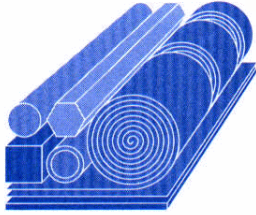


NEWS



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 10, 2005)—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 July 2005. Comparisons refer to the same 2004 seven-month period. Following data presented by specialty steel product line, total stainless steel, and total specialty steel:

- Stainless steel sheet/strip: Imports were 220,665 tons, a 2% increase; U.S. consumption was 969,870 tons, a 5% decrease; import penetration was 23%, a two percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel plate: Imports were 47,551 tons, a 9% increase; U.S. consumption was 154,678 tons, a 12% decrease; import penetration was 31%, a six percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel bar: Imports were 76,899 tons, a 72% increase; U.S. consumption was 146,836 tons, a 27% increase; import penetration was 52%, a 13 percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel rod: Imports were 28,108 tons, a 12% increase; U.S. consumption was 43,389 tons, a 15% decrease; import penetration was 65%, a 16 percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel wire: Imports were 26,485 tons, a 10% increase; U.S. consumption was 46,821 tons, a 6% decrease; import penetration was 57%, a nine percentage point increase.

Imports of total stainless steel (comprising the foregoing product lines) YTD through July 2005 were 399,708 tons, a 13% increase; U.S. consumption was 1,361,595 tons, a 4% decrease; seven-month import penetration was 29%, a four percentage point increase.

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- Alloy tool steel: Imports were 71,969 tons, a 43% increase; U.S. consumption and import penetration are not calculable.
- Electrical steel: Imports were 54,326 tons, a 19% increase; U.S. consumption was 238,915 tons, an 8% increase; import penetration was 23%, a two percentage point increase.

Imports of total specialty steel (comprising stainless steel, alloy tool steel and electrical steel) YTD through July 2005 were 526,003 tons, a 17% increase; U.S. consumption was 1,660,937 tons, a 1% decrease; seven month import penetration was 32%, a five 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; Charter Specialty Steel, Fond du Lac, WI; 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; Techalloy Central Wire Group, Mahwah, NJ; 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.

**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 | | | Seven Month Import Penetration | |
|---|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| | Month Jul 2005 | YTD Jul 2005 | Increase/Decrease YTD 2005-04 | Month Jul 2005 | YTD Jul 2005 | Increase/Decrease YTD 2005-04 | YTD Jul 2005 | YTD Jul 2004 |
| Stainless Sheet/Strip | 28,224 | 220,665 | 2% | 118,659 | 969,870 | -5% | 23% | 21% |
| Stainless Plate | 9,044 | 47,551 | 9% | 22,369 | 154,678 | -12% | 31% | 25% |
| Stainless Bar | 12,190 | 76,899 | 72% | 20,653 | 146,836 | 27% | 52% | 39% |
| Stainless Rod | 2,612 | 28,108 | 12% | 4,448 | 43,389 | -15% | 65% | 49% |
| Stainless Wire 2/ | 3,624 | 26,485 | 10% | 6,607 | 46,821 | -6% | 57% | 48% |
| Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire) | 55,694 | 399,708 | 13% | 172,737 | 1,361,595 | -4% | 29% | 25% |
| Alloy Tool Steel 3/ | 11,100 | 71,969 | 43% | NC | NC | NC | NC | NC |
| Electrical Steel | 7,293 | 54,326 | 19% | 30,730 | 238,915 | 8% | 23% | 21% |
| Total Specialty | 74,088 | 526,003 | 17% | 212,668 | 1,660,937 | -1% | 32% | 27% |

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% |
| Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire) | 677,173 | 37% | 2,459,356 | 13% | 28% | 23% |
| Alloy Tool Steel 3/ | 94,641 | 8% | NC | NC | NC | NC |
| Electrical Steel | 86,702 | 8% | 396,924 | 2% | 22% | 21% |
| Total Specialty | 858,516 | 29% | 2,929,633 | 11% | 29% | 25% |

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/ July 2005 Shipments of Wire estimated based on January - June 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