



## SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY OF NORTH AMERICA

3050 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Meg Mullery 202.342.8439  
[mmullery@colliershannon.com](mailto:mmullery@colliershannon.com)

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

(Washington, D.C.)(December 13, 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 September 2005. Comparisons refer to the same 2004 nine-month period. Following data presented by specialty steel product line, total stainless steel, and total specialty steel:

- Stainless steel sheet/strip: Imports were 286,285 tons, reflecting a 4% decrease; U.S. consumption was 1,236,756 tons, an 8% decrease; import penetration was 23%, a one percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel plate: Imports were 64,035 tons, reflecting a 19% increase; U.S. consumption was 201,808 tons, a 9% decrease; import penetration was 32%, an eight percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel bar: Imports were 95,948 tons, reflecting a 62% increase; U.S. consumption was 184,344 tons, a 21% increase; import penetration was 52%, a thirteen percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel rod: Imports were 33,912 tons, reflecting a 2% increase; U.S. consumption was 53,444 tons, a 21% decrease; import penetration was 63%, a 14 percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel wire: Imports were 33,288 tons, reflecting a 9% increase; U.S. consumption was 59,420 tons, a 7% decrease; import penetration was 56%, an eight percentage point increase.

Imports of total stainless steel (comprising the foregoing product lines) YTD through September 2005 were 513,468 tons, reflecting an 8% increase; U.S. consumption was 1,735,773 tons, a 6% decrease; nine-month import penetration was 30%, a four percentage point increase.

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- Alloy tool steel: Imports were 91,238 tons, reflecting a 36% increase; U.S. consumption and import penetration are not calculable.
- Electrical steel: Imports were 66,058 tons, reflecting an 8% increase; U.S. consumption was 307,968 tons, a 7% increase; import penetration was unchanged at 21%.

Imports of total specialty steel (comprising stainless steel, alloy tool steel and electrical steel) YTD through September 2005 were 670,764 tons, reflecting an 11% increase; U.S. consumption was 2,119,318 tons, a 3% decrease; nine-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.

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**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			Nine Month Import Penetration	
	Month Sep 2005	YTD Sep 2005	Increase/Decrease YTD 2005-04	Month Sep 2005	YTD Sep 2005	Increase/Decrease YTD 2005-04	YTD Sep 2005	YTD Sep 2004
Stainless Sheet/Strip	32,464	286,285	-4%	138,731	1,236,756	-8%	23%	22%
Stainless Plate	8,050	64,035	19%	25,256	201,808	-9%	32%	24%
Stainless Bar	8,917	95,948	62%	17,715	184,344	21%	52%	39%
Stainless Rod	2,186	33,912	2%	4,288	53,444	-21%	63%	49%
Stainless Wire 2/	3,108	33,288	9%	6,005	59,420	-7%	56%	48%
<b>Total Stainless Steel</b> (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	<b>54,725</b>	<b>513,468</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>191,995</b>	<b>1,735,773</b>	<b>-6%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>26%</b>
Alloy Tool Steel 3/	9,148	91,238	36%	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	5,777	66,058	8%	34,429	307,968	7%	21%	21%
<b>Total Specialty</b>	<b>69,651</b>	<b>670,764</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>233,449</b>	<b>2,119,318</b>	<b>-3%</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</b> (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	<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/ Third Quarter 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*

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