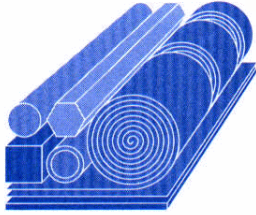


# NEWS



## SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY OF NORTH AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Specialty Metals Industry Group Releases Latest Market Data**

(Washington, D.C.)(July 29, 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 May 2005. Comparisons refer to the same 2004 five-month period. Following data presented by specialty steel product line, total stainless steel, and total specialty steel:

- Stainless steel sheet/strip: Imports were 162,813 tons, a 12% increase; U.S. consumption was 711,851 tons, a 3% decrease; import penetration was 23%, a three percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel plate: Imports were 30,131 tons, a 1% decrease; U.S. consumption was 106,626 tons, a 14% decrease; import penetration was 28%, a three percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel bar: Imports were 53,049 tons, a 70% increase; U.S. consumption was 104,258 tons, a 29% increase; import penetration was 51%, a 12 percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel rod: Imports were 21,401 tons, a 26% increase; U.S. consumption was 33,018 tons, a 7% decrease; import penetration was 65%, a 17 percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel wire: Imports were 19,009 tons, a 10% increase; U.S. consumption and import penetration are calculated quarterly.

Imports of total stainless steel (comprising the foregoing product lines) YTD through May 2005 were 286,403 tons, a 19% increase; U.S. consumption was 972,096 tons, a 2% decrease; five-month import penetration was 29%, a five percentage point increase.

- Alloy tool steel: Imports were 50,945 tons, a 52% increase; U.S. consumption and import penetration are not calculable.

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- Electrical steel: Imports were 39,359 tons, a 28% increase; U.S. consumption was 173,224 tons, a 12% increase; import penetration was 23%, a three percentage point increase.

Imports of total specialty steel (comprising stainless steel, alloy tool steel and electrical steel) YTD through May 2005 were 376,707 tons, a 23% increase; U.S. consumption was 1,188,284 tons, a 2% increase; five-month import penetration was 32%, a six percentage point increase. See attached 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			Five Month Import Penetration	
	Month May 2005	YTD May 2005	Increase/Decrease YTD 2005-04	Month May 2005	YTD May 2005	Increase/Decrease YTD 2005-04	YTD May 2005	YTD May 2004
Stainless Sheet/Strip	26,844	162,813	12%	125,731	711,851	-3%	23%	20%
Stainless Plate	4,548	30,131	-1%	14,125	106,626	-14%	28%	25%
Stainless Bar	11,718	53,049	70%	21,529	104,258	29%	51%	39%
Stainless Rod	4,763	21,401	26%	6,340	33,018	-7%	65%	48%
Stainless Wire 2/	4,399	19,009	10%	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
<b>Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod &amp; Wire)</b>	<b>52,272</b>	<b>286,403</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>171,585</b>	<b>972,096</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>24%</b>
Alloy Tool Steel 2/	10,773	50,945	52%	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	6,918	39,359	28%	33,558	173,224	12%	23%	20%
<b>Total Specialty</b>	<b>69,963</b>	<b>376,707</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>213,848</b>	<b>1,188,284</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>26%</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 2/	41,816	22%	NC	NC	NC	NC
<b>Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod &amp; Wire)</b>	<b>677,173</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>2,410,222</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>23%</b>
Alloy Tool Steel 2/	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>2,880,498</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>30%</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/ Shipments of Wire and 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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