



For Immediate Release

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SSINA RELEASES MARKET DATA FOR SEPTEMBER 2008

(Washington, DC, December 11, 2008) – The Specialty Steel Industry of North America (SSINA) has released the statistical data on imports, U.S. consumption, and import penetration for September 2008. The data represents U.S. consumption, imports, and import penetration for YTD September 2008 compared to the same 2007 nine-month period. The following data is presented by specialty steel product line, total stainless steel, and total specialty steel:

- Stainless steel sheet/strip: Imports in YTD September 2008 were 367,424 tons, an 11.1% increase compared to YTD September 2007; U.S. consumption was 1,033,430 tons, a 9.8% decrease; nine-month import penetration was 35.6%, a 6.7 percentage point increase from 2007.
- Stainless steel plate: Imports in YTD September 2008 were 76,049 tons, a 37.8% decrease compared to YTD September 2007; U.S. consumption was 189,645 tons, a 31.4% decrease; nine-month import penetration was 40.1%, a 4.4 percentage point decrease from 2007.
- Stainless steel bar: Imports in YTD September 2008 were 95,048 tons, a 2.3% increase compared to YTD September 2007; U.S. consumption was 183,077 tons, a 5.5% increase; nine-month import penetration was 51.9%, a 1.7 percentage point decrease from 2007.
- Stainless steel rod: Imports in YTD September 2008 were 23,641 tons, a 3.3% decrease compared to YTD September 2007; U.S. consumption was 48,973 tons, a 1.5% increase; nine-month import penetration was 48.3%, a 2.4 percentage point decrease from 2007.
- Stainless steel wire: Imports in YTD September 2008 were 33,486 tons, a 5.2% decrease compared to YTD September 2007; U.S. consumption was 57,058 tons, a 4.5% decrease; nine-month import penetration was 58.7%, a 0.4 percentage point decrease from 2007.

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Imports of total stainless steel (comprising the foregoing product lines) in YTD September 2008 were **595,648** tons, a 1.7% decrease compared to YTD September 2007; U.S. consumption was **1,512,182** tons, an 11.2% decrease; nine-month import penetration was 39.4%, a 3.8 percentage point increase from 2007.

- Alloy tool steel: Imports in YTD September 2008 were 76,068 tons, a 3.3% increase compared to YTD September 2007; U.S. consumption and import penetration were not calculable.
- Electrical steel: Imports in YTD September 2008 were 88,652 tons, a 6.8% increase compared to YTD September 2007; U.S. consumption was 265,316 tons, a 19.7% decrease from September 2007; nine-month import penetration was 33.4%, an 8.3 percentage point increase from 2007.

Imports of total specialty steel (comprising stainless steel, alloy tool steel and electrical steel) in YTD September 2008 were **760,368** tons, a 0.3% decrease compared to YTD September 2007; U.S. consumption was **1,839,443** tons, a 12.2% decrease; nine-month import penetration was 41.3%, a 4.9 percentage point increase from 2007.

For additional data on imports, U.S. consumption and import penetration for 2007 and 2006 please refer to the following chart.

About Specialty Steel Industry of North America

Specialty Steel Industry of North America (SSINA) is a Washington, DC-based trade association representing virtually all continental specialty metals producers, which include high technology, high value stainless and other specialty alloy products.

SSINA member companies include: AK Steel Corporation, West Chester, OH; ATI Allegheny Ludlum, 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; Latrobe Specialty Steel Company, 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
2008/2007/2006
(in short tons)**

Specialty Steel Product Lines	IMPORTS			U.S. CONSUMPTION			Nine Month Import Penetration	
	MONTH	YTD	Increase/ Decrease	MONTH	YTD	Increase/ Decrease	YTD	YTD
	SEPTEMBER 2008	SEPTEMBER 2008	YTD 2008-07	SEPTEMBER 2008	SEPTEMBER 2008	YTD 2008-07	SEPTEMBER 2008	SEPTEMBER 2007
Stainless Sheet/Strip	29,553	367,424	11.1%	92,144	1,033,430	-9.8%	35.6%	28.9%
Stainless Plate	7,480	76,049	-37.8%	15,524	189,645	-31.4%	40.1%	44.2%
Stainless Bar 1/	9,086	95,048	2.3%	19,833	183,077	5.5%	51.9%	53.6%
Stainless Rod 1/	2,370	23,641	-3.3%	5,605	48,973	1.5%	48.3%	50.7%
Stainless Wire 2/	3,402	33,486	-5.2%	5,911	57,058	-4.5%	58.7%	59.1%
Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	51,891	595,648	-1.7%	139,017	1,512,182	-11.2%	39.4%	35.6%
Alloy Tool Steel 3/	7,298	76,068	3.3%	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	9,873	88,652	6.8%	30,634	265,316	-19.7%	33.4%	25.1%
Total Specialty	69,062	760,368	-0.3%	175,999	1,839,443	-12.2%	41.3%	36.4%

2007 AND 2006 STATISTICAL DATA IN TONS AS FOLLOWS:

Specialty Steel Product Lines	IMPORTS		U.S. CONSUMPTION		Twelve Month Import Penetration	
	2007	Increase/ Decrease 2007 vs. 2006	2007	Increase/ Decrease 07 vs. 06	2007	2006
Stainless Sheet/Strip	421,510	-18.2%	1,521,146	-17.5%	27.7%	27.9%
Stainless Plate	144,638	28.6%	334,499	-6.7%	43.2%	31.4%
Stainless Bar	122,734	1.9%	227,392	-2.5%	54.0%	51.6%
Stainless Rod	30,567	-2.9%	63,862	-10.5%	47.9%	44.1%
Stainless Wire	45,971	-5.5%	77,151	-7.9%	59.6%	58.1%
Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	765,420	-7.6%	2,224,050	-14.1%	34.4%	32.0%
Alloy Tool Steel 2/	103,950	2.9%	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	110,612	35.2%	429,651	-2.2%	25.7%	18.6%
Total Specialty	979,981	-3.1%	2,740,593	-11.7%	35.8%	32.5%

NOTE: Changes in import penetration are percentage point changes.

1/ Year-to-date 2008 shipments of bar and rod estimated based on 2007 data.

2/ Year-to-date 2008 shipments of wire are estimated based on January - March 2008 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