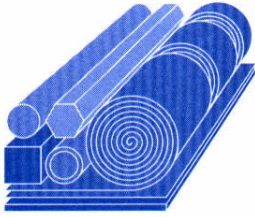


NEWS



SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY OF NORTH AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Specialty Metals Industry Group Releases Seven-Month Market Data

(Washington, D.C.)(October 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 year-to-date July 2006 compared to the same seven-month period in 2005. Following data presented by specialty steel product line, total stainless steel, and total specialty steel:

- Stainless steel sheet/strip: YTD July imports were 290,162 tons, a 31% increase over YTD July 2005; U.S. consumption was 1,077,973 tons, an 11% increase; seven-month import penetration was 27%, a four percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel plate: YTD July imports were 56,054 tons, an 18% increase over YTD July 2005; U.S. consumption was 193,807 tons, a 31% increase; seven-month import penetration was 29%, a three percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel bar: YTD July imports were 65,740 tons, a 15% decrease over YTD July 2005; U.S. consumption was 131,015 tons, an 11% decrease; seven-month import penetration was 50%, a two percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel rod: YTD July imports were 17,606 tons, a 37% decrease over YTD July 2005; U.S. consumption was 38,825 tons, an 11% decrease; seven-month import penetration was 45%, a twenty percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel wire: YTD July imports were 27,900 tons, a 5% increase over YTD July 2005; U.S. consumption was 49,407 tons, an 8% increase; seven-month import penetration was 56%, a two percentage point decrease.

Imports of total stainless steel (comprising the foregoing product lines) in the first seven months of 2006 were 457,463 tons, a 14% increase compared to the same 2005 period; U.S. consumption was 1,491,026 tons, a 10% increase; import penetration was 31%, a one percentage point increase.

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- Alloy tool steel: YTD July imports were 61,114 tons, a 15% decrease over YTD July 2005; U.S. consumption and import penetration were not calculable.

- Electrical steel: YTD July imports were 47,511 tons, a 13% decrease over YTD July 2005; U.S. consumption was 264,464 tons, an 11% increase; seven-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 seven months of 2006 were 566,088 tons, an 8% increase compared to the same 2005 period; U.S. consumption was 1,801,725 tons, a 9% increase; import penetration was 31%, 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; ATI Allegheny Ludlum Corporation, Pittsburgh, PA and ATI 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			Seven Month Import Penetration	
	Month Jul 2006	YTD Jul 2006	Increase/Decrease YTD 2006-05	Month Jul 2006	YTD Jul 2006	Increase/Decrease YTD 2006-05	YTD Jul 2006	YTD Jul 2005
Stainless Sheet/Strip	48,191	290,162	31%	155,388	1,077,973	11%	27%	23%
Stainless Plate	10,250	56,054	18%	28,762	193,807	31%	29%	32%
Stainless Bar	10,734	65,740	-15%	19,739	131,015	-11%	50%	52%
Stainless Rod	2,937	17,606	-37%	6,126	38,825	-11%	45%	65%
Stainless Wire 1/	3,989	27,900	5%	7,087	49,407	8%	56%	58%
Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	76,101	457,463	14%	217,102	1,491,026	10%	31%	30%
Alloy Tool Steel 2/	8,708	61,114	-15%	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	8,265	47,511	-13%	34,457	264,464	11%	18%	23%
Total Specialty	93,075	566,088	8%	258,476	1,801,725	9%	31%	32%

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 - June 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