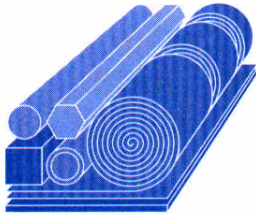


# NEWS



## SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY OF NORTH AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Specialty Metals Industry Group Releases First Quarter Market Data**

(Washington, D.C.)(June 13, 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 year-to-date March 2006 compared to the same 2005 three-month period. Following data presented by specialty steel product line, total stainless steel, and total specialty steel:

- Stainless steel sheet/strip: YTD March imports were 116,871 tons, a 5% increase over YTD March 2005; U.S. consumption was unchanged at 458,646 tons; three-month import penetration was 25%, a one percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel plate: YTD March imports were 18,456 tons, a 1% increase over YTD March 2005; U.S. consumption was 76,882 tons, a 19% increase; three-month import penetration was 24%, a four percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel bar: YTD March imports were 25,646 tons, a 14% decrease over YTD March 2005; U.S. consumption was 53,284 tons, a 13% decrease; three-month import penetration was 48%, a one percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel rod: YTD March imports were 7,988 tons, a 36% decrease over YTD March 2005; U.S. consumption was 17,595 tons, a 13% decrease; three-month import penetration was 45%, a sixteen percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel wire: YTD March imports were 11,668 tons, a 7% increase over YTD March 2005; U.S. consumption was 19,548 tons, a 1% decrease; three-month import penetration was 60%, a four percentage point increase.

Imports of total stainless steel (comprising the foregoing product lines) in the first quarter of 2006 were 180,628 tons, a 1% decrease compared to first quarter 2005; U.S. consumption was unchanged at 625,955 tons; import penetration also was unchanged at 29%.

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- Alloy tool steel: YTD March imports were 25,973 tons, a 10% decrease over YTD March 2005; U.S. consumption and import penetration were not calculable.
- Electrical steel: YTD March imports were 20,795 tons, an 12% decrease over YTD March 2005; U.S. consumption was 107,115 tons, a 4% increase; three-month import penetration was 19%, a four percentage point decrease.

Imports of total specialty steel (comprising stainless steel, alloy tool steel and electrical steel) in the first quarter of 2006 were 227,396 tons, a 3% decrease compared to the 2005 first quarter; U.S. consumption was unchanged at 753,474 tons; import penetration was 30%, a one percentage point decrease. See chart for additional data on imports, U.S. consumption and import penetration for 2005 and 2004.

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.

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