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The Mining Investment Experts

CAPITAL

Weekly Commentary

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Hydrogen starting to show real promise

We have had a strong rally in the first week of 2021. A number of downtrending (mostly gold) stocks have test ed those downtrends and have started to head higher, adopting what looks like shallower uptrends. However, the fall in the gold price on Friday night could test this thesis. While everything looked sweet on Friday afternoon, we could see that these secondary uptrends have a limited life if in fact we are in a bull trap i.e. where charts give a false signal.

The EV and alternative energy stocks surged to new highs last week, particularly the leading lithium stocks. Lithium has been on a bit of a roller coaster ride in recent years with a surging price having led to the development of a number of hard rock mines, only to be followed by oversupply and falling prices. Today, established producers will benefit from growing demand but if this leads to additional price jumps, new projects could put a lid on the price again.

Nevertheless, there is increasingly positive sentiment towards the lithium sector in the near term, aided by the first sustained rise in the lithium carbonate prices in almost three years. We have seen a 12% rise from October to December, to \$6,700/tonne.

Copper enthusiasm has continued to be strong during the week with the red metal hitting an eight year high on US stimulus and positive manufacturing data. Anything electric needs copper, so the enthusiasm for EVs and alternative energy is also providing a good backdrop for demand at a time when there are concerns about security of supply.

UK Energy White Paper re Hydrogen

Just before Christmas, the UK Government released an updated White Paper concerning its strategy to become carbon neutral in energy generation. Amongst other objectives is the plan to generate 40GW of power from offshore wind farms by 2030, enough to power every home in the UK. It quotes a significant drop in the cost of wind power from $\pounds 120$ /MWh to $\pounds 40$ /MWh over the last five years.

There has been strong interest in hydrogen companies in the UK in recent months, so I was particularly interested in what the White Paper had to say on this front.

The UK Government is allocating £240m to advance hydrogen through the Net Zero Hydrogen Fund up to 2024/25, with an aim to have the UK producing 42 TWh of low carbon hydrogen by 2030. The emphasis is on clean green hydrogen as opposed to the 95% of current global production coming from fossil-fuel based methodology. A green hydrogen process captures carbon by-products at the point of manufacture.

Just this week there has been a report that more than 650 homes in Gateshead, near Newcastle, will become the first on the UK public gas grid to be partially heated by hydrogen this year. Up to 20% hydrogen will be blended

into the natural gas network in Q1 of 2021. Eventually it is expected that this will lead to 100% hydrogen heating.

Overseas companies are well advanced

ITM Power

The UK paper offers up ITM Power as a case study, which makes hydrogen from the electrolysis of water using a proton exchange membrane (PEM) process. A proton exchange membrane fuel cell transforms the chemical energy liberated during the electrochemical reaction of hydrogen and oxygen to electrical energy, as opposed to the direct combustion of hydrogen and oxygen gases to produce thermal energy.

ITM is a substantial company with 185 employees and a market capitalisation of £3bn at its recent share price of £538. It recently raised £172m in a placement at £235 a share. It has been a 10 bagger for shareholders over the last 12 months. A recent research note by First Berlin has forecast a small maiden profit for the 2023 year, on revenue of £119m. You can go the the website <u>https://www.itm-power.com</u> for further information, but my point is that this company, the UK Government and the stock market is taking green hydrogen power seriously. In Australia, we should be looking for opportunities in the sector, though any company here will certainly be much smaller and earlier stage.

Ballard Power Systems (NASDAQ:BLDP)

Another company that is also developing hydrogen power, using fuel cells and the PEM process is a Canadian company called Ballard Power Systems Inc. After 40 years of operation it is now working on the eighth generation of its technology. Its main focus is on heavy and medium vehicles where refuelling takes place at centralised depots rather than a wide network of fuelling stations. Rail and marine applications are also being advanced.

Ballard believes that the hydrogen fuel business is at an inflection point with costs having fallen up to 80% over the last decade. Howeer, Ballard is yet to make a profit, even though it generated revenue of \$28m in the quarter to September 2020.

How many mines constantly produce >100 carat sized diamonds?

Have a look at all of the diamonds mines around the world and ask yourself, "*what size of diamonds are they producing and what is their value?*' You will find that the majority of them produce small diamonds that are less than one carat in size, and occasionally they will produce diamonds at 10-20 carats. This is the working man's end of the industry.

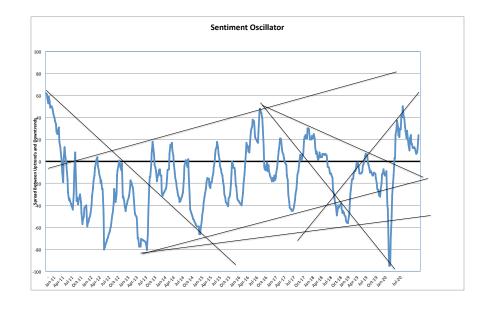
There are probably only three mines in the world that can legitimately claim to be producers of the very high value, + 100 carat diamonds. Lucapa's Lulo mine is one of the three.

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Last Monday, Lucapa announced a 113 carat gem quality diamond had been recovered from Lulo. To emphasis the above point, page two of the release has a diagram showing 16 +100 carat diamonds that have been recovered from Lulo. Admittedly there is a range of quality in these stones, but remember that the 404 carat diamond sold for \$22m.

This latest stone has particular relevance in that it was recovered from Mining Block 46 which is located immediately downstream of the Canguige River. Recall that the Company is assessing a number of kimberlite targets upstream in the Canguige catchment area, having already recovered a couple of diamonds from the bulk testing of one of these targets. Lucapa is gently, gently homing in on the source pipe that could result in a massive re-rating of the share price.

Disclosure: Interests associated with the author own shares in Lucapa Diamond Company had FEC has received capital raising fees.



Sentiment Oscillator: There was a strong improvement in sentiment over the week, but this was measured ahead of the weak gold price in New York, on Friday night. Caution is required for the next few days. There were 54% (45%) of the charts in uptrend and 30% (33%) in downtrend on Friday's close.

Detailed Chart Comments

NB. Only the bold comments have been updated. Comments in grey type are from previous weeks and will be less relevant. Please note that this list is a cross section of the market. It IS NOT a list of recommendations.

Indices	Code	Trend Comment	
All Ordinaries	XAO	new high	
Metals and Mining	XMM	new high	
Energy	XEJ	new high	
Stocks	Code	Trend Comment (updated comments in bold)	Main Interest
Alpha HPA	A4N	testing uptrend	НРА
Adriatic Resources	ADT	holding shallower uptrend	zinc, polymetalic
Aeon Metals	AML	down	copper + cobalt
Alkane Resources	ALK	breached uptrend, heading down	gold, zirconia
Alicanto Minerals	AQI	down	base metals, silver, gold
Allegiance Coal	AHQ	surge through downtrend, then pullback	coking coal

Alliance Resources	AGS	
Alto Metals	AME	
American Rare Earths (was BPL)	ARR	
Apollo Consolidated	AOP	
Arafura Resources	ARU	
Aurelia Metals	AMI	
Australian Potash	APC	
Auteco Minerals	AUT	
BHP	BHP	
Base Resources	BSE	
BBX Minerals	BBX	
Beach Energy	BPT	
Beacon Mining	BCN	
Bellevue Gold	BGL	
Blackstone Minerals	BSX	
Blue Star Helium	BNL	
Boab Metals		
Breaker Resources	BRB	
Buru Energy	BRU	
Calidus Resources	CAI	
Capricorn Metals	CMM	
Caravel Minerals	CVV	
Celsius Resources	CLA	
Central Petroleum	CTP	
Chalice Gold	CHN	
Chase Mining	CML	
Chesser Resources	CHZ	
Cobalt Blue	COB	
Cyprium Metals	CYM	
Dacian Gold	DCN	
Danakali	DNK	
Davenport Resources	DAV	
De Grey	DEG	
E2 Metals	E2M	
Ecograf (was Kibaran)	EGR	
Element 25	E25	
Emerald Resources	EMR	
Euro Manganese	EMN	
Evolution Mining	EVN	
Firefinch	FFX	
First Graphene	FGR	
Fortescue Metals	FMG	
Galaxy Resources	GXY	
Galena Mining	G1A	

Galena Mining

G1A

down	gold predevelopment
down	gold exploration
short term down	rare earths
down	
	gold exploration
new high	rare earths
down	gold + base metals
holding shallower uptrend	potash
down	gold exploration
another new high	diversified, iron ore
new high	mineral sands
holding shallower uptrend	gold exploration
surged higher	oil and gas
sideways	gold production
off its highs	gold exploration
breached downtrend	nickel
spike through downtrend	gas, helium
named change from Pacifico Minerals	silver/lead
testing downtrend	gold exploration
surge higher	oil
down	gold
holding shallower uptrend	gold
steeply higher	copper
strong uptrend	uptrend
sideways	oil/gas
new high	nicklel, copper, PGMs, gold exploration
sideways at lows	nickel/copper/PGE
holding shallower uptrend	gold exploration
strongly higher	cobalt
fallen back to support line	copper
strongly higher	gold
down	potash
rising	potash
shallower downtrend	gold
correcting lower, ST downtrend	gold exploration
pullback	graphite
new high	manganese
steeply higher	gold
on apex of a wedge	manganese
testing downtrend	gold
strongly higher	gold
new high	graphene
rising again	iron ore
new high	lithium
surge higher	lead

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Galilee Energy	GLL	
Genisis Minerals	GMD	
Gold Road	GOR	
Highfield Resources	HFR	
Hillgrove Resources	HGO	
Iluka Resources	ILU	
Image Resources	IMA	
Independence Group	IGO	
ioneer (was Global Geoscience)	INR	
Ionic Rare Earths (Oro Verde)	IXR	
Jervois Mining	JVR	
Jindalee Resources	JRL	
Kin Mining	KIN	
Kingston Resources	KSN	
Kingwest Resources	KWR	
Legend Mining	LEG	
Lepidico	LPD	
Lindian Resources	LIN	
Lithium Australia	LIT	
Los Cerros	LCL	
Lotus Resources	LOT	
Lucapa Diamond	LOM	
Lynas Corp.	LYC	
Mako Gold	MKG	
Manhattan Corp	MHC	
Marmota	MEU	
Marvel Gold (was Graphex)	MVL	
MetalTech	MTC	
Meteoric Resources	MEI	
MetalsX	MLX	
Metro Mining	MMI	
Mincor Resources	MCR	
Musgrave Minerals	MGV	
Myanmar Minerals	MYL	
Nelson Resources	NES	
Neometals	NMT	
Northern Minerals	NTU	
Northern Star Res.	NST	
NTM Gold	NTM	
Oceana Gold	OGC	
Oklo Resources	OKU	
Orecorp	ORR	
Orocobre	ORE	
Oz Minerals	OZL	

	Weekly Commentary
down	oil and gas, CBM
down	gold
holding shallower uptrend	gold
rising	potash
breached support line	copper
strong rise	mineral sands
falling back to support line	mineral sands
surge through resistance line	gold
steeply higher	lithium
new high	rare earths
rising again	nickel/cobalt
on support line	lithium
testing uptrend	gold
rising gently	gold
back to support line	gold
down	nickel exploration
new uptrend forming	lithium
trying to recapture uptrend	bauxite
rising	lithium
holding shallower uptrend	gold exploration
firmer	uranium
breaking downtrend	diamonds
new high	rare earths
down again	gold exploration
down	gold exploration
drifting lower	gold exploration
down	gold exploration
testing downtrend	gold
rising	gold exploration
strongly higher	tin, nickel
at lows	bauxite
rising	gold/nickel
down	gold exploration
breaching downtrend	lead, zinc, silver
new high	gold exploration
rising	lithium
back to support line	REE
breached downtrend	gold
new high	gold exploration
surge through downtrend	gold
down	gold expl.
rising again	gold development
rising	lithium
at recent highs	copper

Pacific American Holdings	PAK
Pantoro	PNR
Panoramic Res	PAN
Peak Resources	PEK
Peel Mining	PEX
Peninsula Energy	PEN
Poseidon Nickel	POS
Pensana Metals	PM8
Perseus Mining	PRU
Pilbara Minerals	PLS
Polarex	PXX
Queensland Pacific Metals	QPM
Ramelius Resources	RMS
Red5	RED
Red River Resources	RVR
Regis Resources	RRL
Renergen	RLT
Resolution Minerals	RML
Resolute Mining	RSG
RIO	RIO
Rumble Resources	RTR
Salt Lake Potash	SO4
Saracen Minerals	SAR
St Barbara	SBM
Sandfire Resources	SFR
Santos	STO
Saturn Metals	STN
Sheffield Resources	SFX
Sky Metals	SKY
St George Mining	SGQ
Silex Systems	SLX
Silver Mines	SVL
Sipa Resources	SRI
Stanmore Coal	SMR
Strandline Resources	STA
Sunstone Metals	STM
Talga Resources	TLG
Technology Metals	тмт
Tesoro Resources	TSO
Theta Gold Mines	TGM
Thor Mining	THR
Tietto Minerals	TIE
Titan Minerals	ТТМ
Vango Mining	VAN

	Weekly Commentary
down	coal
sideways through downtrend	gold
holding shallower uptrend	nickel
correcting	rare earths
new uptrend forming	copper
surge out of downtrend	uranium
breached uptrend	nickel
new high	rare earths
holding shallower uptrend	gold
new high	lithium
down	polymetallic exploration
holding shallower uptrend	nickel/cobalt/HPA
rallying	gold production
holding shallower uptrend	gold
new high	zinc
down	gold
back to support line	gas, helium
sideways at lows	gold exploration
testing downtrend	gold
new high	diversified, iron ore
rallied to resistance line	gold exploration
down again	potash
down	gold
secondary downtrend	gold
breached downtrend	copper
strongly higher	oil/gas
secondary downtrend	gold exploration
rising	mineral sands
back in downtrend	gold exploration
down	nickel
steeply higher	uranium enrichment technology
on support line	silver
down	general exploration - Ni,Cu, Co, Au
breached steepest downtrend	coal
still in downtrend	mineral sands
down	
fallen back to support line	graphite
surge out of downtrend	vanadium
down	gold exploration
uptrend	gold
down	gold exploration
down	gold
sideways	gold
down	gold

Far East Capital Ltd - 9 January 2021 Weekly Commentary VXR Venturex zinc Vimy Resources VMY steeply higher uranium WAF West African Resources holding shallower uptrend gold Westgold Resources WGX rising again gold wwi West Wits Mining off its highs gold Western Areas WSA nickel Whitehaven Coal WHC coal Wiluna Mining WMX gold Yandal Resources YRL gold exploration Zinc Mines of Ireland ZMI zinc Totals 54% 80 Uptrend 30% 44 Downtrend 148 Total

Guides to Chart Interpretations

- Charts usually go pass from one trend (up or down) into the other via a period of indecision and uncertainty during which the trend can either recover or change. This period is signified by the orange colour. The orange represent both the greatest risk and greatest reward possibilities.
- Once a chart is in confirmed up or downtrends it is not uncommon for 10-20% of that trend to have already transpired.
- There are trends within trends. The focus of this chart review is the immediate trend that affects the sentiment i.e. it can be a downtrend within a long-term
 uptrend.
- Not every chart warrants a new comment every week. The new comments are in bold type. Grey type comments may be dated.
- Individual charts provide a single view. It is valuable to look at charts of other companies in similar commodities, and the overall sentiment is also very
 valuable. Not many stocks can swim against the tide.
- We periodically add or delete charts, some times for obscure reasons. If a chart consistent gives poor signals or is very erratic, we may delete it. Sometimes we add a chart because we want to see what all the fuss is about. We do have a preference for charting stocks that we cover in our research as well.
- Errors and omissions may occur from time to time, especially in fast moving markets.

Amber Lights in Tables: Just a reminder if when the amber light is used in the table – it is when the charts are ambiguous or when there is a change of trend taking place. If a chart is breaching a downtrend it can either be a positive sign or a trap. Only once it has done more work can it be confirmed as a new uptrend. Maybe it is a new uptrend (or conversely a new downtrend); the risk takers can decide to jump on board early (or sell). They will maximise their profits (or minimise their losses if indeed it is the start of the new uptrend (downtrend). More risk-averse investors should wait a little longer, being prepared to give up some of the gains in return for greater certainty.

Weightings of Sectors Represented in the Company Charts			
Sector	No. of Companies	Weighting	
Gold	37	25.0%	
Gold Exploration	26	17.6%	
Nickel	12	8.1%	
Oil/Gas	7	4.7%	
Lithium	8	5.4%	
Zinc/Lead	7	4.7%	
Rare Earths	7	4.7%	
Copper	9	6.1%	

	-		
Mineral Sands	5	3.4%	
Iron Ore/Manganese	5	3.4%	
Potash/Phosphate	5	3.4%	
Coal	4	2.7%	
Uranium	4	2.7%	
Graphite	2	1.4%	
Bauxite	2	1.4%	
Silver	2	1.4%	
Cobalt	1	0.7%	
Tin	1	0.7%	
Diamonds	1	0.7%	
Other	3		
Total	148		

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