Copper demand is expected to almost double cumulatively over the next seven years as cities around the world implement smart technologies. A global study, conducted by the Martec Group and commissioned by the International Copper Association (ICA), found that copper is the material of choice for smart city technology thanks to its unique conductive properties which lead to enhanced efficiency.

In 2025, cumulative copper demand will increase to 4.8 million tonnes

Copper demand from smart city technologies is expected to almost double cumulatively over the next seven years, with total volume set to rise from 2.7 million tonnes in 2019 to 4.8 million tonnes in 2025.

North America to become the regional leader in copper demand by 2030

Asia and Europe currently lead the world in copper demand for use in smart cities, with 40 percent and 35 percent respectively. However, North America is predicted to increase in share from 20 percent in 2020 to 35 percent in 2030, making it the leader in copper demand for smart city technology implementation.

Smart technologies in the building sector to experience the highest demand for copper

The building and mobility sectors have the highest growth potential, as they are expected to see significant technological advancement over the next five years. The energy sector, as a more mature sector, is expected to remain stable at around 25 percent of copper demand over the same time period.