



Enterprise  
Singapore

# COMMODITIES ASIA SUMMIT



**FT Commodities Asia Summit**  
**16 & 17 November, 2021**  
**Digital (SGT/ GMT+8)**

**The times shown on this agenda are for Singapore Time (SGT/ GMT+8) and UK (UK/GMT+0).  
If you are not in these time zones, please ensure that you join on your local time zone.**

## Overview

As big economies regained momentum after the Covid crisis, raw material prices soared, fuelling talk of a new commodities supercycle. With governments across the world pouring trillions of dollars into green infrastructure packages and recovery programmes the outlook for the commodity trading industry looks brighter than ever. But what tactics and strategies are needed to thrive in this new environment. Is a pivot to renewable energy and battery metals the right move? Is there money to be made as oil majors and miners pull back from fossil fuels? And how should the industry think about the technology and the increased focus sustainability?

In collaboration with Enterprise Singapore, the FT Commodities Asia Summit will feature the industry's biggest names tackling the questions that matter most and offering their insights on a tumultuous year.

## Agenda:

**Chair: Neil Hume, Natural Resources Editor, *Financial Times***

### 16 November 2021

**2:00 PM SGT/GMT +8/ 6:00 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Welcome from the FT**

**Neil Hume, Natural Resources Editor, *Financial Times***

**2:05 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 6:05 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Opening Keynote Address**

**Gan Kim Yong**, Minister for Trade and Industry, *Republic of Singapore*

**2:20 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 6:20 AM UK/GMT+0**

**A View from the Top**

**Jeremy Weir**, Executive Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, *Trafigura*

in conversation with

**Neil Hume**, Natural Resources Editor, *Financial Times*

**2:50 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 6:50 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Is there anything super about this commodity price cycle?**

Can post pandemic recovery programmes and green infrastructure investment, drive a prolonged period of high raw material prices? This is the key question facing the natural resources industry and one that will determine where hundreds of billions of dollars of capital are invested over the next decade. Commodity bulls reckon prices will remain high as countries around the world announce stricter climate policies and new sources of supply become more difficult to find. However, the bears say demand in China is slowing and Europe's Green Deal and Joe Biden's American Jobs Plan are no game changers for metals demand.

**Moderator: Neil Hume**, Natural Resources Editor, *Financial Times*

**Ben Cleary**, Partner, *Tribeca Investment Partners Asia*

**Ric Deverell**, Chief Economist and Head of Macro Strategy, *Macquarie Group*

**David Franklyn**, Executive Director and Head of Funds Management, *Argonaut Funds Management*

**Dato Yeo How**, President, *Apical Group*

**3:35 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 7:35 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Strategic commodities and great power rivalry**

As the world moves to renewable energy and electric vehicles, China has stolen a march on the West. Not only has Beijing tied up supplies of strategic commodities such as cobalt lithium and rare earths but it also controls the processing of these critical raw materials. Given simmering trade tensions, relying solely on China for these key commodities is not an option for the US and its allies. But how should they respond? Do they need to develop indigenous sources of supply or work more closely with resource rich countries in other parts of the world to lock in these minerals?

**Moderator: Neil Hume**, Natural Resources Editor, *Financial Times*

**Dr Andrea Cabrero Vilatela**, Director of R&D, *Urbix Resources*

**Peter Handley**, Head of the Energy-Intensive Industries and Raw Materials Unit, *European Commission*

**Amrith Ritoe**, Independent Critical Minerals Expert

**Dr Nora Schlenzig**, Director, *Veracity Worldwide*

**4:10 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 8:10 AM UK/GMT+0**

**The future of coal in a carbon constrained world**

Thermal coal is burning brightly again with benchmark prices in Asia hitting the highest level in more than a decade, amid strong demand from China and a dearth of new supply due to funding constraints. At the same time, big mining houses are looking to exit fossil fuels, creating potentially lucrative opportunities for investors with the ability to own and invest in thermal coal. But who are the new players? And how do they and others see the outlook for this commodity unfolding, particularly in Asia where it remains a key source of affordable power.

**Moderator: Neil Hume**, Natural Resources Editor, *Financial Times*

**Paul Flynn**, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, *Whitehaven Coal*

**Dmitry Popov**, Senior Coal Analyst, *CRU*

**Hendri Tan**, Marketing Director, *PT Adaro Indonesia*

**Ernie Thrasher**, Chief Executive Officer, *Xcoal Energy & Resources*

**4:55 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 8:55 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Asia's steel conundrum**

Steel is one of the heavy industrial sectors that will have to adapt if countries in Asia are going to meet their net zero commitments? But how can this huge sector reduce emissions and become more sustainable? Scrap and recycling has a part to play but can't do all of the lifting. Clean Hydrogen can be used to make low carbon steel but scaling up this alternative energy source also presents challenges. These include a massive expansion in renewable energy infrastructure and also the availability of high quality iron ore. And what about technology? Can it play a part in making blast furnaces less polluting and more productive?

**Moderator: Neil Hume**, Natural Resources Editor, *Financial Times*

**Rebecca Campbell**, Partner, Mining & Metals, *White & Case LLP*

**Tadeu Carneiro**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, *Boston Metal*

**Jim North**, Interim CEO, *Ferrexpo plc*

**Simon Farry**, Vice President - Sales & Marketing, Iron Ore, *Rio Tinto*

**Dr Martin Pei**, Executive Vice President & CTO, *SSAB*

**5:35 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 9:35 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Keynote**

**Robert M. Friedland**, Founder and Executive Co-Chairman, *Ivanhoe Mines*

In conversation with

**Neil Hume**, Natural Resources Editor, *Financial Times*

**6:00 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 10:00 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Closing Session**

Analysis of the day's discussion

**17 November 2021**

**2:00 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 6:00 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Opening Keynote Session**

**Vandita Pant**, Chief Commercial Officer, **BHP**

in conversation with

**Neil Hume**, Natural Resources Editor, **Financial Times**

**2:30 PM SGT/GMT +8/ 6:30 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Sustainable Food Systems**

Agriculture also has a crucial part to play in the energy transition, tackling climate change and protecting the planet. The challenge of feeding the increasing population at the same time as reducing the environmental footprint of farming and the production of crops like palm oil and rubber is going to require new approaches, thinking and technology. Singapore, for example, is fast becoming a hub for startups hoping to break into the fast-growing market for cell-based meat. As the world looks for more sustainable sources of food these are innovations that can't be ignored.

**Moderator: Emiko Terazono**, Commodities Correspondent, **Financial Times**

**Alexandra Experton**, Sustainability Strategy Implementation Lead, Agriculture Supply Chains and Food Ingredients, **Cargill**

**Dr Sandhya Sriram**, Group CEO & Co-Founder, **Shiok Meats Pte Ltd**

**Olivier Tichit**, Director of Sustainability, **Musim Mas Group**

**Vishal Vijay**, Director, Strategic Investments, **Agrocorp International**

**David Yeung**, Founder & CEO, **Green Monday Group**

**Xin Yi Lim**, Executive Director, Sustainability and Agricultural Impact, **Pinduoduo**

**3:20 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 7:20 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Keynote**

**Mike Muller**, Head of Asia, **Vitol**

in conversation with

**Neil Hume**, Natural Resources Editor, **Financial Times**

**3:50 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 7:50 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Carbon - the next big commodity market?**

Carbon trading is capturing the attention of the natural resources industry as governments consider mechanisms to price harmful greenhouse gases. Some believe it has the potential to be a bigger market than crude oil as big corporations also look for ways to reduce their carbon emissions. This means commodity traders will also have to look at the voluntary carbon offset market, which is growing quickly but still lacks common standards and infrastructure. But what skills will be needed to thrive in this market and how does it fit with the increased focus on power trading, which some traders expect to become a core competency for their businesses in the years to come.

**Moderator: Tom Wilson**, Senior Energy Correspondent, **Financial Times**

**Michael Curran**, Head of Carbon and Environmental Products, **Vitol**

**Andrew Glass**, Head of Sales & Partnership, **Viridios Capital**

**Anthony Milewski**, Chairman, **Nickel 28**

**Thomas McMahon**, Co-founder and CEO, **AirCarbon Exchange**

**4:30 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 8:30 AM UK/GMT+0**

**What are the future facing commodities of the energy transition?**

What are the future facing fuels and commodities that will be needed in the energy transition? Copper and metals like nickel, cobalt and lithium all have a bright future but what are the prospects for more niche commodities like sustainable aviation fuel, renewable diesel, ammonia and hydrogen?

**Moderator: Neil Hume**, Natural Resources Editor, *Financial Times*

**Nick Clarke**, Founder & Chairman, *Curzon*

**Dr Graham Cooley**, Chief Executive Officer, *ITM Power*

**Dr Huw McKay**, Vice President, Market Analysis & Economics, *BHP*

**Jonathan Wood**, Vice President Europe, Renewable Aviation, *Neste*

**5:15 PM SGT/GMT +8 / 9:15 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Focus: Commodity Trade Finance**

2021 has brought new challenges for the commodity trade finance industry. Surging metal and energy prices have increased the working capital needs of commodity traders, testing the appetite of lenders following recent scandals. With raw material prices expected to remain volatile the relationship between borrower and lender will need to be closer than ever.

**Moderator: Neil Hume**, Natural Resources Editor, *Financial Times*

**Baldev Bhinder**, Partner, *Blackstone & Gold*

**Stephan Jansma**, Chief Financial Officer, Asia Pacific, *Trafigura*

**Samuel John Mathew**, Global Head of Flow and FI Trade, Transaction Banking, *Standard Chartered*

**Nigel Scott**, Managing Director, Global Head Structured Trade and Commodity Finance, *Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC)*

**Kris Van Broekhoven**, Chief Financial Officer, *Komgo*

**6:00 PM SGT/GMT +8/10:00 AM UK/GMT+0**

**Closing Session**

Analysis of the day's discussion

**Neil Hume**, Natural Resources Editor, *Financial Times*

**Close of Summit**

© *Financial Times* 2021