

Metals & Mining

2Q26 Results: A Strong Quarter, A Structural Toll

Metals & Mining

Q: How did the results compare vs. expectations?

Comfortably above, and for durable reasons. Adjusted EBITDA of R\$1.0bn beat us by 24% and consensus by 7%, with margin at 35.5% — reached while absorbing a 15-day maintenance shutdown at both mine and port that the company had not disclosed and that our preview flagged in advance. The composition matters more than the size: we had realised price and cash cost almost exactly right, so the entire beat came from unit cost of goods sold, well below our number. Sales volume was the fourth-highest in the company's history and exceeded output, drawing down inventory and lifting the share of own ore over margin-diluting third-party purchases — a mix effect, not a price effect. Net income fell short of consensus, however, as the financial result stayed heavier than we had assumed. With the shares already up sharply from their June close, we expect a modest positive reaction rather than a re-rating.

Q: What were the most noteworthy areas in the results?

(+) The cost line is the quarter's real news, and the mechanism repeats even if the magnitude cannot: leaning on own ore over margin-diluting third-party purchases took unit COGS down sharply even as volume rose, but the inventory draw that funded it does not recur, and the volume still owed on guidance comes largely from the third-party ore that reverses the benefit. The arithmetic is worth stating: the company sold 11,849 Kt against 10,880 Kt of production plus purchases, so close to a million tonnes came out of stock, while unit cost of goods sold fell to R\$178/t from the R\$207/t we carried. Neither leg is a price effect, which is why we read the beat as composition rather than as evidence that the margin has reset. (=) Freight behaved exactly as we projected, with the reference route averaging US\$34.0/t and touching roughly US\$38/t at the end of May — we called the level right in the preview and the margin compression followed mechanically from it. (-) The framing we used was wrong, and the correction matters more than the beat. We described the toll as exogenous and transitory. It is exogenous, but not transitory: the peer that sets the reference price carries about three quarters of its freight on long-term charter and under a tenth on spot, while this company is the most spot-exposed name in the sector and publishes the index for that reason. That is a permanent margin beta, not a one-quarter accident, and it belongs in the multiple.

Q: Has the outlook ahead changed?

Yes, and guidance is now the pressure point. Cash cost of US\$24.0/t printed above the top of the company's own full-year range, leaving the first half already through the ceiling on a volume-weighted basis; holding the year requires the second half at or below US\$23.4/t. Volume pulls the other way: first-half output plus purchases leaves roughly 24-26mt still to deliver, or twelve to thirteen million tonnes per quarter, a level the company has never exceeded. The two tests fight each other, because the extra volume needed to reach the range comes largely from third-party ore, which is precisely what inflates unit cost. On price, the reference index has fallen to its lowest of the year, but the largest producer puts roughly 120mt of world supply below cash cost at that level, which supports a floor. If the coal-driven squeeze on Chinese steel margins persists rather than unwinding, that floor argument weakens and the reference price, not the toll, becomes the binding constraint. Capital allocation also shifted: the buyback consumed nearly its full first authorisation before being doubled, and alongside prepayment amortisation took leverage to 0.23x.

Q: Valuation and recommendation

We resume coverage at HOLD with a 12-month target price of R\$5.50, cut from the R\$6.00 reference carried under review. Reducing a target the day after a 24% EBITDA beat needs justifying, and the reframing is the justification: the mix lever behind the beat is real but runs against the volume the company still owes on guidance, while the freight exposure that compressed the margin is structural rather than cyclical, and cash cost has already printed through the top of the company's own range. The new target sits at the median of the marks refreshed since July, so our differentiation moves from the number to the reasoning. At the current price the shares trade near 6.2x our 2026 EBITDA against the 5.9x our target implies — which is to say the market has correctly capitalised the toll as permanent and has, if anything, slightly overpaid for the balance sheet. Inverting the exercise, today's price embeds a mid-cycle margin close to what this quarter delivered under an unusually heavy toll; we no longer regard that as a conservative assumption.

The toll is exogenous but not transitory, and that is the correction: HOLD, target price R\$5.50, with second-half cash cost at or below US\$23.4/t while sustaining twelve million tonnes a quarter as the single test that decides whether the guidance, and the cost story behind it, survives.

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COMPANY

CMIN3 BZ Equity

HOLD

Price: R\$5.79 (Aug 12, 2026)
12M Target Price: R\$5.50 (from
R\$6.00)

MARKET DATA

Market cap	R\$31.5bn
Free float	30.3%
ADTV (3m)	R\$46mn
52-wk range	4.08–6.56
Net debt (2Q26)	R\$1.4bn
Net debt/EBITDA	0.23x (2Q26)

MULTIPLES

EV/EBITDA 26E	6.2x
EV/EBITDA 27E	6.1x
Div. yield 26E	3.7%
Net debt/EBITDA 26E	0.3x

PERFORMANCE

Year to date (YTD)	6%
12 months (LTM)	15%

2Q26 REPORTED

Net revenue	R\$2.9bn
Adjusted EBITDA	R\$1.0bn
Adj. EBITDA margin	35.5%
Total sales	11,849 Kt

1. Financial scorecard — 2Q26 reported vs. Genial Est., R\$ mn

CSN Mineração (R\$ mn)	Reported vs. Est.			q/q change		y/y change	
2Q26 financial scorecard	2Q26	2Q26E	Δ vs. Est.	1Q26	q/q	2Q25	y/y
Net revenue	2,868	2,907	(1.4%)	3,165	(9.4%)	3,406	(15.8%)
COGS	(2,106)	(2,360)	(10.8%)	(2,035)	3.5%	(2,378)	(11.4%)
Gross profit	762	547	39.3%	1,131	(32.6%)	1,028	(25.9%)
<i>Gross margin</i>	<i>26.6%</i>	<i>18.8%</i>	<i>7.8 pp</i>	<i>35.7%</i>	<i>(9.1 pp)</i>	<i>30.2%</i>	<i>(3.6 pp)</i>
SG&A	(102)	(59)	73.6%	(67)	51.5%	(76)	33.8%
Adjusted EBITDA	1,018	821	24.0%	1,420	(28.3%)	1,268	(19.7%)
<i>Adj. EBITDA margin</i>	<i>35.5%</i>	<i>28.2%</i>	<i>7.3 pp</i>	<i>44.9%</i>	<i>(9.4 pp)</i>	<i>37.2%</i>	<i>(1.7 pp)</i>
Equity income	83	40	106.0%	(3)	—	74	12.1%
Financial result	(491)	(206)	138.3%	(626)	(21.6%)	(750)	(34.5%)
Net income	219	142	54.3%	222	(1.2%)	116	89.5%
Cash and capital structure							
CAPEX	(687)	(584)	17.5%	(431)	59.4%	(500)	37.4%
Adjusted FCF	1,100	208	429.4%	(520)	—	767	43.4%
Net debt	1,400	—	—	683	105.0%	(5,100)	—
<i>Net debt/EBITDA</i>	<i>0.23x</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>0.11x</i>	<i>0.12x</i>	<i>-0.90x</i>	<i>—</i>

2. Operational scorecard — volume, price and cost, 2Q26

Volume, price and cost	Reported vs. Est.			q/q change		y/y change	
2Q26 operational scorecard	2Q26	2Q26E	Δ vs. Est.	1Q26	q/q	2Q25	y/y
Production + purchases	10,880	11,327	(3.9%)	10,058	8.2%	11,591	(6.1%)
Total sales	11,849	11,400	3.9%	9,636	23.0%	11,832	0.1%
Realised FOB price (US\$/t)	49.09	50.50	(2.8%)	62.60	(21.6%)	51.90	(5.4%)
C1 cash cost (US\$/t)	24.00	23.90	0.4%	23.10	3.9%	20.80	15.4%
COGS/t (US\$/t)	35.20	41.00	(14.1%)	40.20	(12.4%)	35.50	(0.8%)
C3 freight Tubarão–Qingdao (US\$/t)	33.98	33.80	0.5%	24.83	36.9%	20.85	63.0%
IODEX Fe (US\$/dmt; 61% from 1Q26, 62% before)	105.29	105.00	0.3%	104.00	1.2%	97.76	7.7%

3. Reported vs. Bloomberg consensus — 2Q26, R\$ mn

CSN Mineração	2Q26		
Reported vs.	Reported	Consensus	Δ
Net revenue (adj. vs. gross)	2,868	3,414	—
Adjusted EBITDA	1,018	950	7.2%
<i>Adj. EBITDA margin</i>	<i>35.5%</i>	—	—
EBIT	660	606	8.8%
Net income	219	259	(15.3%)

4. Annual projections — Genial Est. vs. Bloomberg consensus, R\$ mn

CSN Mineração	Genial Est.			
Annual projections	2026E	2027E	2028E	2029E
Net revenue	16,000	15,700	16,200	16,700
Adjusted EBITDA	5,300	5,400	5,800	6,200
Net income	1,800	2,000	2,200	2,400
BLOOMBERG CONSENSUS				
Net revenue	15,449	15,724	16,221	21,845
Adjusted EBITDA	5,240	5,350	5,851	8,546
Net income	1,879	1,835	1,850	3,174

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under Review	Under review	5%

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