



NEWS

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SSINA RELEASES MARKET DATA FOR DECEMBER 2009

(Washington, D.C., March 24, 2010) – The Specialty Steel Industry of North America (“SSINA”) has released statistical data on imports, U.S. consumption, and import penetration for December 2009. The data represents U.S. consumption, imports, and import penetration for YTD December 2009 compared to the same 2008 twelve 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 December 2009 were 219,710 tons, a 50.2% decrease compared to YTD December 2008; U.S. consumption was 964,919 tons, a 22.5% decrease; twelve month import penetration was 22.8%, a 12.6 percentage point decrease from 2008.
- Stainless steel plate: Imports in YTD December 2009 were 50,723 tons, a 45.7% decrease compared to YTD December 2008; U.S. consumption was 179,799 tons, a 23.2% decrease; twelve month import penetration was 28.2%, a 11.7 percentage point decrease from 2008.
- Stainless steel bar: Imports in YTD December 2009 were 74,188 tons, a 38.7% decrease compared to YTD December 2008; U.S. consumption was 146,650 tons, a 35.4% decrease; twelve month import penetration was 50.6%, a 2.7 percentage point decrease from 2008.
- Stainless steel rod: Imports in YTD December 2009 were 14,434 tons, a 51.7% decrease compared to YTD December 2008; U.S. consumption was 36,743 tons, a 39.5% decrease; twelve month import penetration was 39.3%, a 9.9 percentage point decrease from 2008.
- Stainless steel wire: Imports in YTD December 2009 were 31,776 tons, a 25.9% decrease compared to YTD December 2008; U.S. consumption was 44,796 tons, a 31.4% decrease; twelve month import penetration was 70.9%, a 5.3 percentage point increase from 2008.

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Imports of total stainless steel (comprising the foregoing product lines) in YTD December 2009 were **390,831** tons, a 46.4% decrease compared to YTD December 2008; U.S. consumption was **1,372,908** tons, a 25.1% decrease; twelve month import penetration was 28.5%, a 11.2 percentage point decrease from 2008.

- Alloy tool steel: Imports in YTD December 2009 were 37,649 tons, a 60.9% decrease compared to YTD December 2008; U.S. consumption and import penetration were not calculable.
- Electrical steel: Imports in YTD December 2009 were 65,624 tons, a 45.7% decrease compared to YTD December 2008; U.S. consumption was 198,507 tons, a 42.5% decrease from YTD December 2008; twelve month import penetration was 33.1%, a 1.9 percentage point decrease from 2008.

Imports of total specialty steel (comprising stainless steel, alloy tool steel and electrical steel) in YTD December 2009 were **494,105** tons, a 47.8% decrease compared to YTD December 2008; U.S. consumption was **1,594,438** tons, a 29.3% decrease; twelve month import penetration was 31.0%, a 11.0 percentage point decrease from 2008.

For additional data on imports, U.S. consumption and import penetration for 2009 and 2008 please refer to the attached 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: ATI Allegheny Ludlum, Pittsburgh, PA and ATI Allvac, Monroe, NC (both Allegheny Technologies companies); Carpenter Technology Corporation, Reading, PA; Electralloy, Oil City, PA; North American Stainless, Ghent, KY; Outokumpu Stainless, Inc., Schaumburg, IL; 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
For Specialty Steel Product Lines
2009/2008/2007
(in short tons)**

Specialty Steel Product Lines	IMPORTS			U.S. CONSUMPTION			TWELVE MONTH Import Penetration	
	MONTH DECEMBER 2009	YTD DECEMBER 2009	Increase/ Decrease YTD 2009-08	MONTH DECEMBER 2009	YTD DECEMBER 2009	Increase/ Decrease YTD 2009-08	YTD DECEMBER 2009	YTD DECEMBER 2008
Stainless Sheet/Strip	24,025	219,710	-50.2%	83,402	964,919	-22.5%	22.8%	35.4%
Stainless Plate	6,635	50,723	-45.7%	13,371	179,799	-23.2%	28.2%	39.9%
Stainless Bar	6,790	74,188	-38.7%	11,846	146,650	-35.4%	50.6%	53.3%
Stainless Rod	1,630	14,434	-51.7%	3,652	36,743	-39.5%	39.3%	49.2%
Stainless Wire 1/	3,319	31,776	-25.9%	4,392	44,796	-31.4%	70.9%	65.6%
Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	42,400	390,831	-46.4%	116,665	1,372,908	-25.1%	28.5%	39.7%
Alloy Tool Steel 2/	4,443	37,649	-60.9%	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	4,996	65,624	-45.7%	12,542	198,507	-42.5%	33.1%	35.0%
Total Specialty	51,840	494,105	-47.8%	132,394	1,594,438	-29.3%	31.0%	42.0%

2008 AND 2007 STATISTICAL DATA IN TONS AS FOLLOWS:

Specialty Steel Product Lines	IMPORTS		U.S. CONSUMPTION		Twelve Month Import Penetration	
	2008	Increase/ Decrease 2008 vs. 2007	2008	Increase/ Decrease 08 vs. 07	2008	2007
Stainless Sheet/Strip	441,313	4.7%	1,245,825	-18.1%	35.4%	27.7%
Stainless Plate	93,492	-35.4%	234,122	-30.0%	39.9%	43.2%
Stainless Bar	120,928	-1.5%	227,078	-0.1%	53.3%	54.0%
Stainless Rod	29,889	-2.2%	60,780	-4.8%	49.2%	47.9%
Stainless Wire	42,864	-6.8%	74,161	-3.9%	57.8%	59.6%
Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	728,487	-4.8%	1,841,966	-17.2%	39.5%	34.4%
Alloy Tool Steel 2/	96,357	-7.3%	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	120,898	9.3%	344,984	-19.7%	35.0%	25.7%
Total Specialty	945,742	-3.5%	2,262,832	-17.4%	41.8%	35.8%

NOTE: Changes in import penetration are percentage point changes.

1/ Monthly and year-to-date 2009 shipments of wire are estimated based on January - June 2009 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