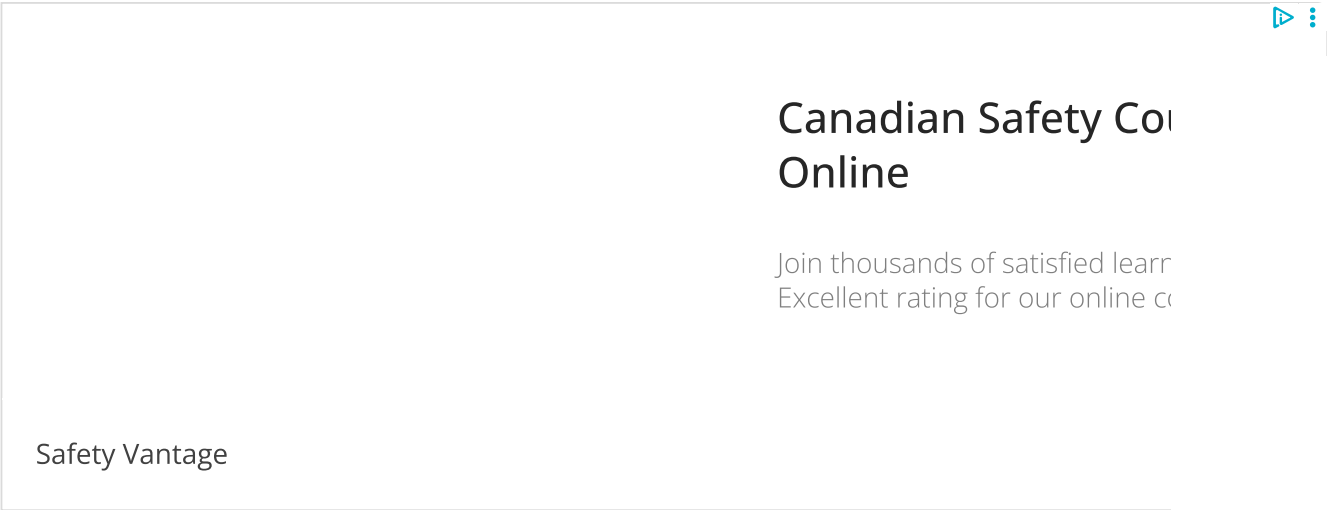
[Bloomberg News](#) | February 12, 2025 | 8:19 am [News](#) [China](#) [Copper](#)



Copper smelter. (Stock Image)

China has tightened requirements for building new copper smelters, in its latest attempt to curb relentless capacity expansion in the world’s top producer of the refined metal.

Companies building new copper smelters should control enough mine supply — via outright ownership or equity stakes — to feed the plants, according to a 2025-2027 development plan for the country’s copper industry jointly issued by 11 ministries. This condition would likely be met by only a small number of major Chinese companies.



The sector has seen cut-throat competition for raw material as mines across the world faced production disruptions, falling grades, and higher exploration costs. Spot processing fees have plunged below zero, causing industry-wide losses and threatening output cuts at Chinese plants.

The China Nonferrous Metals Industry Association last October called for curbs on new smelters as a “top priority” and urged the copper sector to learn from government intervention in the steel and aluminum industries.

About 85% of concentrate used in Chinese plants is imported, according to data from the US Geological Survey. The country produced 12 million tons of refined copper in 2023, while mined output was at 1.7 million tons. Total reserves of the red metal stood at 41 million tons as of 2023, or 4.1% of the global total, according to USGS.

The country aims to boost domestic copper mine resources by 5% to 10% in three years to secure raw material supply, according to the government plan.

China will also encourage copper smelters to sign long-term purchase agreements with global miners, boost imports of copper blister and anode, and encourage scrap imports, according to the plan.

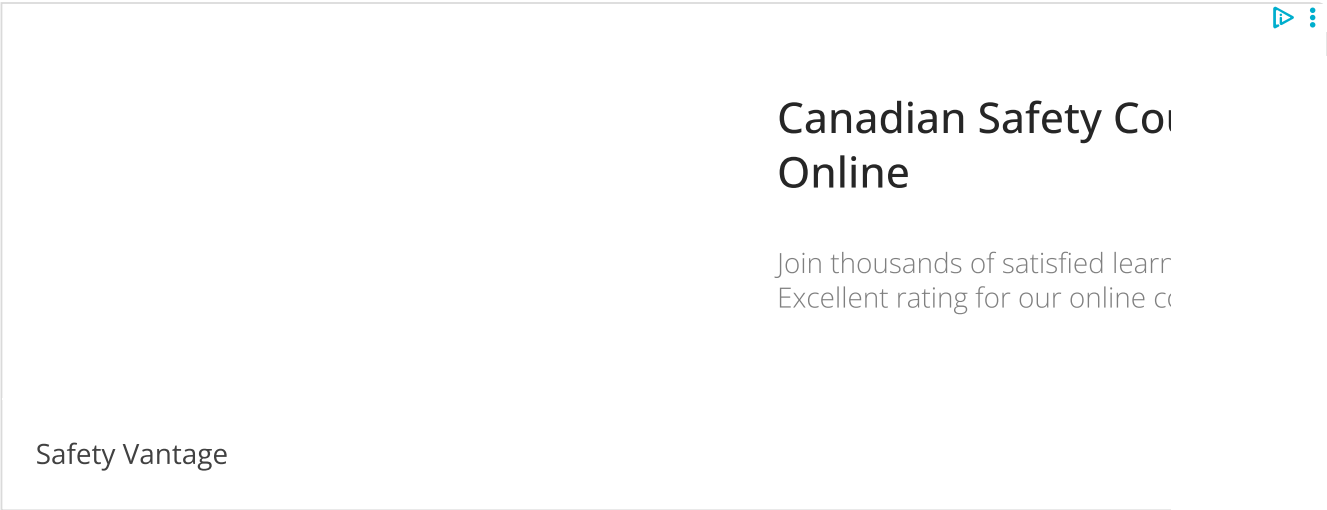
**Read More:** [China smelter group agrees to lower Q1 copper charges](#)

Share    

## COMMENTS

Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked \*

☐ Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment.



Post

No comments found.






MORE NEWS

**S&P Global**  
Commodity Insights

**Path to net zero:  
Miners pursue decarbonization  
despite regulatory rollbacks.**

**ARE MINERS NET ZERO READY? >**



Can miners stay on net-zero course amid global headwinds?

Miners continue investing in electrification and renewables, driven by cost savings, efficiency gains, and long-term resilience.

SPONSORED



Lion One Reports 4,200 oz in Quarterly Gold Production

Lion One Metals Limited is pleased to report preliminary quarterly gold production from the Tuvatu Gold Mine in Fiji for the quarter ending September 30th, 2025.

SPONSORED



**Mustang Energy Corp. Commences Drilling at Surprise Creek Uranium-Copper Project, Saskatchewan**

Mustang Energy Corp. is pleased to announce the commencement of its inaugural diamond-drilling program at the Surprise Creek Uranium-Copper Project located northwest of the Athabasca Basin near Uranium City, Saskatchewan.

SPONSORED



**RANKED: Top 10 automakers by battery cobalt spending**

Congo's export quotas have lit a fire under cobalt prices and spending on the battery material is up 51% year on year despite ongoing thrifting.

October 21, 2025 | 09:32 am

**GOLD**





**Southern Copper’s \$1.8B Tía María mine gets green light**

The approval is expected to boost confidence in Peru's mining sector and may unlock stalled developments nationwide.

October 21, 2025 | 09:30 am



**Newmont-funded Nevada gold project selected for FAST-41 permitting**

Newmont can acquire up to 75% of the Spring Peak project held by Headwater Gold.

October 21, 2025 | 09:16 am





Gold price falls by most in over a decade as rally cools

Spot gold hit as low as \$4,151.91 per ounce, representing a 5.3% decline.

October 21, 2025 | 08:10 am

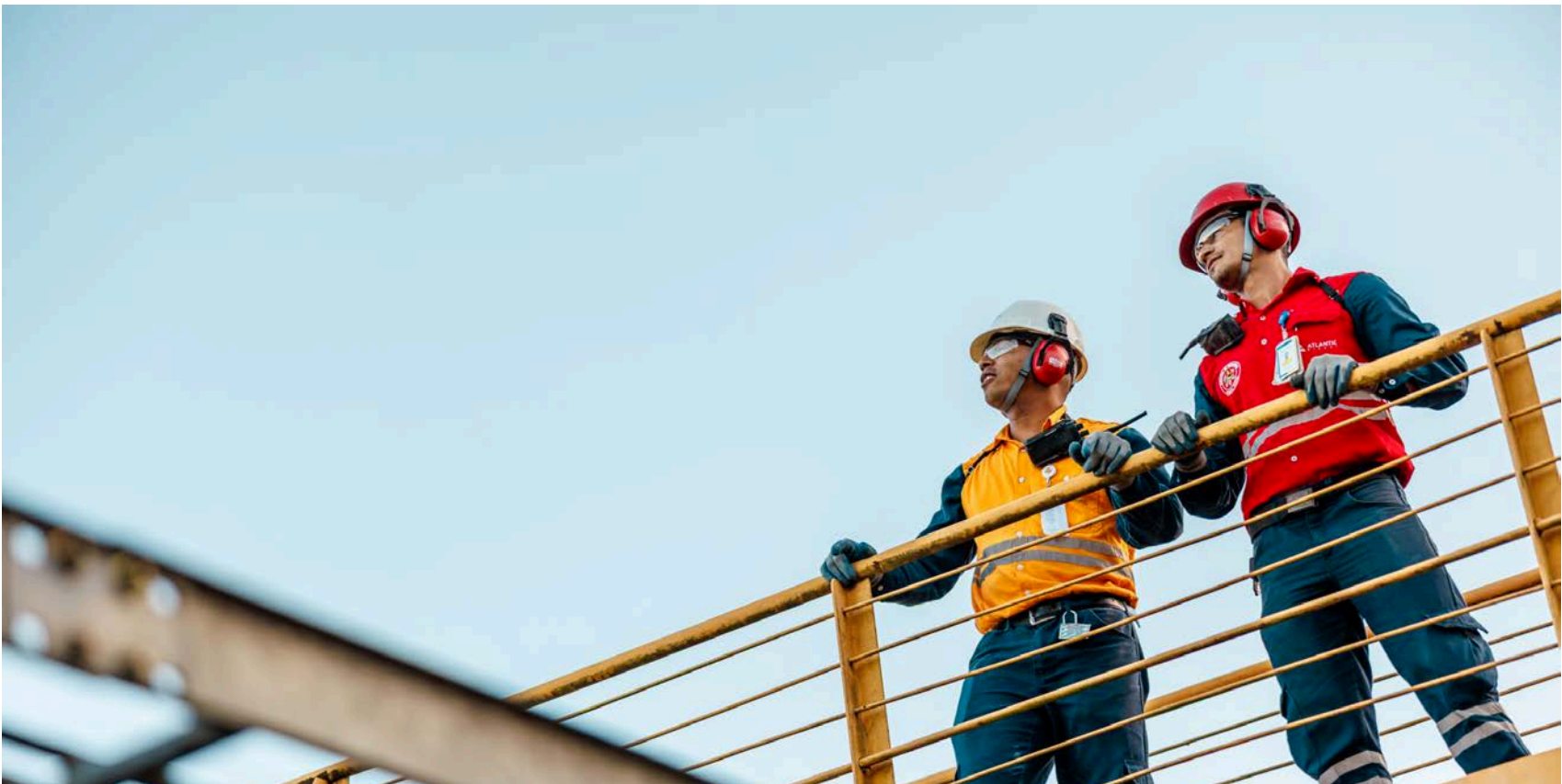


Congo rebels loot \$70M in gold from Twangiza mine

Rebels, helped by mine employees, have reportedly taken at least 500kg of gold since May, when the operation was seized.

October 21, 2025 | 07:03 am

COPPER



Appian, World Bank start \$1B critical minerals fund

Washington-based IFC will anchor the fund, contributing \$100 million at first.

October 21, 2025 | 07:44 am





**Copper price approaches record on US-China trade uncertainty**

In London, the metal traded as high as \$10,691.50 a tonne for a 1.5% intraday gain.

October 20, 2025 | 10:48 am



**Arizona Sonoran soars on new copper ranking**

The pre-feasibility study estimates Cactus could produce about 103,000 tonnes of copper annually over the first 10 years of a 22-year life.

October 20, 2025 | 09:31 am



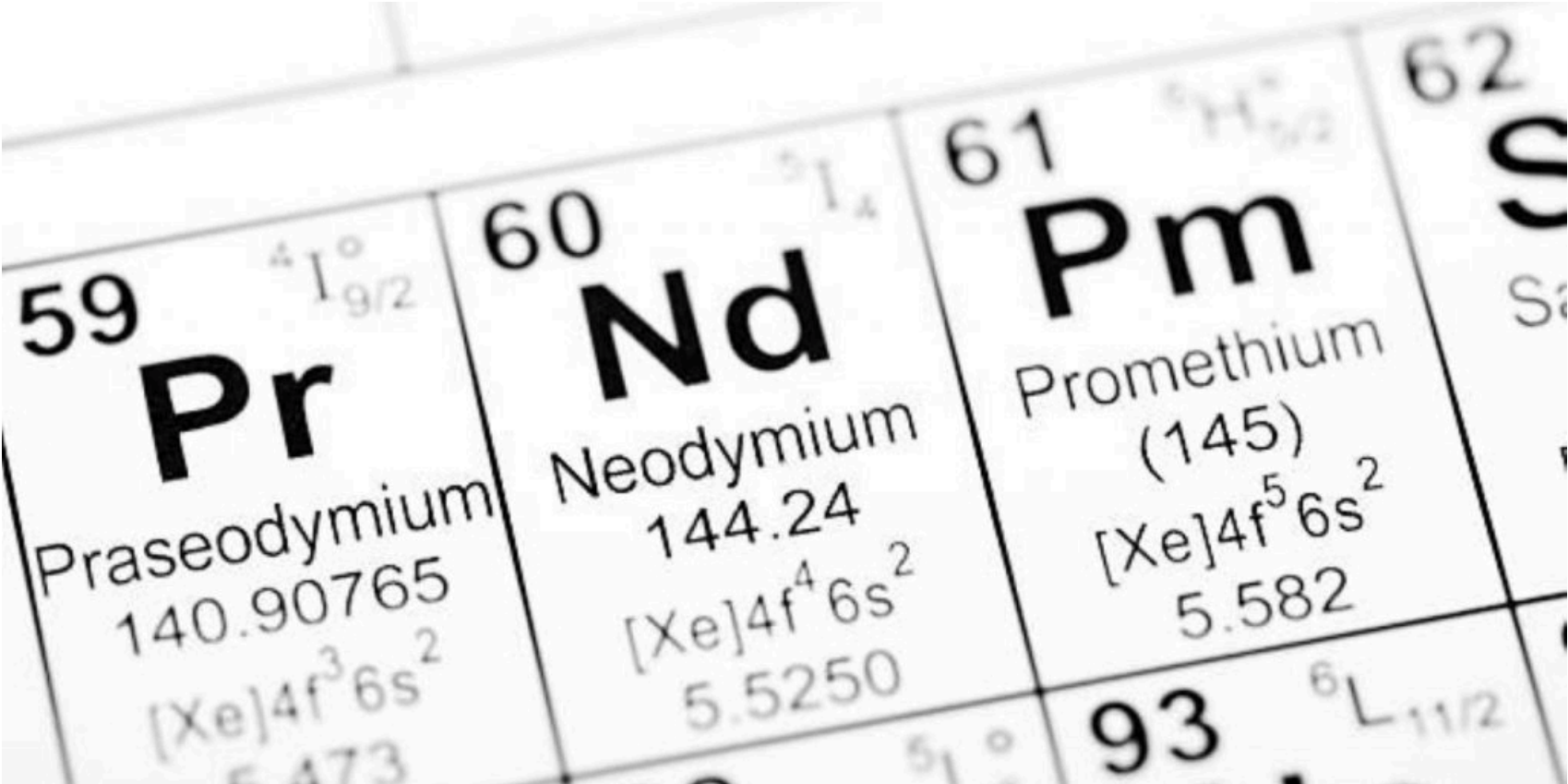


Robert Friedland says global economy faces copper crisis

Friedland’s four-year copper forecasts proved spot-on — prices now top \$5 per pound or about \$11,130 per tonne.

October 20, 2025 | 06:54 am

CRITICAL MINERALS



Minespider, Rare Earth Ventures partner to bring traceability to Australian minerals supply chain

Through this collaboration, the two companies will deploy digital product passports that embed transparent, verifiable data into raw material supply chains.

October 20, 2025 | 10:21 am



Brazil targets rare earth revival as mining council takes shape

More than three years after it was announced, Brazil’s Mining Policy Council has officially been installed.

October 20, 2025 | 09:19 am





**United States Antimony offers \$470M to buy Australian miner**

Larvotto Resources is currently advancing the Hillgrove project in New South Wales, which holds the largest antimony resource in the country.

October 20, 2025 | 07:54 am



**Cleveland-Cliffs eyes rare earths production in the US**

Geological surveys at its US mining operations found two sites in Michigan and Minnesota with potential to produce rare earths.

October 20, 2025 | 07:53 am



MINING.COM TV  
**Watch latest videos on MINING.COM**





## MORE NEWS

October 21, 2025 | 08:10 am

### Gold price falls by most in over a decade as rally cools

Spot gold hit as low as \$4,151.91 per ounce, representing a 5.3% decline.

October 21, 2025 | 07:03 am

### Congo rebels loot \$70M in gold from Twangiza mine

Rebels, helped by mine employees, have reportedly taken at least 500kg of gold since May, when the operation was seized.

October 21, 2025 | 07:44 am

### Appian, World Bank start \$1B critical minerals fund

Washington-based IFC will anchor the fund, contributing \$100 million at first.

October 21, 2025 | 07:30 am

### Rare earth stocks surge in Sydney after Trump's Australia pact

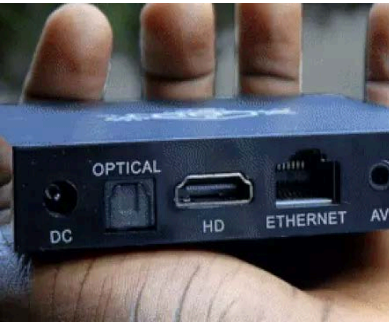
The pact signals a new way for miners to approach capital raising.

October 21, 2025 | 09:32 am

### RANKED: Top 10 automakers by battery cobalt spending

Congo's export quotas have lit a fire under cobalt prices and spending on the battery material is up 51% year on year despite ongoing thrifting.

[Load more news >](#)



### Why Everyone Is Ditching for This \$39 Gadget

TryFlix







October 17, 2025 | 01:10 pm  
Mining Edge: The great gold revaluation

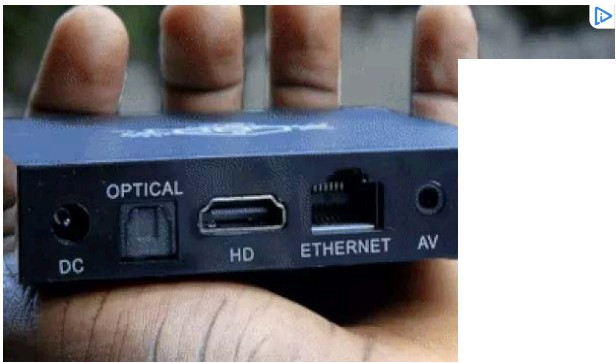


October 16, 2025 | 04:20 pm  
Mining Metrics: Volatility and liquidity define the markets



October 17, 2025 | 12:57 pm  
How the rare earths battle is playing out





Why Everyone Is Ditching  
for This \$39 Gadget

TryFlixy



April 17, 2025 | 07:11 am

Copper and the new resource spheres of control

[More videos >](#)

CHAT · NEWS · ALERTS · WATCHLISTS · RESEARCH

“The community, news  
and insider filings help me  
stay ahead” – Eric Sprott

CEO.CA

SIGN UP HERE