

## FACT SHEET

### Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis System: Interim Final Rule

- The Department has issued an interim final rule concerning the Steel Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) system. This rule, which is available on this website, is expected to be published in the Federal Register on March 11, 2005.
- The interim final rule extends the SIMA system for an additional four years, until March 21, 2009.
- The interim final rule will also modify the product coverage under the SIMA system to cover all basic steel mill products. Certain downstream steel products currently covered by the system, such as pipe fittings and flanges, will be removed from the system and the licensing requirements. A list of the specific Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) codes for which licenses will be required is included in the notice.
- There will also be some changes to the monitoring section to provide the public with more detailed import information. Previously, information was provided on a product category basis. In addition to this information, the Department intends to issue certain aggregate data on a 6-digit HTS code basis.
- The interim final rule establishes a 60-day period for submission of substantive comments. It also contains a 60-day comment period for purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). Please see the notice for information regarding the submission of substantive and PRA comments.
- For those basic steel mill products already covered by the system, licensing will continue uninterrupted following publication of the interim final rule in the Federal Register.
- For those basic steel mill products not currently covered by the system, licenses will not be required until 90 days after publication of the interim final rule in the Federal Register.
- Licenses will continue to be required for those downstream steel products that are to be removed from the system until 90 days after publication of this notice in the Federal Register.
- The Department intends to issue a final rule, responding to comments received on this interim final rule, before September 30, 2005.
- If you have any questions regarding this interim final rule, please contact the steel licensing team at (202) 482-2105, or by email at [steel\\_license@ita.doc.gov](mailto:steel_license@ita.doc.gov).