Fastmarkets

Fastmarkets Dashboard User Guide

Short Term Forecasts

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INTRODUCTION

In a time of increased uncertainty critical insight into price forecasts provides the ability to make better informed decisions. Fastmarkets have been providing research analytics for over 30 years and our forecasts are built on a robust methodology which will enable you to plan purchasing or manage inventories; guiding your next decision or negotiation whether you are buying, trading or hedging.

Fastmarkets Short Term Forecasts will allow you to view forecast prices in your current workspace alongside past history in your existing Dashboard charts and quickly access forecast summaries as well as navigate to full research from our analyst team. Understand why prices are at current or past levels as well as a view of how they will develop over the coming months.

ACCESS TO SHORT TERM FORECAST CONTENT

Access to short term forecast content is available as an add on to your existing Fastmarkets data license. If as a subscriber to our forecast content, the below functionality options do not appear in your chart please contact our Client Services team clientservices@fastmarkets.com to check your level of access.

FORECAST METHODOLOGY

Fastmarkets forecasts prices are published monthly for the current and following year for example e.g. in October 2021 – prices are forecasted to the end of 2022. Corresponding commentary will update throughout the month as markets move.

You can find more information about the methodology and modelling for Fastmarkets Forecasts here.

PLOT FORECASTS IN THE PRICE CHART WIDGET

Price forecasts can be plotted alongside existing Fastmarkets published assessments in a Price Chart widget so you can understand the historic assessment price trend and view the forecasted price direction together in one chart.

Search and add price history and forecasts to your chart

Forecasts are available by searching for the "parent" price symbol, no need to search separately. To understand which prices have available forecasts please refer to short term forecast specification documents here.

Click on Add Widget and select Price Chart widget. In this example we will search for Steel reinforcing bar (rebar) domestic, delivered Northern Europe, €/tonne. Begin by type "Steel rebar" and select the filter Product:Steel rebar and narrow your results down by searching for "Northern Europe" and selecting the location filter as per below, click to add the symbol MB-STE-0036 then click Next:
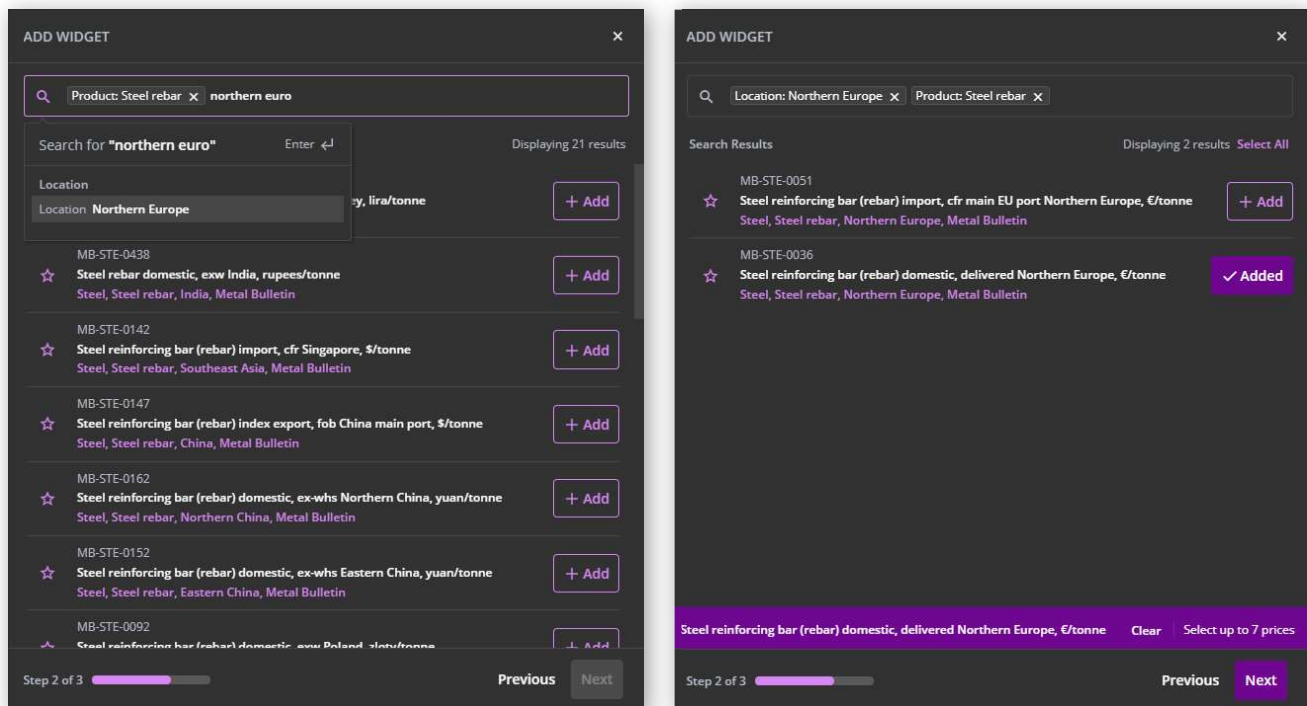
Please note there is no specific search filter for forecast price, ensure you search for the "parent" price.

Select the workspace you wish to add
the widget to and click Confirm or
continue to search and add up to eight
prices to your chart.

You will notice additional menus for
Forecasts and Commentary at the top
menu of the Price Chart widget.
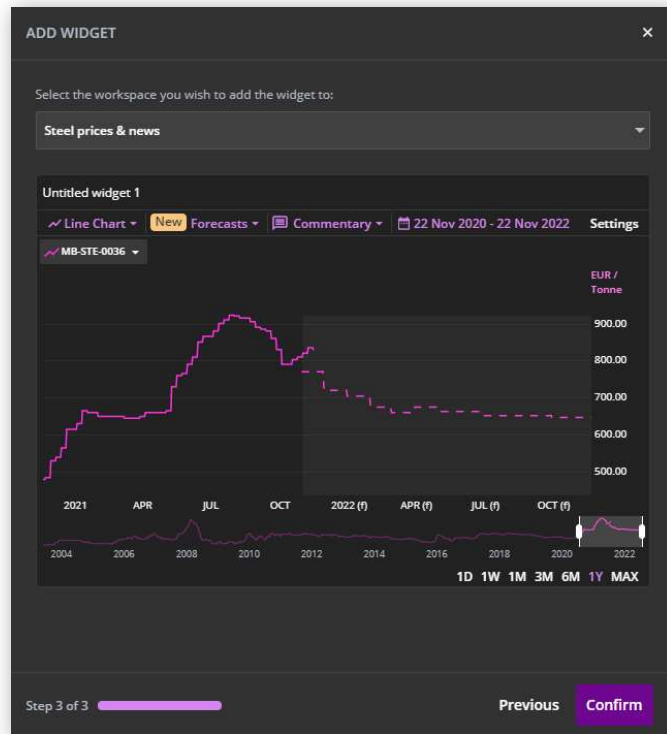
By default the forecast is displayed to the right of the historical price in the lighter grey shaded
area, denoted as a dashed line. , you can easily add the related forecast by toggling on above
chart. By default it loads the full forecast series.

Each dashed line in the chart
displays a monthly price
forecast data point.

VIEW FORECAST COMMENTARY FROM A PRICE CHART WIDGET

Fastmarkets forecasts also provide a commentary or summary which updates during the month giving a view of current factors impacting a price or group of prices.

To navigate from the Price Chart widget to the forecast commentary click on the Commentary menu at the top of the chart and select the symbol you wish to read a commentary for. If you have multiple symbols in the chart those which have a forecast price will have a corresponding commentary available.
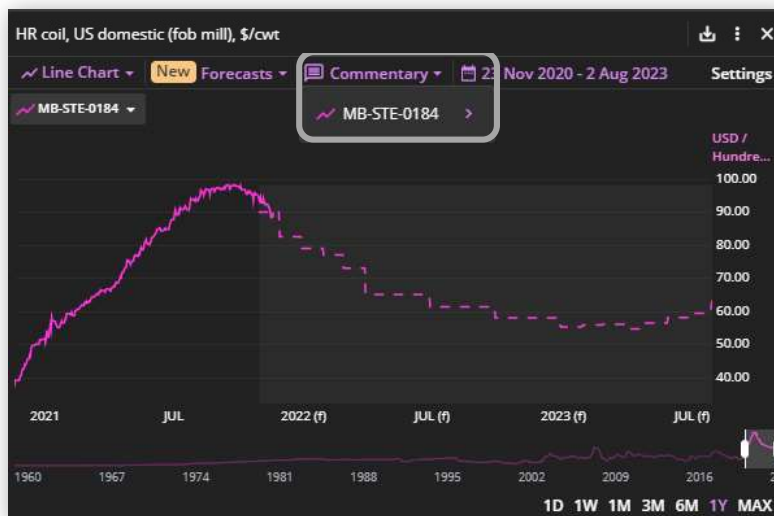
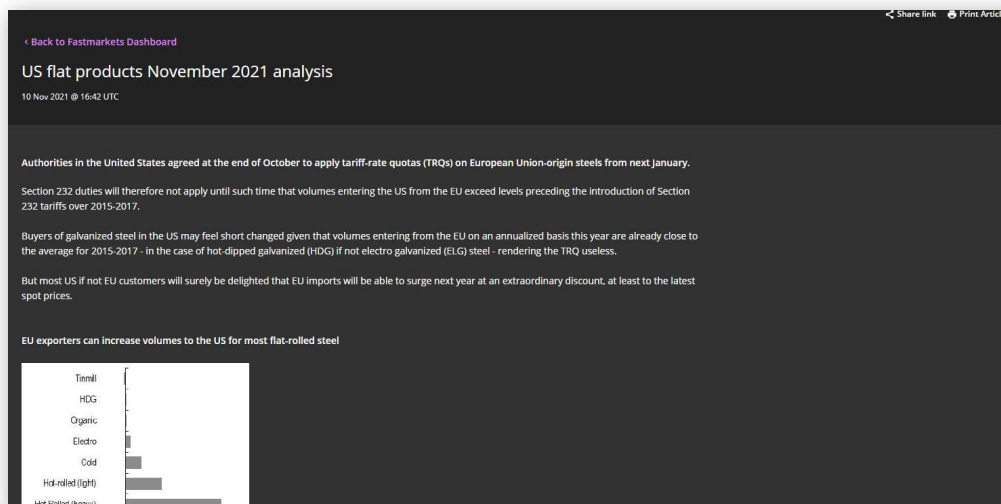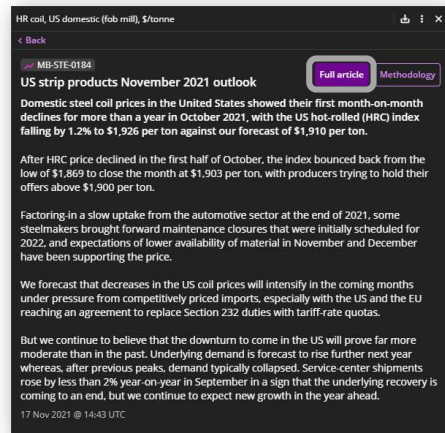## DISCOVER FASTMARKETS MARKET ANALYSIS

Fastmarkets commentary and market analysis provides in depth detail how the previous month's forecasts performed, what changed and why as well as intelligence and analysis from the latest industry events. This in depth market analysis can be found by navigating from the Price Chart widget or through the News List widget.

Access market analysis from the Price Chart widget

To access market analysis from the Price Chart widget, select the Commentary menu and navigate via your chosen symbol to the summary commentary. From here, click on the purple Full article button above the article.

Monthly market analysis provides an in depth outlook for a price or group of prices which may include graphics and data tables.

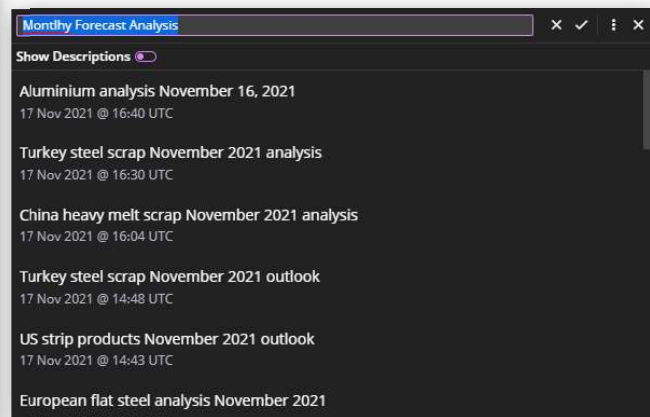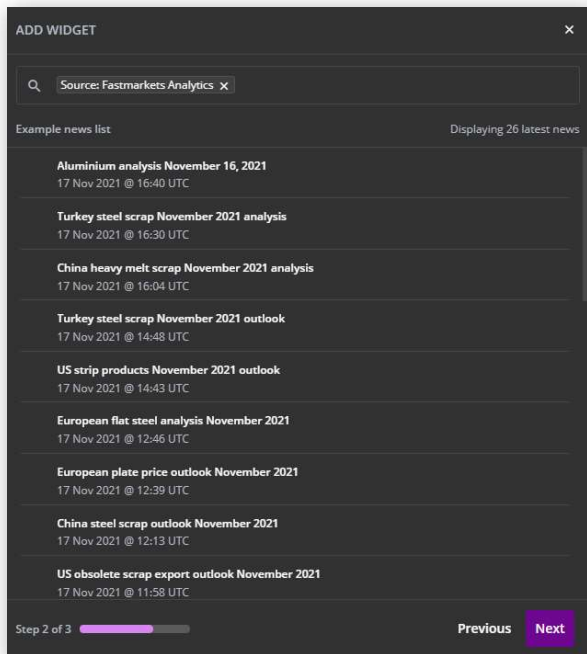If you are using the web version of the Dashboard it will open in a new browser tab.

Add market analysis to the News List widget

Alternatively you can search and add forecast commentary and analysis to the News List widget. Click Add Widget and select News List. In the search bar select source **Fastmarkets Analytics**
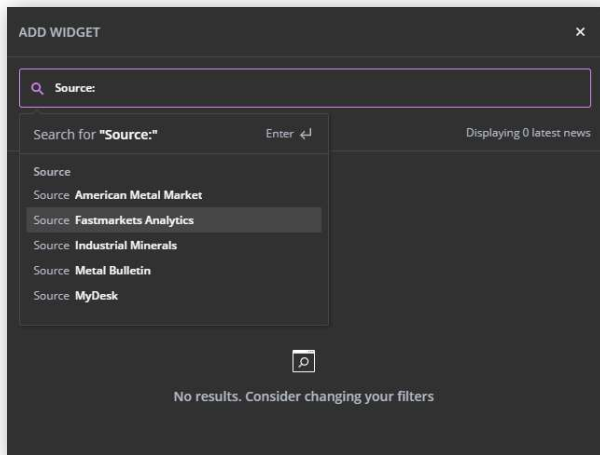
This will return a list of all forecast monthly market analysis and commentary that is available to your based on your access. Click Next, select the workspace you wish to add the widget to and Confirm. You can give the widget a title by clicking and typing into the top left corner.

Click and drag to make the News List widget wider to display the article reading pane:

EDIT FORECAST PRICES IN THE CHART

Hide and display forecast prices on the chart

You can select to hide or display forecast prices in the chart by selecting the slide toggle in the Forecast menu above the chart.
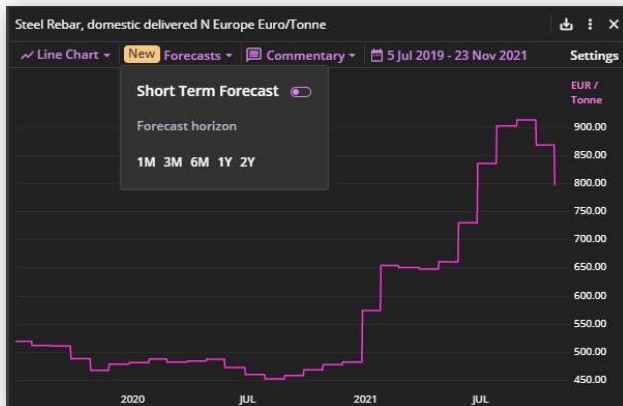
Edit displayed price fields

It is possible to display the midpoint, high, low or both high and low of a price range via the Settings panel. Please note that the forecast prices in your chart are based on the mid price.

EDIT DATE RANGES IN THE CHART

Edit the forecast horizon of the chart

Depending on how far you need to view forecast projects you can amend the horizon from the Forecasts menu above the chart. Select from preset ranges of one mont (1M), three months (3M), six months (6M), one year (1Y) or two years (2Y).
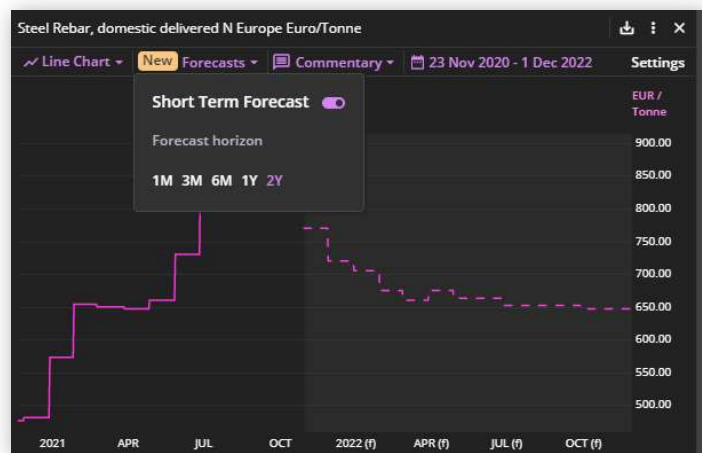
Edit the historical price date range of the chart

By default when adding the Price Chart widget, one year of historical pricing is displayed alongside the full forecast date range, but the date range can be customized in three ways:

1. Select from the pre-configured time-periods below the chart, as shown at right to adjust the historical pricing. For example, click 6M to shorten the assessment price history to the last six months alongside the full forecast prices.

2. Customize the time period by using the calendar. To select the start date:

a. Click into the dates in purple to open the calendar, then use the double arrows to move back in yearly increments or the single arrow to move back in monthly increments. When you have reached the selected month/year click on the start date

b. Repeat step a) to select your end date/month/year (note, if your end date precedes the first forecast date only historical assessment prices will display).

3. Select a time period using the range slider in the sub-chart. In this example the historic price assessment has been extended back to 5th July 2019. The price forecast dashed line resizes to fit the chart.
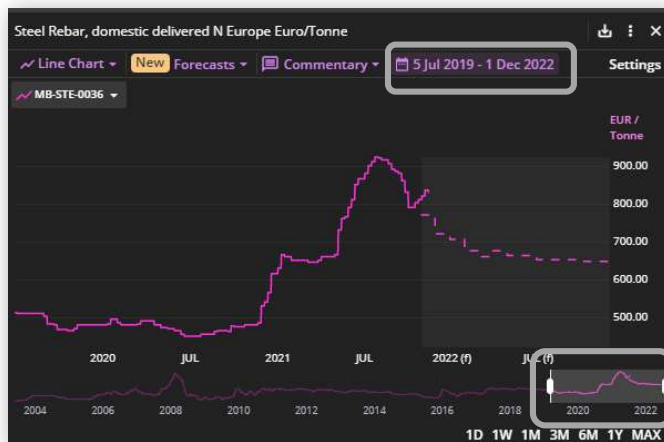
4. View prices for a specific date by hovering your cursor over the lines in the chart. A heads-up display showing the date and prices will appear with a vertical line as the cursor moves over the price lines. Forecast prices are denoted with an "(f)" next to them as per this example:
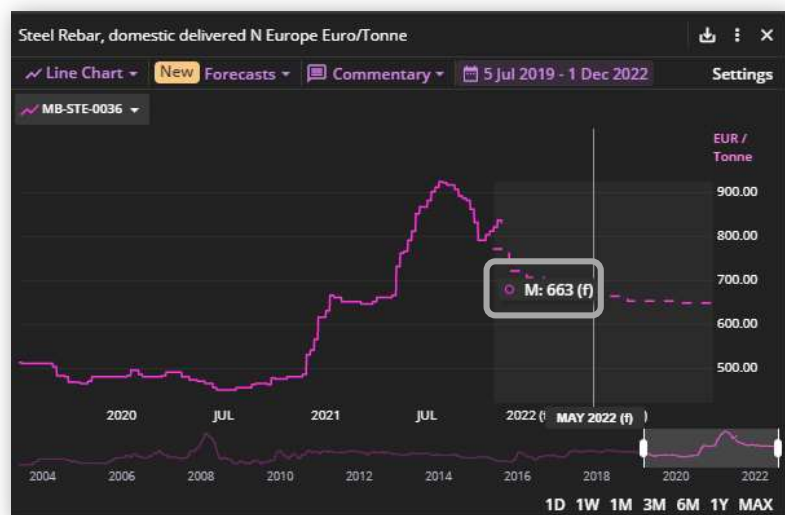
CHART AVERAGE PRICES

You may wish to amend the historical chart to the same frequency as forecasts by plotting monthly averages alongside monthly forecast data. To chart averages for physical prices, click on the drop down against the name in the legend and choose an option.
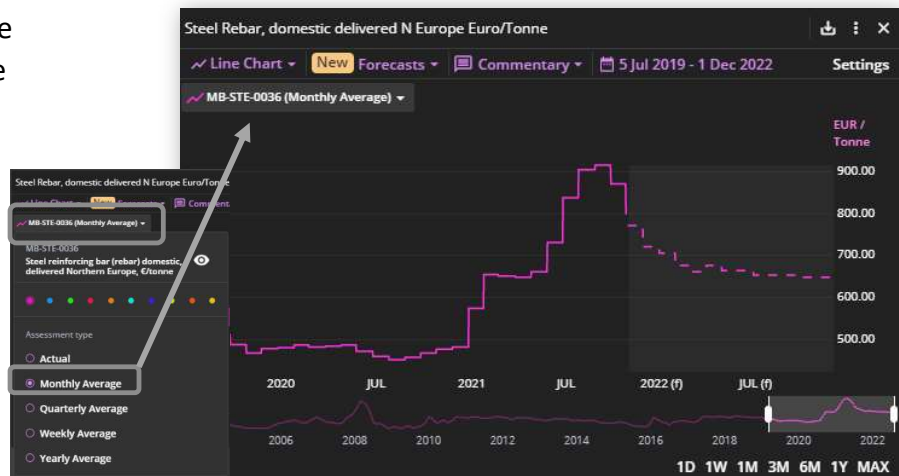
VIEW HISTORIC PRICES IN A DATA TABLE FROM THE PRICE CHART WIDGET

You can view historical prices in a data table without navigating to a different widget or workspace. Click on the Line Chart link above the legend to change the view to Data Table.

Forecast prices appear at the top of the table if you have selected to display them in the chart. They are distinguished from assessed prices with an "(f)" in brackets after the date.
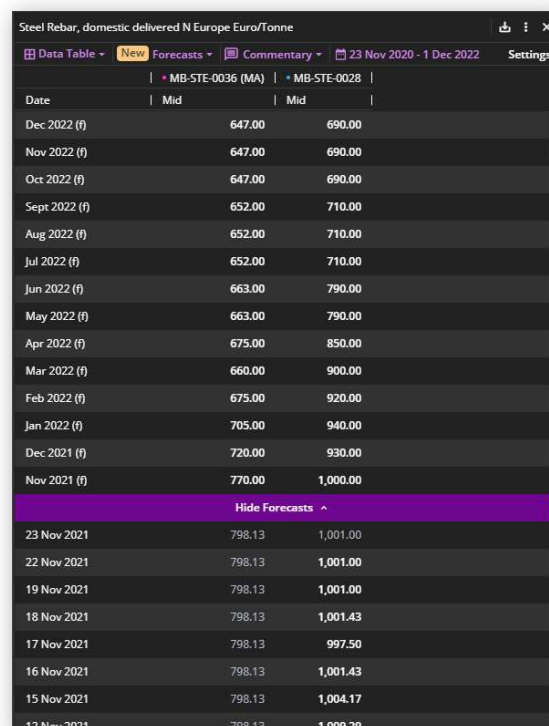
You can hide forecast prices from your table by selecting the Hide Forecasts purple bar in your table. Select Show Forecasts to display again in the table.

Historical assessed prices are displayed in bold white. Prices in gray are the assessed prices repeated across each working date to provide a price where assessment dates may differ. In the example at left, prices are assessed weekly on different days of the week.

Use the Settings panel to amend the price fields to display the Low, Mid or High. You can amend the date range using the preset time periods or the calendar above the table.

To return to the chart display, click Data Table in the top-left corner of the widget, then click Line Chart.

## CONVERT THE CURRENCY AND/OR UNIT OF MEASURE OF FORECAST PRICES

The Dashboard enables you to convert the base currency and/or unit of measure for historic and forecast prices so you can compare them on an apples-to-apples basis. Currency and unit conversion are available in the Price Chart widgets.

The Dashboard uses foreign exchange rates provided by a range of suppliers for current and historical currency conversion. Daily rates on current pricing are provided by Morningstar and update intraday on an hourly basis until 23:00 UTC.

Historical prices are converted using the conversion rate for the day the price was originally assessed, which is provided by different foreign exchange rate providers.

Information on how the Dashboard converts the currency can be found by hovering the mouse over the information icon to the right of the menu or contacting customerservices@fastmarkets.com.

Access the conversion menu
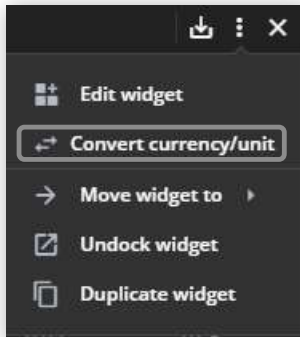
Conversions can be accessed via the widget actions menu, as shown at left.

If using widgets where multiple prices are displayed, the Dashboard will convert all prices to the selected currency and/or unit. Please note that the target currency or unit-of-measure dropdown menus will appear "grayed out" if no conversion is available for any prices in the widget.

Convert currency and unit of measure in the Price Chart widget

To convert the currency and/or unit of measure of prices in a widget, click on the "Widget actions" menu, select "Convert currency/unit" and either select the currency and/or unit of measure you want from the top dropdown menu or type the chosen currency into the Search currencies box (for example, Canada Dollar). Then click Convert.
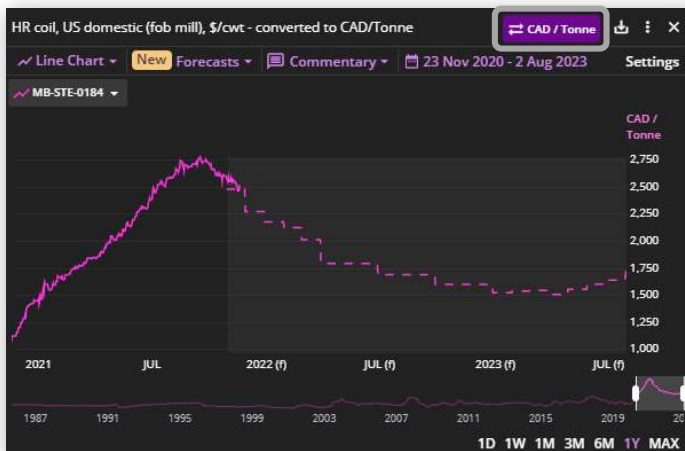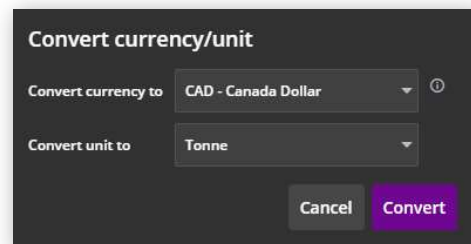
Price history and forecasts will be converted with the currency and/or unit of measure converted to in purple above the chart.

![Fastmarkets]

EXPORT FORECAST PRICES AND IMAGES FROM THE PRICE CHART WIDGET

Data or images may be printed, exported and copied for use in spreadsheets, reports and presentations (as aligned with the terms and conditions of your Fastmarkets data license agreement).

You can copy or export selected prices from Price Chart widget in the following formats:

- Copy values only (static data)
- Export – Comma-separated values (.csv; file saved to Downloads folder)
- Export – Microsoft Excel (.xlsx)
- PNG image (.png)
- PDF document (pdf)

Click the export icon in the top right corner of the widget:
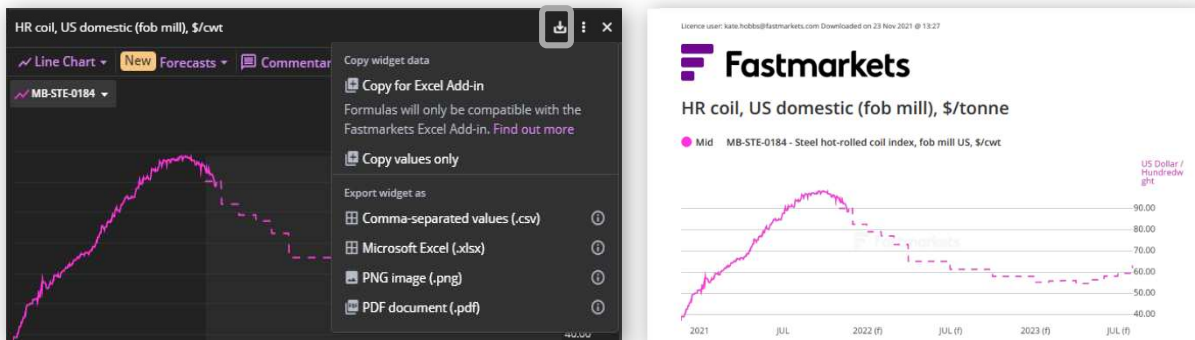
Export prices to Excel

Historic and forecast prices can be copied to Excel selecting the Copy values only option from the Export menu as above to enable you to work with the data in your spreadsheets. This example shows the results pasted into any instance of Microsoft Excel. Forecast prices are denoted with an "(f)" next to the date, actual assessment or average historical prices show their published date.

Please note that this is a copy of static data – it not yet possible to work with the Excel Add-in functions to refresh once a new assessment or forecast is published.

EXPORT, PRINT OR SHARE FORECAST ANALYSIS FROM A NEWS LIST WIDGET

Forecast commentaries and market analysis can be exported and shared with other Dashboard users for use outside of the Dashboard. Click Launch Article and then select the Print Article link to export into pdf format and print. The article will have a white background and show the name of the user who exported it, with the date and timestamp.
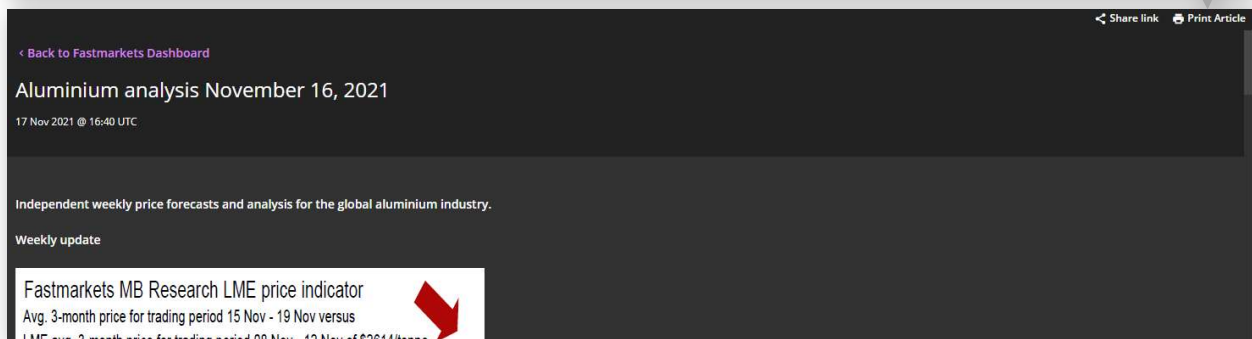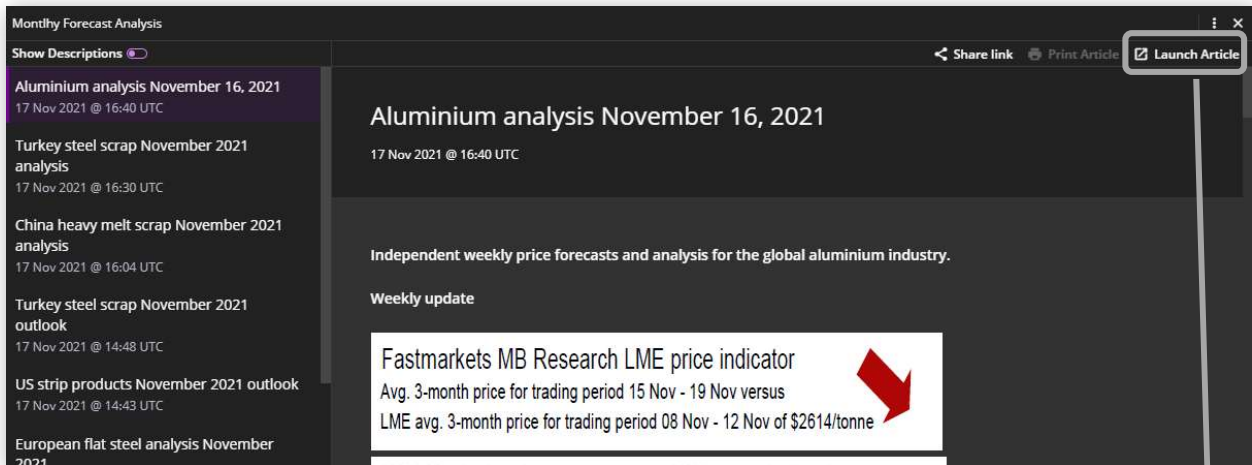
Share commentary and market analysis articles

Forecast commentary and market analysis articles can also be shared with other Dashboard users. The Share link button is at the top right. When you click the link, a temporary message displays telling you that the link has copied to the clipboard. The link can be sent to another Dashboard user via email or a messaging service.

When you share a link with another Dashboard user, they receive a notification to open the link in either the web version or the Installed version of Dashboard.

FURTHER HELP

You may wish to read more about functionality provided in the Price Chart. This can be found on the Dashboard support website - https://www.fastmarkets.com/support/dashboard

If after reading these instructions you have further questions about how to use the Fastmarkets Dashboard, please contact our Customer Success teams or for access/order queries our Client Services team:

- ➢ **Europe, Middle East and Africa: +44 20 3855 5581**
- ➢ **Asia: +65 31 633 458**
- ➢ **Americas: +1 708 329 2641**
- ➢ **Customer Success Email:** customersuccess@fastmarkets.com
- ➢ **Client Services Email:** client.services@fastmarkets.com