



SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY OF NORTH AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Specialty Metals Industry Group Releases Five Month Market Data

(Washington, D.C.)(August 11, 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 May 2006 compared to the same five-month period in 2005. Following data presented by specialty steel product line, total stainless steel, and total specialty steel:

- Stainless steel sheet/strip: YTD May imports were 199,804 tons, a 23% increase over YTD May 2005; U.S. consumption was 760,259 tons, a 7% increase; five-month import penetration was 26%, a three percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel plate: YTD May imports were 33,641 tons, a 12% increase over YTD May 2005; U.S. consumption was 129,084 tons, a 28% increase; five-month import penetration was 26%, a four percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel bar: YTD May imports were 44,416 tons, a 16% decrease over YTD May 2005; U.S. consumption was 90,035 tons, a 14% decrease; five-month import penetration was 49%, a two percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel rod: YTD May imports were 12,632 tons, a 41% decrease over YTD May 2005; U.S. consumption was 27,504 tons, a 17% decrease; five-month import penetration was 46%, a nineteen percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel wire: YTD May imports were 19,850 tons, a 4% increase over YTD May 2005; U.S. consumption was 36,064 tons, a 7% increase; five-month import penetration was 55%, a two percentage point decrease.

Imports of total stainless steel (comprising the foregoing product lines) in the first five months of 2006 were 310,344 tons, an 8% increase compared to the same 2005 period; U.S. consumption was 1,042,946 tons, a 6% increase; import penetration was 30%, a one percentage point increase.

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- Alloy tool steel: YTD May imports were 42,408 tons, a 17% decrease over YTD May 2005; U.S. consumption and import penetration were not calculable.

- Electrical steel: YTD May imports were 31,056 tons, a 21% decrease over YTD May 2005; U.S. consumption was 176,339 tons, a 2% increase; five-month import penetration was 18%, a five percentage point decrease.

Imports of total specialty steel (comprising stainless steel, alloy tool steel and electrical steel) in the first five months of 2006 were 383,808 tons, a 2% increase compared to the same 2005 period; U.S. consumption was 1,250,810 tons, a 4% increase; import penetration was unchanged at 31%. 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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**U.S. Imports, Consumption and Market Penetration Data 1/
For Specialty Steel Product Lines
2006/2005/2004
(in short tons)**

Specialty Steel Product Lines	Imports			U.S. Consumption			Five Month Import Penetration	
	Month May 2006	YTD May 2006	Increase/Decrease YTD 2006-05	Month May 2006	YTD May 2006	Increase/Decrease YTD 2006-05	YTD May 2006	YTD May 2005
Stainless Sheet/Strip	46,097	199,804	23%	163,407	760,259	7%	26%	23%
Stainless Plate	9,308	33,641	12%	30,105	129,084	28%	26%	30%
Stainless Bar	9,547	44,416	-16%	17,995	90,035	-14%	49%	51%
Stainless Rod	2,127	12,632	-41%	5,239	27,504	-17%	46%	65%
Stainless Wire 1/	4,393	19,850	4%	7,661	36,064	7%	55%	57%
Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	71,472	310,344	8%	224,408	1,042,946	6%	30%	29%
Alloy Tool Steel 2/	8,353	42,408	-17%	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	5,835	31,056	-21%	36,790	176,339	2%	18%	23%
Total Specialty	85,660	383,808	2%	266,867	1,250,810	4%	31%	31%

2005 and 2004 statistical data in tons follow:

Specialty Steel Product Lines	Imports		U.S. Consumption		Twelve Month Import Penetration	
	2005	Increase/Decrease 2005 vs. 2004	2005	Increase/Decrease 05 vs. 04	2005	2004
Stainless Sheet/Strip	378,748	-13%	1,624,772	-10%	23%	24%
Stainless Plate	83,374	22%	253,462	-12%	33%	24%
Stainless Bar	124,008	48%	236,185	15%	53%	41%
Stainless Rod	41,538	-13%	66,095	-10%	63%	65%
Stainless Wire	43,654	4%	76,289	-7%	57%	51%
Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	671,322	-1%	2,256,803	-8%	30%	28%
Alloy Tool Steel 2/	121,860	29%	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	82,595	-5%	406,473	2%	20%	22%
Total Specialty	875,778	2%	2,764,237	-6%	32%	29%

NOTE: Changes in import penetration are percentage point changes.

1/ Year-to-date 2006 Shipments of Wire are estimated based on January - March 2006 data.

2/ 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