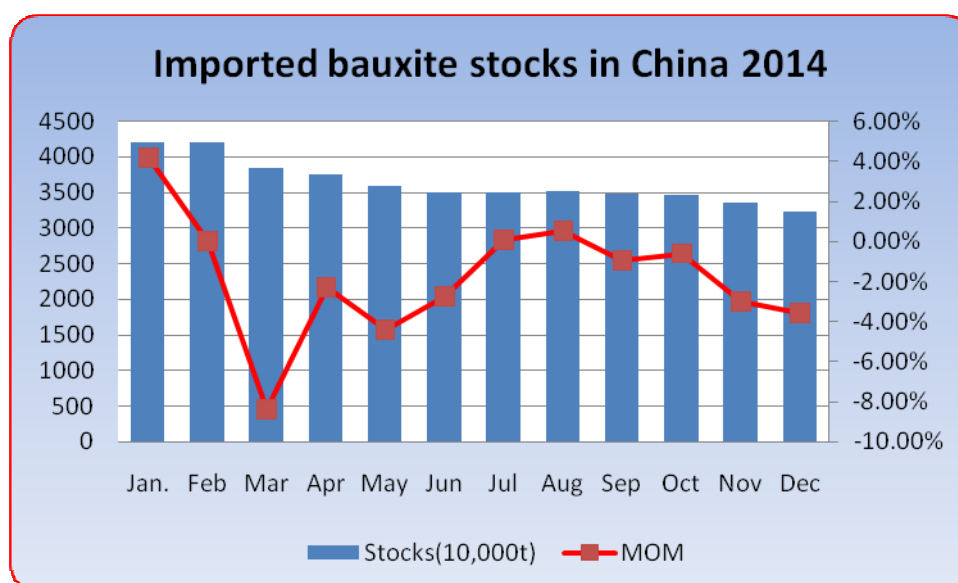


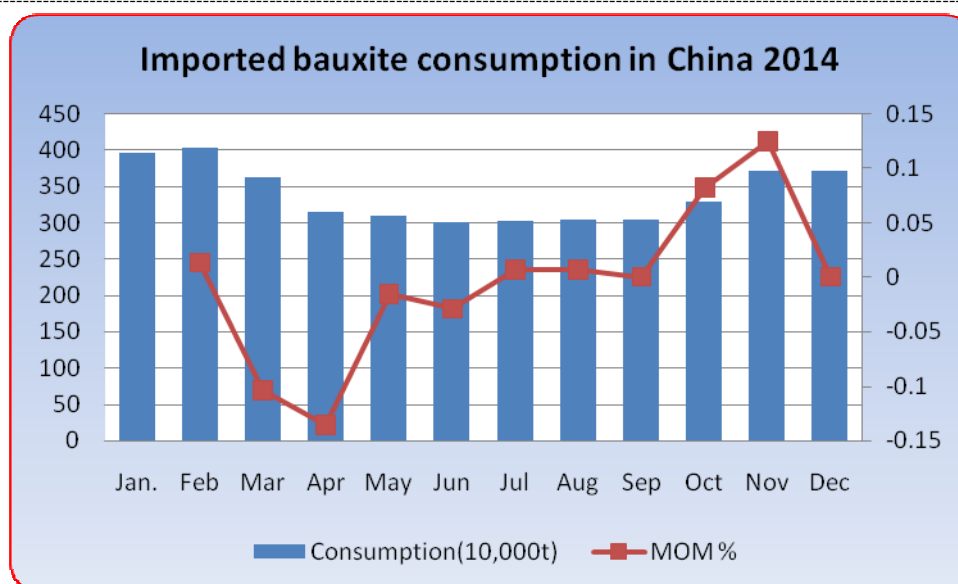
AM Statistics: Chinese imported bauxite stocks down by 3.57% MOM in late December

BEIJING (Asian Metal) 30 Dec 14 - According to data released by Asian Metal, Chinese imported bauxite stocks reduced by 3.57% MOM to around 32.4 million tonnes in late December, 2014. Chinese consumption for imported bauxite became stable at around 3.7 million tonnes in December.



From the above graph, we learn that the imported bauxite stocks have been declining continuously from September to December. In late December, the stocks touched the record low level of 32.4 million tonnes in 2014. From November, some major Chinese alumina refineries in Shandong province increased production, but Chinese imports of bauxite did not rise, so the imported bauxite stocks continued to decrease in December.

Because of the rainy season in Malaysia, Chinese total bauxite imports may go down in December, 2014 and January, 2015. Therefore, the imported bauxite stocks will continue to reduce in the following month.



The consumption for imported bauxite kept steady at around 3.7 million tonnes in December. There will be no more refineries to increase production before the Spring Festival and the demand for imported bauxite will keep unchanged.

According to Asian Metal, Chinese total consumptions for imported bauxite were around 41 million tonnes in 2014. From the above graph, we know that the demand for imported bauxite kept at low levels during April and September, when Chinese alumina refineries cut production because of sluggish alumina market and tight bauxite supply.

In view of the current supply and demand, the imported bauxite stocks in China will be enough for consumption in nine months. However, in the short term, China will still have enough imported bauxite for consumption, as there will be around 2.5 million tonnes of bauxite imports per month on average next year.