



**GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND
DEFINITIONS FOR COMMISSION PRODUCER,
IMPORTER, AND PURCHASER QUESTIONNAIRES**

*Certain Hot-Rolled Flat-Rolled Carbon-Quality Steel Products
from Brazil, Japan, and Russia*
Investigations Nos. 701-TA-384 and 731-TA-806-808 (Review)

***Further information.--If you have any questions concerning the enclosed
questionnaire(s) or other matters related to these reviews, you may contact
the following members of the Commission's staff (Fax 202-205-3205):***

***Dana Lofgren, Investigator (202-205-3185 or dana.lofgren@usitc.gov)
regarding general questions and trade and related information; and***

***Justin Jee, Auditor (202-205-3186 or justin.jee@usitc.gov)
regarding financial information; and***

***Alfred Dennis, Economist (202-205-3316 or alfred.dennis@usitc.gov)
regarding market related information.***

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background—On June 29, 1999, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) issued an antidumping duty order on imports of certain hot-rolled steel products from Japan (64 F.R. 34778). Effective July 6, 1999, Commerce suspended the countervailing duty and antidumping duty investigations on such imports from Brazil (64 F.R. 38792 and 38797, July 19, 1999) and, effective July 12, 1999, Commerce suspended the antidumping duty investigation on such imports from Russia (64 F.R. 38642, July 19, 1999). Subsequent to the termination of the suspension agreement with respect to the antidumping duty investigation on imports of certain hot-rolled steel products from Brazil (67 F.R. 6226, February 11, 2002), Commerce issued an antidumping duty order on such imports (67 F.R. 11093, March 12, 2002). Effective September 26, 2004 Commerce terminated the suspension agreement with respect to the countervailing duty investigation on such imports from Brazil and issued a countervailing duty order on such imports (69 F.R. 56040).

On May 3, 2004, the Commission instituted a review pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1675(c)) (the Act) to determine whether revocation of the orders and termination of the suspension agreement would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time (69 F.R. 24189). If the Commission makes an affirmative determination, the orders and suspension agreement will remain in place. If the Commission makes a negative determination, the Department of Commerce will revoke the orders and suspension agreement.

Additional questionnaires will be supplied promptly upon request, or photocopies of the enclosed questionnaire(s) may be used. Address all correspondence to the United States International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired individuals can obtain information regarding these reviews via the Commission's TDD terminal (202-205-1810).

Due date of questionnaire(s)--Return the completed questionnaire(s) to the United States International Trade Commission by no later than January 10, 2005. Although the enclosed postpaid envelope may be used to return the completed questionnaire, use of an overnight mail service may be necessary to ensure that your response actually reaches the Commission by January 10, 2005. If you do not use the enclosed envelope, please make sure the completed questionnaire is sent to the attention of Dana Lofgren, Investigator. Return only one copy of the completed questionnaire(s), but please keep a copy for your records so that you can refer to it if the Commission staff contacts you with any questions during the course of these reviews.

Service of questionnaire response(s)--In the event that your firm is a party to these reviews, you are required to serve a copy of the questionnaire(s), once completed, on parties to the proceeding that are subject to administrative protective order (see 19 CFR § 207.7). A list of such parties is maintained by the Commission's Secretary and may be obtained by calling 202-205-1803. A certificate of service must accompany the copy of the completed questionnaire(s) you submit (see 19 CFR § 207.7).

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

GENERAL INFORMATION

Confidentiality--The commercial and financial data furnished in response to the enclosed questionnaire(s) that reveal the individual operations of your firm will be treated as confidential by the Commission to the extent that such data are not otherwise available to the public and will not be disclosed except as may be required by law (see 19 U.S.C. § 1677f). Such confidential information will not be published in a manner that will reveal the individual operations of your firm; however, nonnumerical characterizations of numerical business proprietary information (such as discussion of trends) will be treated as confidential business information only at the request of the submitter for good cause shown.

Verification--**The information submitted in the enclosed questionnaire(s) is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. To facilitate possible verification of data, please keep all your work papers and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire responses.**

Release of information--The information provided by your firm in response to the questionnaire(s), as well as any other business proprietary information submitted by your firm to the Commission in connection with these reviews, may become subject to, and released under, the administrative protective order provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1677f) and section 207.7 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.7). This means that certain lawyers and other authorized individuals may temporarily be given access to the information for use in connection with these reviews or other import-injury investigations or reviews conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise; those individuals would be subject to severe penalties if the information were divulged to unauthorized individuals.

Answer all questions--Do not leave any question or section blank unless a questionnaire expressly directs you to skip over certain questions or sections. If the answer to any question is "none," write "none." **If information is not readily available from your records in exactly the form requested, furnish carefully prepared estimates--designated as such by the letter "E"--and explain the basis of your estimates.** Answers to questions and any necessary comments or explanations should be supplied in the space provided or on separate sheets attached to the appropriate page of the questionnaire(s). If your firm is completing more than one questionnaire in connection with these reviews (i.e., a producer, importer, purchaser, and/or foreign producer questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions in the questionnaires.

Consolidate all U.S. establishments--Report the requested data for your establishment(s) located in the United States. **Firms operating more than one establishment should combine the data for all establishments into a single report.**

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS

Certain Hot-Rolled Flat-Rolled Carbon-Quality Steel Products (“hot-rolled steel”) –

For purposes of this order, the products covered are certain hot-rolled flat-rolled carbon-quality steel products of a rectangular shape, of a width of 0.5 inch or greater, neither clad, plated, nor coated with metal and whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances, in coils (whether or not in successively superimposed layers) regardless of thickness, and in straight lengths, of a thickness less than 4.75 mm and of a width measuring at least 10 times the thickness. Universal mill plate (*i.e.*, flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 mm but not exceeding 1250 mm and of a thickness of not less than 4 mm, not in coils and without patterns in relief) of a thickness not less than 4.0 mm is not included within the scope of these investigations. Specifically included in this scope are vacuum degassed, fully stabilized (commonly referred to as interstitial-free (“IF”)) steels, high strength low alloy (“HSLA”) steels, and the substrate for motor lamination steels. IF steels are recognized as low carbon steels with micro-alloying levels of elements such as titanium and/or niobium added to stabilize carbon and nitrogen elements. HSLA steels are recognized as steels with micro-alloying levels of elements such as chromium, copper, niobium, titanium, vanadium, and molybdenum. The substrate for motor lamination steels contains micro-alloying levels of elements such as silicon and aluminum.¹

Steel products to be included in the scope of this order, regardless of Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (“HTSUS”) definitions, are products in which: (1) iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less, by weight; and (3) none of the elements listed below exceeds the quantity, by weight, respectively indicated: 1.80 percent of manganese, or 1.50 percent of silicon, or 1.00 percent of copper, or 0.50 percent of aluminum, or 1.25 percent of chromium, or 0.30 percent of cobalt, or 0.40 percent of lead, or 1.25 percent of nickel, or 0.30 percent of tungsten, or 0.012 percent of boron, or 0.10 percent of molybdenum, or 0.10 percent of niobium, or 0.41 percent of titanium, or 0.15 percent of vanadium, or 0.15 percent of zirconium. All products that meet the physical and chemical description provided above are within the scope of this order unless otherwise excluded.

¹Hot-rolled steel imported under the following statistical reporting numbers of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS): 7208.10.1500, 7208.10.3000, 7208.10.6000, 7208.25.3000, 7208.25.6000, 7208.26.0030, 7208.26.0060, 7208.27.0030, 7208.27.0060, 7208.36.0030, 7208.36.0060, 7208.37.0030, 7208.37.0060, 7208.38.0015, 7208.38.0030, 7208.38.0090, 7208.39.0015, 7208.39.0030, 7208.39.0090, 7208.40.6030, 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.54.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0090, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.3000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7530, 7211.19.7560, 7211.19.7590, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000. Certain hot-rolled flat-rolled carbon-quality steel covered by this order, including: vacuum degassed, fully stabilized; high strength low alloy; and the substrate for motor lamination steel may also enter under the following tariff numbers: 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.30.3050, 7225.30.7000, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9030, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.5000, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0000. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise under order is dispositive.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS

Exclusions ---The following products, by way of example, are outside and/or specifically excluded from the scope of this investigation:

Group A -- Alloy hot-rolled steel products in which at least one of the chemical elements exceeds those listed above (including e.g., ASTM specifications A543, A387, A514, A517, and A506); SAE/AISI grades of series 2300 and higher; Ball bearing steels, as defined in the HTSUS; Tool steels, as defined in the HTSUS; Silico-manganese (as defined in the HTSUS) or silicon electrical steel with a silicon level exceeding 1.50 percent; ASTM specifications A710 and A736; and USS abrasion-resistant steels (USS AR 400, USS AR 500).

Group B -- Finally, the following specified products are excluded.

1. Hot-rolled steel coil which meets the following chemical, physical and mechanical specifications:

C	Mn	P	S	Si	Cr	Cu	Ni
0.10-0.14%	0.90% Max	0.025% Max	0.005% Max	0.30-0.50%	0.50-0.70%	0.20-0.40%	0.20% Max

- Width = 44.80 inches maximum; Thickness = 0.063-0.198 inches; Yield Strength = 50,000 psi minimum; and Tensile Strength = 70,000-88,000 psi.

2. Hot-rolled steel coil which meets the following chemical, physical and mechanical specifications:

C	Mn	P	S	Si	Cr	Cu	Ni	Mo
0.10-0.16%	0.70-0.90%	0.025% Max	0.006% Max	0.30-0.50%	0.50-0.70%	0.25% Max	0.20% Max	0.21% Max

- Width = 44.80 inches maximum; Thickness = 0.350 inches maximum; Yield Strength = 80,000 psi minimum; and Tensile Strength = 105,000 psi

3. Hot-rolled steel coil which meets the following chemical, physical and mechanical specifications:

C	Mn	P	S	Si	Cr	Cu	Ni	V(wt)	Cb
0.10-0.14%	1.30-1.80%	0.025% Max	0.005% Max	0.30-0.50%	0.50-0.70%	0.20-0.40%	0.20% Max	0.10 Max	0.08% Max

- Width = 44.80 inches maximum; Thickness = 0.350 inches maximum; Yield Strength = 80,000 psi minimum; and Tensile Strength = 105,000 psi Aim.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS

4. Hot-rolled steel coil which meets the following chemical, physical and mechanical specifications:

C	Mn	P	S	Si	Cr	Cu	Ni	Nb	Al
0.15% Max	1.40% Max	0.025% Max	0.01% Max	0.50% Max	1.00% Max	0.50% Max	0.20% Max	0.005% Max	0.01- 0.07%
Note: Treated with Ca.									

- Width = 39.37 inches; Thickness = 0.181 inches maximum; Yield Strength = 70,000 psi minimum for thicknesses less than or equal to 0.148 inches and 65,000 psi minimum for thicknesses > 0.148 inches; and Tensile Strength = 80,000 psi minimum.

5. Hot-rolled dual phase steel, phase-hardened, primarily with a ferritic-martensitic microstructure, containing 0.9 percent up to and including 1.5 percent silicon by weight, further characterized by either

- (i) tensile strength between 540 N/mm² and 640 N/mm² and an elongation percentage greater than or equal to 26 percent for thicknesses of 2 mm and above, or
- (ii) a tensile strength between 590 N/mm² and 690 N/mm² and an elongation percentage greater than or equal to 25 percent for thicknesses of 2mm and above.

6. Hot-rolled bearing quality steel, SAE grade 1050, in coils, with an inclusion rating of 1.0 maximum per ASTM E 45, Method A, with excellent surface quality and chemistry restrictions as follows: 0.012 percent maximum phosphorus, 0.015 percent maximum sulfur, and 0.20 percent maximum residuals including 0.15 percent maximum chromium.

7. Grade ASTM A570-50 hot-rolled steel sheet in coils or cut lengths, width of 74 inches (nominal, within ASTM tolerances), thickness of 11 gauge (0.119 inch nominal), mill edge and skin passed, with a minimum copper content of 0.20 percent.

Firm--An individual proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, association, corporation (including any subsidiary corporation), business trust, cooperative, trustee in bankruptcy, or receiver under decree of any court.

Related firm--A firm that your firm solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled; a firm that solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled your firm; and/or a firm that was solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled by a firm that also solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled your firm.

Establishment--Each facility of a firm in the United States involved in the production, importation, and/or purchase of hot-rolled steel (as defined above), including auxiliary facilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate from) such facilities.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS

United States--For purposes of these reviews, the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia.

Importer--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing hot-rolled steel (as defined above) into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Imports--Those products identified for Customs purposes as imports for consumption for which your firm was the importer of record (i.e., was responsible for paying any import duty) or consignee (i.e., to which the merchandise was first delivered).

Import quantities--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

Import values--Values reported should be landed, duty-paid but not including antidumping and/or countervailing duties, at the U.S. port of entry, including ocean freight and insurance costs, brokerage charges, and normal import duties (i.e., including all charges except inland freight in the United States and antidumping and/or countervailing duties).

Purchaser--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in purchasing hot-rolled steel (as defined above) from another firm that produces, imports, or otherwise distributes hot-rolled steel. A retail firm that is the importer of record may be considered a purchaser.

Purchases--Purchases from all sources, NOT including direct imports from foreign producers (which should be reported in an importer questionnaire).

Purchase quantities--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

Purchase values--Values reported should be net values (i.e., gross purchase values less all discounts, allowances, rebates, and the value of returned goods), delivered to your U.S. receiving point.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS

Shipments--Shipments of products produced in or imported by your U.S. establishment(s). Include shipments to the contracting firm of product produced by your firm under a toll agreement.

Shipment quantities--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

Shipment values--Values reported should be net values (i.e., gross sales values less all discounts, allowances, rebates, prepaid freight, and the value of returned goods), f.o.b. your U.S. point of shipment. The value of domestic shipments to the contracting firm under a toll agreement is the conversion fee (including profit).

Types of shipments:

U.S. shipments--Commercial shipments, internal consumption, and transfers to related firms within the United States.

Commercial shipments--Shipments, other than internal consumption and transfers to related firms, within the United States.

Internal consumption--Product consumed internally by your firm.

Transfers to related firms--Shipments made to related domestic firms.

Export shipments--Shipments to destinations outside the United States, including shipments to related firms.

Inventories--Finished goods inventory, not raw materials or work-in-progress.

The following definitions apply only to the PRODUCER QUESTIONNAIRE.

Average production capacity--The level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the specified periods. Assume normal operating conditions (i.e., using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate; normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year) and time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup; and a typical or representative product mix).

Toll agreement--Agreement between two firms whereby the first firm furnishes the raw materials and the second firm uses the raw materials to produce a product that it then returns to the first firm with a charge for processing costs, overhead, etc.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS

Production--All production in your U.S. establishment(s), including production consumed internally within your firm and production for another firm under a toll agreement.

PRWs--Production and related workers, including working supervisors and all nonsupervisory workers (including group leaders and trainees) engaged in fabricating, processing, assembling, inspecting, receiving, storage, handling, packing, warehousing, shipping, trucking, hauling, maintenance, repair, janitorial and guard services, product development, auxiliary production for plant's own use (e.g., power plant), record keeping, and other services closely associated with the above production operations.

Average number employed--Add the number of employees, both full-time and part-time, for the 12 pay periods ending closest to the 15th of the month and divide that total by 12.

Hours worked--Include time paid for sick leave, holidays, and vacation time. Include overtime hours actually worked; do not convert overtime pay to its equivalent in straight-time hours.

Wages paid--Total wages paid before deductions of any kind (e.g., withholding taxes, old-age and unemployment insurance, group insurance, union dues, bonds, etc.). Include wages paid directly by your firm for overtime, holidays, vacations, and sick leave.

Fiscal year--The 12-month period between settlement of your firm's financial accounts.

Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act (Byrd Amendment) funds received--Funds disbursed by the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection under the Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act of 2000 (the "Byrd Amendment"). The Byrd Amendment provides for the annual distribution of the duties collected pursuant to antidumping and countervailing duty orders. The distribution is available to "affected domestic producers for qualifying expenditures."

Purchases other than direct imports--Purchases from U.S. producers, U.S. importers, and other U.S. sources.