



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL STEEL, INC.

Economic Growth through Competition in Steel Trade

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David Phelps, President, AIIS
Tel: (703) 245 8075
phelps@aiis.org

Steel Imports Decline again in March

Decline Slows as First Quarter Ends

Falls Church, VA, April 23, 2013 – Steel imports declined again in March by 1.3 percent compared to February based on preliminary government reporting. “After months of declines in arrivals in response to weak economic conditions and steel demand, the only good news in the latest report is that the decline is noticeably smaller, and imports from our NAFTA partners showed an increased, hopefully portending better news going forward. The long-awaited spring rebound in construction may be evidenced in the increase in imports of rebar,” noted David Phelps, president, AIIS.

Steel imports for the first quarter of 2013 compared to 2012 declined by 11.7 percent. “As has been discussed in previous press releases and AIIS’s Steel News, the dramatic level of tax and public policy uncertainty clearly affected the US economy and steel market early in 2013 and played a significant role in delaying the normal seasonal rebound. The data for the first quarter show the impact of delayed decision-making by corporations in these lower levels of steel imports. We remain optimistic about the market strengthening as we move through the second quarter,” concluded Phelps.

Total Steel imports in March 2013 were 2.475 million tons compared to 2.508 million tons in February 2013, 1.3 percent decrease, and a 19.3 percent decrease compared to March 2012. For the year- to - date period, imports decreased from 8.603 million tons in the first three months of 2012 to 7.600 million tons in the same 2013 period, an 11.7 percent decrease.

The data show that imported semifinished products decreased by 40.1 percent in March 2013 compared to March 2012, from 850 thousand tons in 2012 to 509 thousand tons in 2013, based on preliminary reporting. For the year- to - date period, imported semifinished products decreased from 2.099 million tons in the first three months of 2012 to 1.604 million tons in the same 2013 period, a 23.6 percent decrease.

The American Institute for International Steel is the only steel related association which supports free trade. The Institute accomplishes our mission through Advocacy, Networking, Communications and Education.

Steel Import Analysis, Preliminary					
(000s of net tons)					
<u>U.S. Steel Imports</u>					
	<u>March 2013</u>	<u>February 2013</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>March 2012</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Total	2,475	2,508	-1.3%	3,067	-19.3%
Japan	219	204	7.5%	256	-14.3%
EU	331	352	-6.1%	487	-32.1%
Canada	489	418	17.1%	533	-8.2%
Brazil	250	409	-38.8%	440	-43.1%
Korea	277	282	-1.9%	272	1.7%
Mexico	288	222	29.6%	288	-0.1%
Russia	93	127	-27.1%	186	-50.2%
China	136	144	-5.9%	108	25.5%
Australia	-	26	-100.0%	17	-100.0%
South Africa	4	7	-37.0%	10	-55.9%
Indonesia	-	1	-100.0%	6	-116.7%
Turkey	153	114	34.4%	164	-6.6%
Ukraine	10	2	395.9%	26	-61.9%
India	75	44	70.3%	35	114.1%
Others	151	156	-3.2%	239	-36.8%
<u>Cumulative Imports</u>					
	<u>YTD 2013</u>	<u>YTD 2012</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>		
Total	7,600	8,603	-11.7%		
Japan	601	685	-12.2%		
EU	1,050	1,288	-18.5%		
Canada	1,392	1,492	-6.7%		
Brazil	1,008	1,113	-9.4%		
Korea	920	925	-0.6%		
Mexico	726	641	13.2%		
Russia	318	667	-52.4%		
China	449	298	50.5%		
Australia	27	56	-51.8%		
South Africa	25	20	27.0%		
Indonesia	1	12	-91.7%		
Turkey	402	513	-21.6%		
Ukraine	34	85	-60.1%		
India	184	218	-15.6%		
Others	464	590	-21.4%		

<u>Semifinished Imports</u>					
	<u>March 2013</u>	<u>March 2012</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>		
	509	850	-40.1%		
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	<u>YTD 2013</u>	<u>YTD 2012</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>		
	1,604	2,099	-23.6%		