



Forta

Duplex
& other
high strength

Forta FDX 27 - why does it offer a low level of price variation?

Forta FDX 27 is a special type of duplex stainless steel that offers a unique combination of high strength and formability together with excellent corrosion resistance. And unlike more conventional stainless steels, such as 316L, it offers the advantage of a low level of price variation.

The reason why the price of FDX 27 is less subject to variation than other stainless steels is that it contains relatively low levels of alloying elements - such as nickel (2.0 to 4.0%) and molybdenum (0.6 to 1.4%) - that are historically volatile in price. In contrast, 316L contains 10.1% nickel and 2.1% molybdenum.

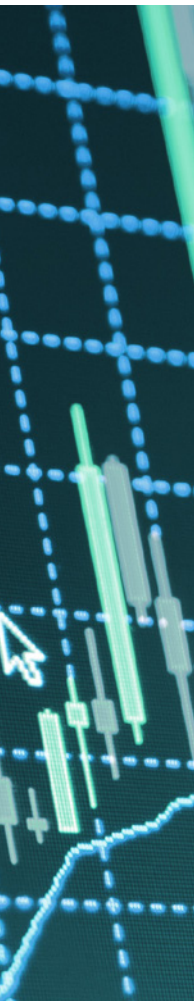


Figure 1 shows how the price of nickel varied by a factor of around 2.6 times over a recent five-year period.

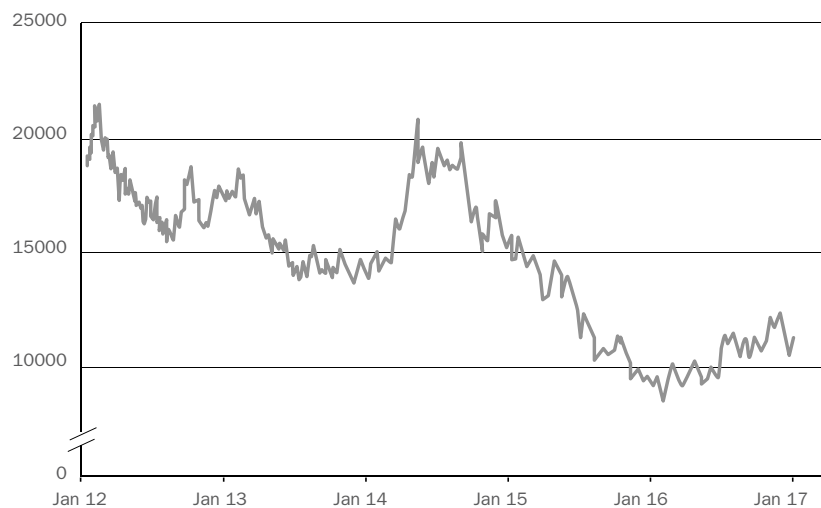


Figure 1 – Nickel price history (USD per metric ton).

Figure 2 shows how the prices of Forta FDX 27 and 316L type stainless steels have varied over the past five years due to fluctuation in alloying costs. The difference between maximum and minimum cost of Forta FDX 27 is approaching 50% of the span for 316L.

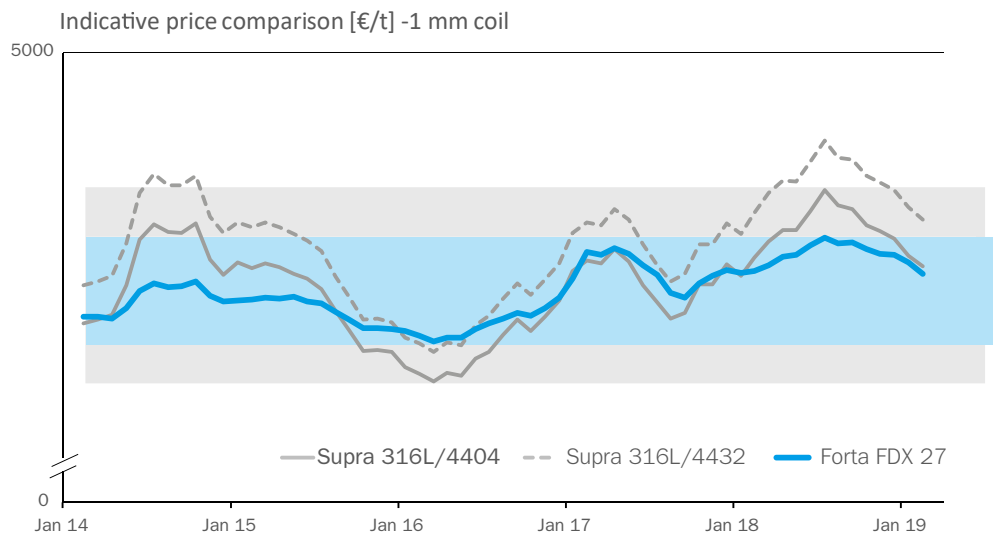


Figure 2 – Price history of Forta FDX 27 and 316L type stainless steels over the past five years.