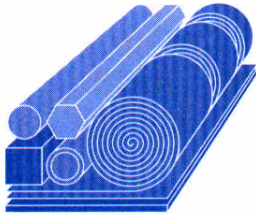


# NEWS



## SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY OF NORTH AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

(Washington, D.C.)(November 4, 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 August 2005. Comparisons refer to the same 2004 eight-month period. Following data presented by specialty steel product line, total stainless steel, and total specialty steel:

- Stainless steel sheet/strip: Imports were 253,820 tons, reflecting no percentage change; U.S. consumption was 1,098,025 tons, a 7% decrease; import penetration was 23%, a two percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel plate: Imports were 55,985 tons, a 14% increase; U.S. consumption was 176,552 tons, an 11% decrease; import penetration was 32%, a seven percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel bar: Imports were 87,031 tons, a 68% increase; U.S. consumption was 166,630 tons, a 25% increase; import penetration was 52%, a 13 percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel rod: Imports were 31,726 tons, an 8% increase; U.S. consumption was 49,155 tons, an 18% decrease; import penetration was 65%, a 16 percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel wire: Imports were 30,180 tons, an 11% increase; U.S. consumption was 53,416 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 August 2005 were 458,743 tons, a 12% increase; U.S. consumption was 1,543,777 tons, a 5% decrease; eight-month import penetration was 30%, a five percentage point increase.

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- Alloy tool steel: Imports were 82,090 tons, a 40% increase; U.S. consumption and import penetration are not calculable.
- Electrical steel: Imports were 60,281 tons, a 13% increase; U.S. consumption was 273,539 tons, a 7% increase; import penetration was 22%, a one percentage point increase.

Imports of total specialty steel (comprising stainless steel, alloy tool steel and electrical steel) YTD through August 2005 were 601,113 tons, a 15% increase; U.S. consumption was 1,885,868 tons, a 2% decrease; eight-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			Eight Month Import Penetration	
	Month Aug 2005	YTD Aug 2005	Increase/Decrease YTD 2005-04	Month Aug 2005	YTD Aug 2005	Increase/Decrease YTD 2005-04	YTD Aug 2005	YTD Aug 2004
Stainless Sheet/Strip	33,155	253,820	0%	128,154	1,098,025	-7%	23%	21%
Stainless Plate	8,434	55,985	14%	21,874	176,552	-11%	32%	25%
Stainless Bar	10,132	87,031	68%	19,793	166,630	25%	52%	39%
Stainless Rod	3,618	31,726	8%	5,766	49,155	-18%	65%	49%
Stainless Wire 2/	3,695	30,180	11%	6,595	53,416	-6%	57%	48%
<b>Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod &amp; Wire)</b>	<b>59,034</b>	<b>458,743</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>182,182</b>	<b>1,543,777</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>25%</b>
Alloy Tool Steel 3/	10,121	82,090	40%	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	5,954	60,281	13%	34,624	273,539	7%	22%	21%
<b>Total Specialty</b>	<b>75,109</b>	<b>601,113</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>224,932</b>	<b>1,885,868</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>27%</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 (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod &amp; Wire)</b>	<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/ July and August 2005 Shipments of Wire are 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*