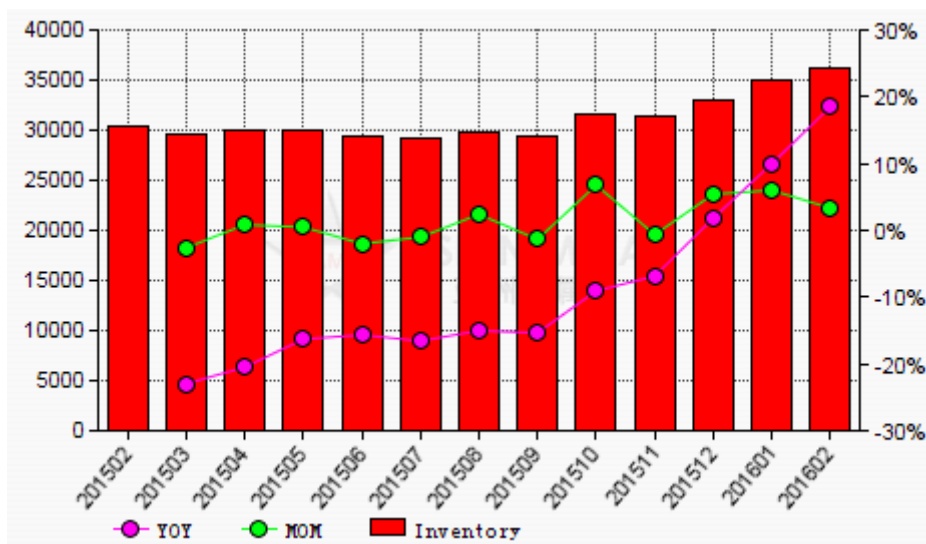


AM Statistics: China's imported bauxite inventories reached 36 million tonnes in late February

BEIJING (Asian Metal) 1 Mar 16 - According to Asian Metal Database, imported bauxite inventories in China climbed up by 3.3% MOM to around 36 million tonnes in late February. Meanwhile, Chinese consumption volume for imported bauxite continued to keep at the low level of around 4 million tonnes, basically the same with that in the previous month.

Unit: 10kt

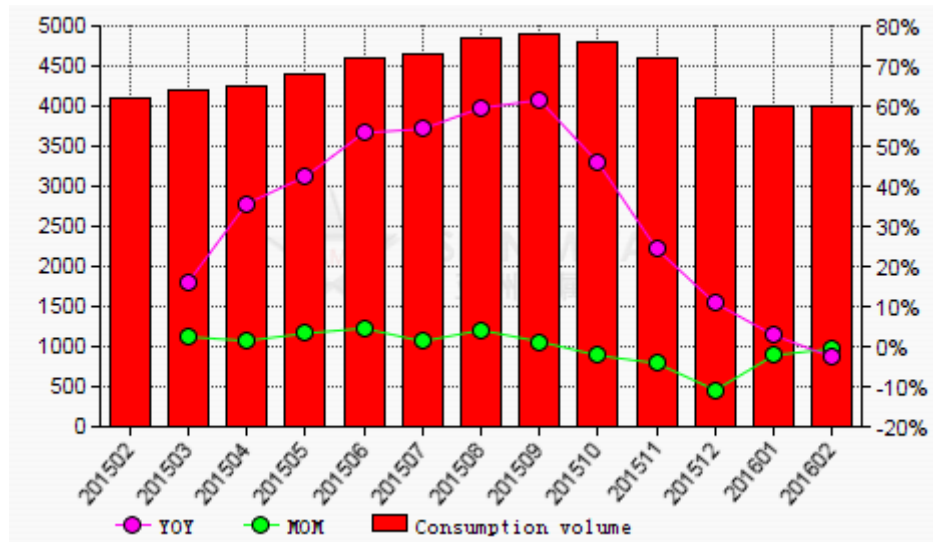


China's imported bauxite inventories by month

In late 2015 and early 2016, Chinese imported bauxite consumers replenished plenty of cargoes at low prices, while demand for the material remained weak, after refineries cut production in China due to sluggish alumina market. From the middle of January 2016, Malaysian bauxite owners suspended mining operation, requested by a new policy. Most owners cleared out stocks during January and February. Malaysian bauxite supplies may drop significantly in March, and bauxite imports from other countries may not increase too much, so imported bauxite inventories may not rise further in the end of March.

From the middle of February, both alumina and primary aluminum prices rebounded in China, but most producers still suffer losses, so alumina refineries have no plan to resume full production, and the demand for imported bauxite may not improve in March.

Unit: 10kt



Chinese demand for imported bauxite by month