



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 2, 2006)—The Specialty Steel Industry of North America (SSINA) today released the latest available statistical data on imports, U.S. consumption and import penetration covering year-to-date August 2006 compared to the same eight-month period in 2005. Following data presented by specialty steel product line, total stainless steel, and total specialty steel:

- Stainless steel sheet/strip: YTD August imports were 345,869 tons, a 36% increase over YTD August 2005; U.S. consumption was 1,251,050 tons, a 14% increase; eight-month import penetration was 28%, a five percentage point increase.
- Stainless steel plate: YTD August imports were 67,639 tons, a 21% increase over YTD August 2005; U.S. consumption was 227,638 tons, a 34% increase; eight-month import penetration was 30%, a three percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel bar: YTD August imports were 76,397 tons, a 12% decrease over YTD August 2005; U.S. consumption was 152,940 tons, an 8% decrease; eight-month import penetration was 50%, a two percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel rod: YTD August imports were 19,689 tons, a 38% decrease over YTD August 2005; U.S. consumption was 44,275 tons, a 10% decrease; eight-month import penetration was 44%, a twenty-one percentage point decrease.
- Stainless steel wire: YTD August imports were 32,037 tons, a 6% increase over YTD August 2005; U.S. consumption was 57,690 tons, a 10% increase; eight-month import penetration was 56%, a two percentage point decrease.

Imports of total stainless steel (comprising the foregoing product lines) in the first eight months of 2006 were 541,631 tons, an 18% increase compared to the same 2005 period; U.S. consumption was 1,733,593 tons, a 13% increase; import penetration was 31%, a one percentage point increase.

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- Alloy tool steel: YTD August imports were 69,889 tons, a 15% decrease over YTD August 2005; U.S. consumption and import penetration were not calculable.
- Electrical steel: YTD August imports were 45,825 tons, a 24% decrease over YTD August 2005; U.S. consumption was 295,016, an 8% increase; eight-month import penetration was 16%, a six percentage point decrease.

Imports of total specialty steel (comprising stainless steel, alloy tool steel and electrical steel) in the first eight months of 2006 were 657,345 tons, a 9% increase compared to the same 2005 period; U.S. consumption was 2,082,047 tons, an 11% increase; import penetration remained at 32%. See chart for additional data on imports, U.S. consumption and import penetration for 2005 and 2004.

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; ATI Allegheny Ludlum Corporation, 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; Special Metals Corporation, Huntington, WV; Timken Latrobe Steel, 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
2006/2005/2004
(in short tons)**

Specialty Steel Product Lines	Imports			U.S. Consumption			Eight Month Import Penetration	
	Month Aug 2006	YTD Aug 2006	Increase/Decrease YTD 2006-05	Month Aug 2006	YTD Aug 2006	Increase/Decrease YTD 2006-05	YTD Aug 2006	YTD Aug 2005
Stainless Sheet/Strip	55,706	345,869	36%	173,078	1,251,050	14%	28%	23%
Stainless Plate	11,585	67,639	21%	33,831	227,638	34%	30%	33%
Stainless Bar	10,657	76,397	-12%	21,925	152,940	-8%	50%	52%
Stainless Rod	2,083	19,689	-38%	5,450	44,275	-10%	44%	65%
Stainless Wire 1/	4,137	32,037	6%	7,231	57,690	10%	56%	58%
Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	84,168	541,631	18%	241,515	1,733,593	13%	31%	30%
Alloy Tool Steel 2/	8,819	69,889	-15%	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	5,416	45,825	-24%	37,654	295,016	8%	16%	22%
Total Specialty	98,403	657,345	9%	286,415	2,082,047	11%	32%	32%

2005 and 2004 statistical data in tons follow:

Specialty Steel Product Lines	Imports		U.S. Consumption		Twelve Month Import Penetration	
	2005	Increase/Decrease 2005 vs. 2004	2005	Increase/Decrease 05 vs. 04	2005	2004
Stainless Sheet/Strip	378,748	-13%	1,624,772	-10%	23%	24%
Stainless Plate	83,374	22%	253,462	-12%	33%	24%
Stainless Bar	124,008	48%	236,185	15%	53%	41%
Stainless Rod	41,538	-13%	66,095	-10%	63%	65%
Stainless Wire	43,654	4%	76,289	-7%	57%	51%
Total Stainless Steel (Sheet, Strip, Plate, Bar, Rod & Wire)	671,322	-1%	2,256,803	-8%	30%	28%
Alloy Tool Steel 2/	121,860	29%	NC	NC	NC	NC
Electrical Steel	82,595	-5%	406,473	2%	20%	22%
Total Specialty	875,778	2%	2,764,237	-6%	32%	29%

NOTE: Changes in import penetration are percentage point changes.

1/ Year-to-date 2006 Shipments of Wire are estimated based on January - June 2006 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