QUARTERLY COBALT MARKET UPDATE OVERVIEW 2026 Q2

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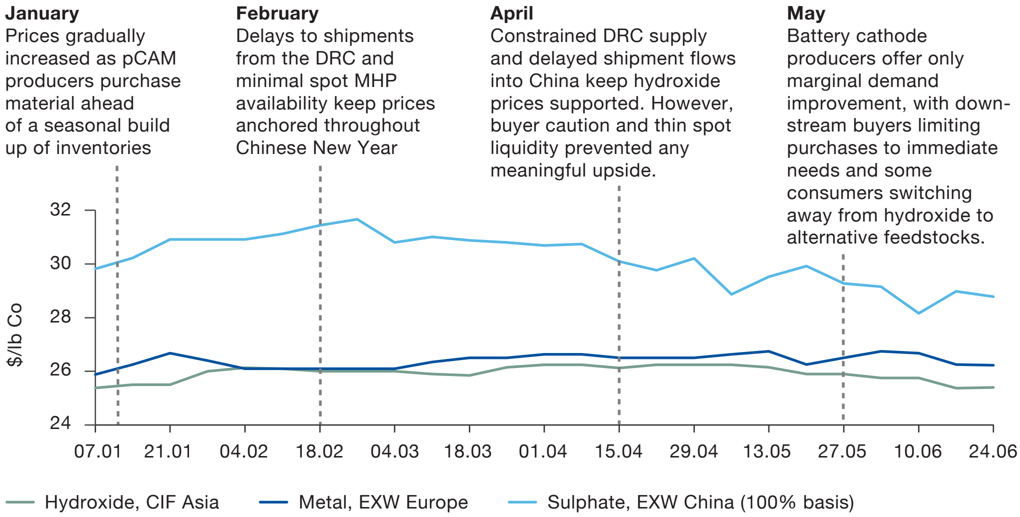
COBALT PRICES SOFTEN AMID WEAK DOWNSTREAM DEMAND AND THIN SPOT LIQUIDITY



Data: Benchmark Mineral Intelligence

Cobalt Hydroxide

Latest Price (24 Jun)	**$25.40/lb**
Change YTD	**$0.02/lb (0.08%)**

Cobalt Metal

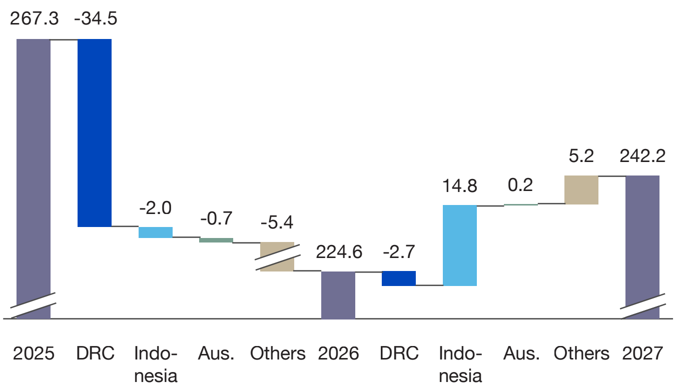
Latest Price (24 Jun)	**$26.23/lb**
Change YTD	**$0.35/lb (1.35%)**

Cobalt Sulphate

Latest Price (24 Jun)	**$28.78/lb**
Change YTD	**-$1.04/lb (-3.49%)**

COBALT OUTPUT DROPS IN 2026 AS DRC MINERS CUT PRODUCTION

Weighted mined Cobalt Supply (2026 vs. 2025 vs. 2024), Unit: kt Co



Data: Benchmark Mineral Intelligence

Total global mine supply in 2026 is estimated at 225kt, including yield losses and disruption allowance, down from of 267kt in 2025. This sharp drop is primarily due to DRC miners cutting production in response to the export quotas. It is important to note that this figure represents mined production and therefore presents a larger mined supply from the DRC than is available to the market.

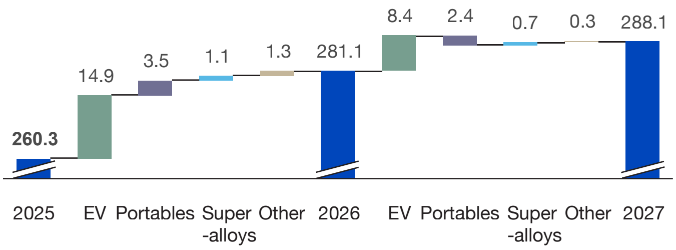
Exports from the DRC are beginning to settle towards a more stable output, with miners sharing that they have exported their full Q4 2025 quota allocation by the end of April. However, truck availability issues due to high copper exports and rising fuel prices still prove to be a pain point.

Indonesian supply is also expected to decline in 2026, as the ongoing sulphur supply disruption from the US-Iran war has led to HPAL operations in the country cutting output. Market participants have shared that based on current usage rates sulphur supplies will begin to run out for some producers in Q3 2026.

Mine supply is expected to grow into 2027 to 242kt. Disruption allowance remains high in both 2026 and 2027 to account for the uncertainty in DRC and Indonesia supply in the short term.

COBALT DEMAND CONTINUES TO GROW

Cobalt Demand (2025-27), Unit: kt



Data: Benchmark Mineral Intelligence | Note: *Demand adjusted for supply chain lags

Demand growth expectations remain robust; 2026 demand is expected to increase by 8.0% y-o-y, and 2027 demand by 2.5% y-o-y.

EV demand remains the key driver of growth for the cobalt market in the short term. EV demand is set to increase by 14.9ktpa in 2026 and by 8.4kt pa in 2027.

Superalloy demand growth is forecast to slow in 2026 compared to 2025, with superalloy demand expected to grow by +5.4% y-o-y in 2026 (compared to +7.5% in 2025). This trend continues into 2027, with 3.4% demand growth expected.

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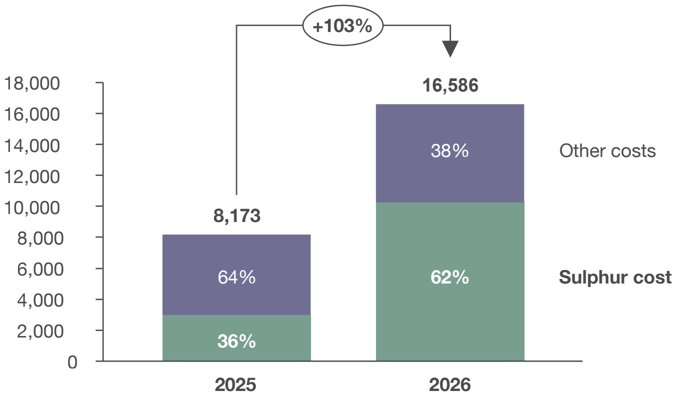
SULPHUR PRICE SURGE SQUEEZES MARGINS AND TRIMS INDONESIA MHP FORECAST

Indonesia Weighted HPAL C1 Costs (inc. by-product cred.),
Unit: $/t Payable Ni



Data: Benchmark Mineral Intelligence

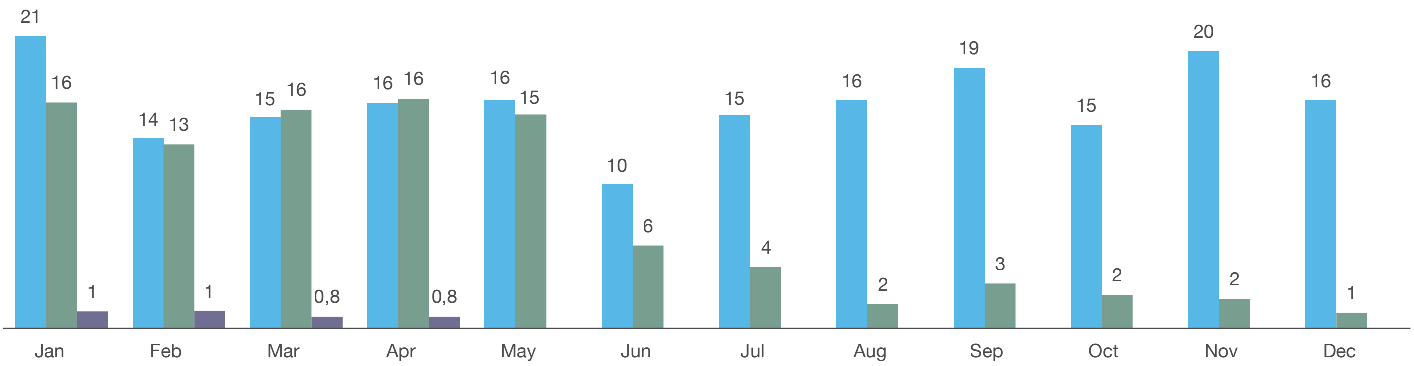
Sulphur supply security has been the driving factor for these large increases. Indonesia imported 5.35Mt of elemental sulphur in 2025 — double its 2023 level — of which approximately 74% came from the Middle East. With the conflict in Iran and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, prolonged disruption has pushed costs higher still and triggered temporary HPAL run-rate reductions to avoid full shutdowns. We have therefore cut our 2026 Indonesia MHP production forecast by 8.9%, from 49.2kt to 44.8kt q-o-q, to account for this disruption.

COBALT OUTPUT DROPS IN 2026 AS DRC MINERS CUT PRODUCTION

Following the export ban in February 2025, the DRC announced cobalt exports would resume under a quota system in October 2025. Organisational delays and assaying irregularities within the DRC prevented miners from exporting material until the end of Q1 2026.

While this will provide some much-needed support for refiners, this supply is only equivalent to approximately one month of historical shipments. Based on the current quota structure, the DRC will only be exporting approximately 8kt of cobalt monthly, including the strategic quota, once the backlog has been worked through. With other major sources of cobalt, like Indonesia, reducing output estimates q-o-q, this presents a significant challenge for refiners in China.

Chinese imports of cobalt intermediates,
Unit: kt



Source: Benchmark, GTT

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