

## MARKET ATTRIBUTES®

COMMODITIES DJ-UBS Commodity Index
DECEMBER 2013

# **Key Highlights**

- The DJ-UBS Commodity Index returned 1.2% in December, with YTD returns down 9.5%.
- Energy and industrial metals were the best-performing sectors in the index MTD, up 5% and 4.9%.
- Grains and precious metals were the worst-performing sectors in the index MTD, down 3.9% and 3.7%.

## Market Snapshot

The DJ-UBS Commodity Index was up 1.2% MTD but closed the year down 9.5%, marking its third annual decline. Soybeans, soybean meal, cotton, and crude (Brent and WTI) were positive YTD but only eight commodities closed the year on a positive note out of the 22 commodities that compose the index.

In 2013, commodities in general and gold specifically were pressured by a government shutdown, a strengthening economy, lower-than-expected inflation and concerns over the growth in the Chinese economy.

Of the six sectors in the index, only energy and industrial metals were positive, up 5% and 4.9%. Grains and precious metals were the worst-performing sectors in the index, down 3.9% and 3.7%.

#### Sector Review

### **Energy**

The DJ-UBS Energy was up 5% MTD and 5.4% YTD. All commodities in the sector were positive for the month of December, led by natural gas, up 6.9% MTD and 5.0% YTD. Brent and WTI crude oil were up 1.4% and 6% for the month. Unleaded gasoline and heating oil were up 3.6% and 0.8%.

Brent crude gains were positive but softer after production resumed in Libya. Libyan oil production has been running at a fraction of its capacity after protests at production sites and key ports broke out. An EIA (U.S. Energy Information Administration) report showed a large drop in WTI crude oil and gasoline inventories due to strong demand and less-than-expected supply, which supported the price increases. Natural gas benefited from lower-than-expected temperatures.

### **Grains**

The DJ-UBS Grains was down 3.9% MTD and 16.9% YTD. All commodities in the sector were down in December. Corn declined 0.58%; soybeans, 2,2%; soybean meal, 2.3%; soybean oil, 4.2%; Chicago wheat, 9.5%; and Kansas wheat, 9.7%.

Soybeans benefited from strong demand, especially from China, and the increasing use of soybean oil and soybean meal in the production of biodiesel. Corn's price declines were due to a record harvest in 2013, which resulted in a buildup of inventories and price declines. Wheat was hurt by large inventories and corn replacing it in feed for cattle due to lower corn prices.

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#### Softs

The DJ-UBS Softs lost 0.41% for the month, closing the year down 16.8%. Cotton was up 6.7% MTD and 9% YTD. Coffee was down 13 basis points in December but remained down 30.5% YTD, and sugar was down 4.3% MTD and 20% YTD.

Cotton price increases were driven by high demand from mills and large export numbers. Coffee is suffering from global oversupply as a result of more coffee-growing acreages and the recent trend of utilizing sturdier and more productive coffee bean plants. According to the International Coffee Organization. global coffee output rose 7.8% in the season ending Sept. 30. The S&P GSCI Coffee has declined 64% over the last three years.

Sugar price declines were driven by a global oversupply. In Brazil, the world's largest sugar-maker and the top producer of ethanol made from cane, government subsidies for gasoline reduced domestic demand for biofuels and added to the preexisting oversupply in the market.

#### Livestock

The DJ-UBS Livestock was down 2% MTD and 3.5% YTD. Live cattle was fairly flat, gaining 0.29%, but remained negative at 5.0% YTD. Lean hogs were down 5.7% MTD and 2.0% YTD.

Ranchers continue to struggle to recover from last year's drought, which hurt beef stockpiles and is estimated to be the worst since the 1930s. Texas, the largest cattle-producing state, remains in drought conditions.

Despite a deadly swine virus that thwarted pork producers' efforts to rebuild herds, lean hog prices were pressured down by oversupply and seasonal bearish patterns.

#### **Industrial Metals**

The DJ-UBS Industrial Metals was up 4.9% MTD but remained down 13.6% YTD. In December, zinc was the best-performing commodity in the index, up 9.2%, followed by copper, up 6%; nickel, up 2.7%; and aluminum, up 1.8%.

Industrial metals closed the month on a positive note due to low inventories and sustained demand from China, the largest consumer, despite expectations of reduced demand due to disappointing Chinese PMI manufacturing data that saw the official reading drop to 51.

LME copper inventories fell to 366,425 tons on Dec. 31, the lowest level since Jan. 28. Copper benefited from better-than-expected demand from China, a big producer of copper and also the world's biggest importer, accounting for around 40% of global demand. In June 2013, zinc saw the closure of the Brunswick and Perseverance mines. The shutdown of the two mines is estimated to have removed a combined 350,000 tons of yearly metal capacity.

### **Precious Metals**

DJ-UBS Precious Metals was down 3.7%, bringing its YTD return to -30.8%. Gold and silver were down 3.8% and 3.3% MTD and 28.7% and 36.6% YTD, respectively.

Gold and silver closed the year on a negative note due to an upbeat global economic outlook and concerns of an imminent end to U.S. monetary stimulus.

Gold's last decline was in 1981, when it lost 32.8% and took about 25 years to recover back its drawdown. Though gold rebounded 12.5% in 1982, it lost another 32% in the next two years. If the present is reminiscent of the past, it could take a long time for gold to recover before returning to the trend that gained it over 700% in the last 12 years.

## Performance Recap

| Exhibit 1: Index Performance Sorted by MTD  |              |              |            |            |  |  |
|---|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|--|--|
|   | Total Return |              |            |            |  |  |
|   | MTD (%)      | 12-Month (%) | 3-Year (%) | 5-Year (%) |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Commodity Yen                 | 3.95         | 9.98         | 0.56       | 24.99      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Commodity                     | 1.24         | -9.52        | -22.40     | 7.80       |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Roll Select Commodity         | 1.00         | -9.08        | -17.40     | 21.58      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Commodity 2-4-6 Forward Blend | 0.94         | -9.18        | -17.59     | 20.53      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Commodity 3 Month Forward     | 0.89         | -8.49        | -18.18     | 18.99      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Commodity Pound Sterling      | 0.13         | -11.20       | -26.65     | -6.42      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Commodity Euro                | 0.03         | -13.43       | -24.45     | 8.74       |  |  |

Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices. Data as of Dec. 31, 2013. Charts and graphs are provided for illustrative purposes only. Indices are unmanaged statistical composites and their returns do not include payment of any sales charges or fees an investor would pay to purchase the securities the index represents. Such costs would lower performance. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Past performance is not an indication of future results. This table may reflect hypothetical historical performance. Please see the Performance Disclosure at the end of this document for more information regarding the inherent limitations associated with back-tested performance. \*S&P GSCI Dynamic Roll Alpha Light Energy is Excess Return since the market neutrality negates collateral return

| Exhibit 2: DJ-UBS Total Return Group Subindices Performance |         |              |            |            |  |  |
|---|---------|--------------|------------|------------|--|--|
| Name  | MTD (%) | 12-Month (%) | 3-Year (%) | 5-Year (%) |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Agriculture                                   | -2.76   | -14.25       | -23.63     | 20.28      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Energy  | 5.01    | 5.40         | -19.72     | -32.00     |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Grains  | -3.92   | -16.90       | -15.89     | 7.78       |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Industrial Metals                             | 4.89    | -13.63       | -34.12     | 37.84      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Livestock                                     | -1.96   | -3.54        | -9.10      | -15.64     |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Petroleum                                     | 3.71    | 5.17         | 7.53       | 35.58      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Precious Metals                               | -3.71   | -30.80       | -23.10     | 41.74      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Softs   | -0.41   | -16.84       | -44.48     | 28.06      |  |  |

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| Exhibit 3: DJ-UBS Total Return Single-Commodity Subindices Performance |         |              |            |            |  |  |
|--|---------|--------------|------------|------------|--|--|
| Index Name   | MTD (%) | 12-Month (%) | 3-Year (%) | 5-Year (%) |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Aluminum   | 1.78    | -20.74       | -40.39     | -15.94     |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Brent Crude  | 1.39    | 7.22         | 34.85      | 93.21      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Coffee   | -0.13   | -30.52       | -63.95     | -33.60     |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Copper   | 5.98    | -8.76        | -27.58     | 115.76     |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Corn   | -0.58   | -30.29       | -16.09     | -1.46      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Cotton   | 6.67    | 9.05         | -25.48     | 92.16      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS WTI Crude Oil  | 6.04    | 6.84         | -9.17      | -1.60      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Gas Oil  | 0.06    | 3.53         | 31.10      | 76.82      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Gold   | -3.84   | -28.65       | -17.02     | 31.23      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Heating Oil  | 0.83    | 0.36         | 17.21      | 53.08      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Kansas Wheat   | -9.69   | -26.19       | -39.90     | -34.92     |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Lean Hogs  | -5.68   | -2.02        | -9.21      | -29.40     |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Live Cattle  | 0.29    | -5.03        | -9.65      | -6.28      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Natural Gas  | 6.88    | 5.01         | -61.46     | -88.91     |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Nickel   | 2.70    | -20.10       | -45.97     | 10.63      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Silver   | -3.30   | -36.64       | -39.00     | 63.75      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Soybean Meal   | -2.26   | 19.96        | 46.50      | 174.01     |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Soybean Oil  | -4.21   | -22.44       | -40.66     | -9.35      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Soybeans   | -2.17   | 10.54        | 14.62      | 90.04      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Sugar  | -4.31   | -19.98       | -38.65     | 41.66      |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Unleaded Gasoline  | 3.60    | 1.95         | 46.73      | 189.78     |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Wheat  | -9.49   | -27.19       | -47.23     | -52.70     |  |  |
| Dow Jones-UBS Zinc   | 9.17    | -6.97        | -26.74     | 32.45      |  |  |

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