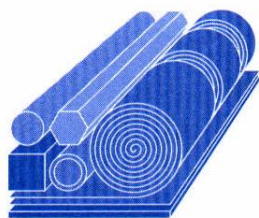


# NEWS



## SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY OF NORTH AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Specialty Metals Industry Group Releases Eleven-Month Market Data**

(Washington, D.C.)(February 9, 2006)—The Specialty Steel Industry of North America (SSINA) today released the latest available statistical data on imports, U.S. consumption and import penetration covering YTD November 2005. Comparisons refer to the same 2004 eleven-month period. Following data presented by specialty steel product line, total stainless steel, and total specialty steel:

- Stainless steel sheet/strip: Imports were 347,285 tons, reflecting a 9% decrease; U.S. consumption was 1,488,945 tons, a 10% decrease; import penetration was unchanged at 23%.
- Stainless steel plate: Imports were 76,941 tons, reflecting a 22% increase; U.S. consumption was 232,065 tons, a 13% decrease; import penetration was 33%, a nine percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel bar: Imports were 115,270 tons, reflecting a 56% increase; U.S. consumption was 219,833 tons, a 19% increase; import penetration was 52%, a twelve percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel rod: Imports were 38,934 tons, reflecting a 9% decrease; U.S. consumption was 63,397 tons, a 5% decrease; import penetration was 61%, a three percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel wire: Imports were 40,409 tons, reflecting a 7% increase; U.S. consumption was 70,364 tons, a 7% decrease; import penetration was 57%, a seven percentage point increase.

Imports of total stainless steel (comprising the foregoing product lines) YTD through November 2005 were 618,838 tons, reflecting a 3% increase; U.S. consumption was 2,074,603 tons, an 8% decrease; eleven-month import penetration was 30%, a three percentage point increase.

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- Alloy tool steel: Imports were 111,825 tons, reflecting a 32% increase; U.S. consumption and import penetration are not calculable.
- Electrical steel: Imports were 76,797 tons, reflecting a 5% decrease; U.S. consumption was 373,525 tons, a 3% increase; import penetration was 21%, a one percentage point decrease.

Imports of total specialty steel (comprising stainless steel, alloy tool steel and electrical steel) YTD through November 2005 were 807,460 tons, reflecting a 5% increase; U.S. consumption was 2,540,997 tons, a 5% decrease; eleven-month import penetration was 32%, a three percentage point increase. See chart for additional data on imports, U.S. consumption and import penetration for 2004 and 2003.

SSINA is a Washington, DC-based trade association representing virtually all continental specialty metals producers. Specialty metals are high technology, high value stainless and other specialty alloy products.

Member companies are: AK Steel Corporation, Middletown, OH; Allegheny Ludlum Corporation, Pittsburgh, PA and Allvac, Monroe, NC (both Allegheny Technologies companies); Carpenter Technology Corporation, Reading, PA; Crucible Specialty Metals, Syracuse, NY; Electralloy, Oil City, PA; Haynes International Inc., Kokomo, IN; ThyssenKrupp Mexinox SA de CV, San Luis Potosí, S.L.P., Mexico; North American Stainless, Ghent, KY; Outokumpu Stainless, Inc., Schaumburg, IL; Precision Rolled Products, Inc., Florham Park, NJ; Special Metals Corporation, Huntington, WV; Timken Latrobe Steel, Latrobe, PA; Universal Stainless and Alloy Products, Bridgeville, PA; and Valbruna Slater Stainless Inc., Fort Wayne, IN.

David A. Hartquist, an international trade attorney with the Washington, DC law firm Collier Shannon Scott, PLLC, serves as lead counsel to SSINA.

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**U.S. Imports, Consumption and Market Penetration Data 1/  
For Specialty Steel Product Lines  
2005/2004/2003  
(in short tons)**

Specialty Steel Product Lines	Imports			U.S. Consumption			Eleven Month Import Penetration	
	Month Nov 2005	YTD Nov 2005	Increase/Decrease YTD 2005-04	Month Nov 2005	YTD Nov 2005	Increase/Decrease YTD 2005-04	YTD Nov 2005	YTD Nov 2004
Stainless Sheet/Strip	30,820	347,285	-9%	122,676	1,488,945	-10%	23%	23%
Stainless Plate	6,641	76,941	22%	17,519	232,065	-13%	33%	24%
Stainless Bar	10,011	115,270	56%	17,547	219,833	19%	52%	40%
Stainless Rod	2,677	38,934	-9%	5,140	63,397	-5%	61%	64%
Stainless Wire 2/	3,543	40,409	7%	6,291	70,364	-7%	57%	50%
<b>Total Stainless Steel</b> (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	<b>53,692</b>	<b>618,838</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>169,173</b>	<b>2,074,603</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>27%</b>
Alloy Tool Steel 3/	10,218	111,825	32%	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	6,422	76,797	-5%	36,781	373,525	3%	21%	22%
<b>Total Specialty</b>	<b>70,331</b>	<b>807,460</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>214,558</b>	<b>2,540,997</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>29%</b>

2004 and 2003 statistical data in tons follow:

Specialty Steel Product Lines	Imports		U.S. Consumption		Twelve Month Import Penetration	
	2004	Increase/Decrease 2004 vs. 2003	2004	Increase/Decrease 04 vs. 03	2004	2003
Stainless Sheet/Strip	435,775	42%	1,811,334	14%	24%	19%
Stainless Plate	68,433	32%	288,035	2%	24%	18%
Stainless Bar	83,533	23%	204,638	11%	41%	37%
Stainless Rod	47,616	35%	73,641	16%	65%	56%
Stainless Wire	41,816	22%	81,707	13%	51%	47%
<b>Total Stainless Steel</b> (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	<b>677,173</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>2,459,356</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>23%</b>
Alloy Tool Steel 3/	94,641	8%	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	86,702	8%	396,924	2%	22%	21%
<b>Total Specialty</b>	<b>858,516</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>2,929,633</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>25%</b>

**NOTE: Changes in import penetration are percentage point changes.**

1/ Imports through 2004 adjusted to exclude hot bands imported for re-rolling and reported under shipments.

2/ October and November 2005 Shipments of Wire are estimated based on January - September data.

3/ Shipments of Alloy Tool Steel unavailable; hence consumption and import penetration not calculable.

NC = Not calculable.

*Prepared by Georgetown Economic Services for the Specialty Steel Industry of North America*