



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL STEEL, INC.

Economic Growth through Competition in Steel Trade

News from AIIS

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Steel Exports Continue to Slump in December But Set an All-Time Record for the Year

Falls Church, VA, February 12, 2013 – Steel exports continued to fall in December, declining another 2.9 percent compared to November after declining nearly 16 percent in November compared to October, according to government data. “Steel exports softened at the end of 2012 due to economic uncertainty in many international markets, very much mirroring the experience in the US market. The decline in exports in December 2012 compared to December 2011 was 19.3 percent and reflected declines in both our close NAFTA partners’ markets as well as smaller markets for US-made steel. The slow finish to 2012 and slow start of 2013 in the US and international markets has clearly impacted international demand even in faster-growing developing countries,” said David Phelps, president AIIS.

For the full year of 2012 compared to 2011, exports reached 13.7 million tons, an increase of 2.2 percent. “Steel exports set a new record in 2012, increasing 2.2 percent over the previous record year of 2008. The weaker conditions at the end of 2012 showed up in the year-to-year comparisons 2012 versus 2011, with the growing Mexican market posting the best results, increasing nearly 700,000 tons. While setting a new record for exports of US-made steel is gratifying, the slump at the end of the year is cause for concern at least about early 2013 export business opportunities. The signs that some pundits see for improved conditions later in 2013 first quarter give some reason for (very) cautious optimism at this point however,” concluded Phelps.

Total Steel exports in December 2012 were 968.990 thousand tons compared to 998.022 thousand tons in November 2012, a 2.9 percent decrease, and a 19.3 percent decrease compared to December 2011. For the year-to-date period, total exports increased from 13.454 million tons in 2011 to 13.745 million tons in 2012 period, a 2.2 percent increase.

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 Export Analysis

(net tons)

<u>U.S. Exports of Steel</u>					
	<u>December 2012</u>	<u>November 2012</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>December 2011</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Total	968,990	998,022	-2.9%	1,200,792	-19.3%
Canada	493,682	555,307	-11.1%	572,391	-13.8%
Mexico	256,976	292,173	-12.0%	316,218	-18.7%
EU	31,049	22,332	39.0%	53,743	-42.2%
Russia	324	1,020	-68.2%	931	-65.2%
Turkey	1,593	2,183	-27.0%	2,141	-25.6%
Brazil	34,399	18,900	82.0%	15,774	118.1%
Venezuela	2,079	11,917	-82.6%	20,456	-89.8%
Ecuador	923	525	75.8%	6,340	-85.4%
Argentina	376	329	14.3%	377	-0.3%
Colombia	10,331	7,265	42.2%	9,681	6.7%
Trinidad and Tobago	1,166	886	31.6%	2,372	-50.8%
Peru	6,113	1,550	294.4%	13,700	-55.4%
Chile	4,075	2,512	62.2%	2,911	40.0%
Dominican Republic	21,667	1,081	1904.3%	26,898	-19.4%
Panama	22,610	1,087	1980.0%	1,462	1446.5%
Other Western Hemishpere	21,527	24,940	-13.7%	24,302	-11.4%
Africa	8,278	9,994	-17.2%	36,432	-77.3%
Australia	2,805	1,584	77.1%	3,153	-11.0%
China	8,383	7,530	11.3%	8,488	-1.2%
Korea	3,814	4,437	-14.0%	3,982	-4.2%
India	9,966	8,596	15.9%	11,979	-16.8%
UAE	3,305	686	381.8%	3,061	8.0%
Pakistan	3,442	4,874	-29.4%	4,251	-19.0%
Singapore	2,374	1,611	47.4%	4,934	-51.9%
Vietnam	554	247	124.3%	296	87.2%
Japan	1,607	1,486	8.1%	1,896	-15.2%
Taiwan	1,720	719	139.2%	12,439	-86.2%
Other Asia	12,747	10,662	19.6%	38,230	-66.7%
Others	1,105	1,589	-30.5%	1,954	-43.4%
<u>Cumulative Exports</u>					
	<u>YTD 2012</u>	<u>YTD 2011</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>		
Total	13,744,578	13,454,195	2.2%		
Canada	6,807,646	6,730,288	1.1%		
Mexico	4,131,219	3,440,829	20.1%		
EU	568,234	603,081	-5.8%		
Russia	7,556	8,864	-14.8%		

Turkey	21,874	32,358	-32.4%		
Brazil	233,212	160,101	45.7%		
Venezuela	118,565	95,752	23.8%		
Ecuador	12,311	50,495	-75.6%		
Argentina	6,814	13,974	-51.2%		
Colombia	125,167	120,021	4.3%		
Trinidad and Tobago	15,253	19,162	-20.4%		
Peru	172,715	126,900	36.1%		
Chile	29,181	35,761	-18.4%		
Dominican Republic	208,991	216,541	-3.5%		
Panama	81,219	117,583	-30.9%		
Other Western Hemishpere	240,082	321,513	-25.3%		
Africa	142,500	286,000	-50.2%		
Australia	37,348	36,789	1.5%		
China	119,667	146,915	-18.5%		
Korea	49,182	71,092	-30.8%		
India	116,057	199,337	-41.8%		
UAE	34,677	28,421	22.0%		
Pakistan	44,667	36,286	23.1%		
Singapore	28,397	39,068	-27.3%		
Vietnam	9,374	32,702	-71.3%		
Japan	26,166	21,228	23.3%		
Taiwan	63,134	175,169	-64.0%		
Other Asia	269,087	285,670	-5.8%		
Others	24,283	2,295	958.1%		
Analysis	<u>YTD 2012</u>	<u>YTD 2011</u>	Percent Change		
Total Exports	13,744,578	13,454,195	2.2%		
NAFTA	10,938,865	10,171,117	7.5%		
non-NAFTA Western Hemishpere	1,243,510	1,277,803	-2.7%		
EU	568,234	603,081	-5.8%		
Africa	142,500	286,000	-50.2%		
Total Asia	760,408	1,035,888	-26.6%		