



February 24, 2025

## Flagship Conference Kicks Off in San Diego



Hundreds gather to toast zinc at the welcome reception for the 2025 International Zinc & Zinc Oxide Conferences.

The 2025 International Zinc & Zinc Oxide Conferences opened last night in San Diego with an Advisory Board meeting followed by a reception. The next three days will feature presentations from a number of renowned market analysts and industry leaders with time allotted for business meetings and networking events. IZA will provide daily updates on its social channels, and Media Partner [Fastmarkets](#) will provide conference coverage in addition to a [presentation](#) led by reporters Rae Boyadjis and Natasha Porter.



A new IZA market analysis delivers a forecast for 22% growth for zinc in the automotive sector.

## Zinc Steers the Way to Success in Cars

IZA's latest market analysis takes a deep dive into zinc's role in galvanized auto steel through 2030. Bolstered by the latest research from IZA's [Galvanized Autobody Partnership](#) as well as data collected and assessed from other sources, the Technology & Market Development team evaluated automotive and technological trends to develop the forecast, while accounting for the evolving use of multi-materials and the increasing sale of electric vehicles.

This market forecast focuses on the main autobody structure in all cars as well as the battery racks used in electric vehicles. The assessment excludes zinc used in interior die cast parts and zinc oxide used in tires. In determining the outlook for zinc, IZA researchers considered the following key factors:

- Lightweighting of vehicles
- Car production rate, per major area
- New technologies, including Third Generation and lightweight steels
- New zinc alloy coatings
- Growing electric vehicle market and expanded use of steel in electric vehicles
- Increased use of galvanized steel in developing automotive markets
- Growth in average vehicle size

The results were encouraging for zinc demand through 2030, particularly with a growing reliance on zinc in electric vehicles, the addition of new zinc alloys and lighter yet stronger automotive steels, and the dramatic increase in car sales and galvanization of auto steel in both China and India. This 15-page research asset is available to members upon request. An abbreviated outlook, *Zinc in The Automotive Sector: Driving Demand Through Value*, is available on the [IZA publications page](#).

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Boliden Smelters President Daniel Peltonen advocated on behalf of the zinc industry before Members of European Parliament on Metals Day 2025 in Strasbourg.

## Spotlight on Europe: Advocating for Zinc

A new year marks the start of the advocacy season for IZA in the European Union, where the IZA is monitoring regulations relevant to the zinc industry, and in 2025, IZA is laser-focused on passage of key initiatives including the Clean Industrial Deal and the Metals Action Plan.

The Clean Industrial Deal, which is due to be launched on February 26th, will be the first major policy initiative by the new European Commission, aimed at boosting competitiveness and decarbonizing the economy. IZA is advocating for recognition of the importance of a strong, sustainable, and resilient industry in Europe.

The IZA team is leveraging its influence on these issues by collaborating with like-minded organizations whenever possible, and a recent example of this is supporting Eurometaux's Metals Day in Strasbourg, where IZA helped coordinate a delegation of member companies to advocate on behalf of the zinc industry.

Boliden Smelters President Daniel Peltonen participated in an IZA-sponsored joint Members of European Parliament and Industry panel focused on the Clean Industrial Deal, where he addressed strengthening Europe's capacity to produce and process vital raw materials such as zinc and its important coproducts while recognizing the need to balance and promote the dual interests of decarbonization and recycling for the circular economy. The day of interactive programming was concluded by a dinner attended by more than 20 members of European Parliament.

Later in the year, the IZA team anticipates engaging in a number of other new policy areas, including the Metals Action Plan. Advocacy messaging will focus on how zinc and co-metals are vital to the energy transition but need support for affordable energy, new project investment, and reducing the regulatory burden by simplifying the REACH framework while speeding up industrial site permitting.

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## New Opportunities in Life Cycle Assessment and Biodiversity

IZA's Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) program is launching new projects and providing new services for members, responding to increasing demands from downstream users and regulators. Led by LCA Manager [Hemant Sharma](#), IZA has launched LCA projects for remelt zinc and for zinc die casting alloys (ZAMAK).

In addition to a benchmark report comparing the companies' site specific LCA and carbon footprint information with the sector's European average, IZA has developed an interactive dashboard that enables company experts to explore impact opportunities for lowering their environmental footprint. Site specific information, including each company-specific dashboard, is strictly confidential between IZA and each participating company.

If you are interested in learning more about the new dashboard or participating in the LCA studies, please reach out to Hemant Sharma at [hsharma@zinc.org](mailto:hsharma@zinc.org).

IZA also is providing members an opportunity to participate in a webinar on Biodiversity Frameworks for the Metals and Mining Industry, led by [The Biodiversity Consultancy \(TBC\)](#). The need for such programming became clear after IZA cosponsored a TBC project to consolidate information on biodiversity frameworks, standards, and regulations to help the metals and mining industry make sense of this rapidly developing space.

The introductory webinar will provide an overview of major biodiversity frameworks, highlight foundational elements for successful implementation, and examine ongoing efforts towards alignment and harmonization of frameworks. Depending on the level of participation and interest, additional webinars may follow.

IZA members are encouraged to join the [IZA Stewardship Working Group](#) for more information or email Environment Senior Manager [Adam Ryan](#) at [acryan@zinc.org](mailto:acryan@zinc.org) to participate in the webinar on Wednesday, March 5th at 9:00 am EST. The presentation by TBC will be offered to members of IZA, Nickel Institute, International Aluminium Institute, European Precious Metals Federation, and Cobalt Institute.

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