PURCHASERS' QUESTIONNAIRE

CUT-TO-LENGTH CARBON STEEL PLATE FROM CHINA, RUSSIA, SOUTH AFRICA, AND UKRAINE

Return completed questionnaire to:

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Office of Investigations, Room 615 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436

So as to be received by the Commission by no later than May 16, 2003

The information called for in this questionnaire is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its antidumping review investigations concerning carbon steel plate from China, Russia, Russia, South Africa, and Ukraine (invs. Nos. 731-TA-753-756 (Review)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII. This report is mandatory and failure to reply as directed can result in a subpoena or other order to compel the submission of records or information in your possession (19 U.S.C. § 1333(a)). Further information on this questionnaire can be obtained from Craig Thomsen (202-205-3226; e-mail: cthomsen@usitc.gov).

	City State Zip code						
	ide Web address						
	rm purchased CTL carbon and/or micro mestic or foreign) since January 1, 1997?	-alloy steel plate (as defined in the	ne instruction booklet) from any				
NO (Sign the certification below and promptly return only this page of the questionnaire to the Cor			estionnaire to the Commission)				
YES (Read the instruction booklet carefully, complete all parts of the questionnaire, sign the certification, and return the entire questionnaire to the Commission)							
		RTIFICATION					
	formation herein supplied in response to t and that the information submitted is sub						
	tification I also grant consent for the Com						
WIADA IN THIS A	uestionnaire and throughout this review						
	e same or similar merchandise. (If you d	to not consent to such use, pieus	e note the certification accordingly				
emmission on the cknowledge tha	t information submitted in this questionne	aire response and throughout thi	s review may be used by the Comm				
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PART I.--GENERAL QUESTIONS

The questions in this questionnaire have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible. Public reporting burden for this questionnaire is estimated to average 20 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering the data needed, and completing and reviewing the questionnaire. Send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436.

hours	dollars	
the instruction bool	and address of establishment(s) covered by klet for reporting guidelines). If your firm and trading symbol.	
	I, in whole or in part, by any other firm? YesList the following information.	
Firm name	Address	Extent of ownership
importing CTL carl United States or wh	ve any related firms, either domestic or for bon steel plate from China, Russia, South hich are engaged in exporting CTL carbon or Ukraine to the United States?	Africa, and/or Ukraine into the
importing CTL carl United States or wh South Africa, and/o	bon steel plate from China, Russia, South	Africa, and/or Ukraine into the

PART I.-GENERAL QUESTIONS--Continued

I-5.	Does your firm have production of CTL ca	any related firms, either domestic or tarbon steel plate?	foreign, which are engaged in the
	□ No □ Y	YesList the following information.	
	Firm name	Address	<u>Affiliation</u>
		<u> </u>	
I-6.	In Part III of this que company have a busi	stionnaire we request copies of your oness plan?	company's business plan. Does your
	☐ Yes ☐ No		
	If yes, did you provid	de the requested copies?	
	Yes In	NoPlease explain why not.	
[-7.	Please indicate the so 1997-March 2003 (cl	ource of CTL carbon steel plate that you heck all that apply):	our firm purchased during January
	United States		
	China		
	Russia		
	South Africa		
	Ukraine		
	All other countries	es	
.			

Note: When discussing CTL carbon steel plate in this questionnaire, please distinguish (as appropriate) between mill-produced CTL plate, and CTL carbon steel plate cut from coiled plate by a processor.

PART II.--PURCHASES

II-1. Report, as indicated below, your firm's purchases (either directly or through a sales agent or broker) of CTL carbon steel plate.

(<i>Quantity</i> in s	hort tons, v	<i>alu</i> e in \$1,0	000)			
Item	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
PURCHASES FROM U.S. PRODUCERS:	•	•	•	•	•	
Quantity						
Value						
PURCHASES FROM CHINA:						
Quantity						
Value						
PURCHASES FROM RUSSIA:						
Quantity						
Value						
PURCHASES FROM SOUTH AFRICA:						
Quantity						
Value						
PURCHASES FROM UKRAINE:						
Quantity						
Value						
PURCHASES FROM ALL OTHER COUNTRIES:1						
Quantity						
Value						
¹ Please identify these countries:	•	-	•	-	-	•

PART II.--PURCHASES--Continued

(a)	Did your firm purchase CTL carbon steel plate from China, Russia, South Africa, a Ukraine before 1997?
	\square NoSkip to (c) \square Yes
(b)	If yes, has your pattern of purchasing CTL carbon steel plate from China, Russia, S Africa, and/or Ukraine changed since 1997?
	No, our pattern of purchasing is essentially unchanged.
	Yes, we discontinued purchases from China, Russia, South Africa, and/or Ukra because of the suspension agreements.
	Yes, we reduced purchases from China, Russia, South Africa, and/or Ukraine b of the suspension agreements.
	Yes, but we changed the pattern of purchases from China, Russia, South Africa and/or Ukraine for reasons other than the suspension agreements (please explain be
(c)	Has your pattern of purchasing CTL carbon steel plate from nonsubject foreign soutchanged since 1997 (please check all that apply).
	We did not purchase from nonsubject foreign sources before or after the order.
	No, our pattern of purchasing is essentially unchanged.
	Yes, we increased purchases from nonsubject countries because of the order.
	Yes, but we changed our pattern of purchases from nonsubject countries for rea other than the suspension agreements (please explain below).

No	2002 e describe the ng factors:
II-5. COMPARABILITY OF CTL CARBON AND MICRO-ALLOY STEELPlease differences and similarities in CTL carbon and micro-alloy steel plate for the following interchangeability in end use of the two products; (c) customer and producer perceptions—describe any perceived differences in the two products (e.g., sales/mark practices); and (d) price—provide a discussion and specific examples of prices for the products. Use additional pages as necessary. (a) Characteristics and uses:	e describe the ng factors:
PURCHASES FROM U.S. PRODUCERS: Quantity Value PURCHASES OF IMPORTS FROM ALL OTHER SOURCES: Quantity Value II-5. COMPARABILITY OF CTL CARBON AND MICRO-ALLOY STEELPlease differences and similarities in CTL carbon and micro-alloy steel plate for the followi (a) characteristics and usesdescribe the differences and similarities in the physical/metallurgical characteristics and end uses; (b) interchangeabilitydiscuss interchangeability in end use of the two products; (c) customer and producer perceptionsdescribe any perceived differences in the two products (e.g., sales/mark practices); and (d) priceprovide a discussion and specific examples of prices for the products. Use additional pages as necessary. (a) Characteristics and uses:	e describe the ng factors:
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(b) Interchangeability:	
(c) Customer and producer perceptions:	
(d) Price:	

I-1.	all that apply, noting the specific end uses if know	•	bon steel plate (check
	END USER ()
	PROCESSOR/SERVICE CENTER (
	DISTRIBUTOR ()
	Other ()
I-2.	If your firm is a distributor or reseller of CTL carbon steel place consumers to which you sell CTL carbon steel place.		the major types of
-3.	List, in order of quantity of CTL carbon steel plate which your firm purchases CTL carbon steel plate indicate what percentage of the total cost is account	e as a component part or	material input. Please
	End-use product	Percent of total <u>purchases</u>	Percent of cost accounted for by CTL carbon steel plate
	1	1	1
	2	2	2
	3	3	3
-4.	Have there been any changes in the end uses of C	TL carbon steel plate sin	ce 1997?
	No YesDiscuss the changes, no	_	

products incorporating C	er of CTL carbon steel plate, has the demand for your firm's final CTL carbon steel plate changed since 1997 for CTL carbon steel plate th Africa, and/or Ukraine?
□ No □ Yes-	Please indicate the direction of change and identify the major factors that have contributed to this change and describe the ways in which any changes in demand for your firm's final products have affected your firm's purchases.
Do substitutes exist for t	he end-use products listed previously?
No Yes	Please identify any such substitutes and explain the effect of any such substitutes on your sales of the listed end-use products and on your purchases of CTL carbon steel plate.
How has demand within carbon steel plate change	the United States (and outside the United States, if known) for CTL ed since 1997?
Unchanged	Increased Decreased
Other (describe)	
What were the principal	factors affecting changes in demand?
Do you anticipate any fu if known, the rest of the	ature changes in CTL carbon steel plate demand in the United States and, world?
□ No □ Yes-	Please describe and identify the time period. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.

III-9.	Please identify any supply factor(s) (e.g., changes in availability or prices of raw materials, energy, or labor; transportation conditions; changes in domestic industry; production capacity and/or methods of production; technology; export markets; alternative production opportunities; or Section 201 remedies) that affected the availability of U.Sproduced CTL carbon steel plate in the U.S. market since 1997. Please note the time period(s) of any such changes, the factor(s) involved, and the impact such changes had on your shipment volumes and prices.
III-10.	What do you think will be the likely effects of any revocation of the suspension agreements for imports of CTL carbon steel plate from China, Russia, South Africa, and/or Ukraine? As appropriate, please discuss any potential effects of revocation of the suspension agreements on (1) the future activities of your firm and (2) the U.S. market as a whole. Please note the future time period to which you are referring. Attach additional pages if necessary.
	(1) Activities of your firm:
	(2) Entire U.S. market:
III-11.	Please provide as separate attachments to this request any studies, surveys, etc., that you are aware of that quantify and/or otherwise discuss CTL carbon steel plate demand and/or factors affecting CTL carbon steel plate demand in the (1) United States, (2) each of the major producing/consuming countries, including those subject to this review, and (3) the world as a whole. Of particular interest is such data on an annual basis from 1997 to the present and forecasts of these demand data.
III-12.	(a) Are there other products that could be substituted for CTL carbon steel plate in its end uses?
	No YesPlease identify such substitutes. If multiple end uses exist for CTL carbon steel plate, please discuss potential substitutes for each.
	(b) Have there been any changes in the number or type of products that can be substituted for CTL carbon steel plate since 1997 concerning imports from China, Russia, South Africa, and/or Ukraine?
	No YesPlease explain.

III-12.	(c) Since 1997, have prices for these substitute products increased, decreased, or remained the same relative to those for CTL carbon steel plate? Have changes in these relative prices caused your firm to shift purchases from CTL carbon steel plate to the substitute products or vice versa?
III-13.	Is buying a product that is produced in the United States an important factor in your firm's purchases of CTL carbon steel plate (please check ALL that apply)?
	No
	YesPurchases of domestic CTL carbon steel plate are required by law or regulation (for example,
	government purchases under "Buy American" provisions). This involves percent of all purchases of CTL carbon steel plate.
	YesPurchases of domestic CTL carbon steel plate are not required by law or regulation, but are
	by your customers. This involves percent of all purchases of CTL carbon steel plate.
iC.	YesPurchases of domestic CTL carbon steel plate are required for other reasons (please
specify	these reasons below). This involves percent of all purchases of CTL carbon steel plate.
III-14.	(a) Is the CTL carbon steel plate market subject to business cycles or conditions of competition distinctive to CTL carbon steel plate?
	No YesPlease explain and provide estimates of the duration of any such cycle.
	(b) Has the emergence of new markets for CTL carbon steel plate since 1997 affected the business cycles or conditions of competition distinctive to CTL carbon steel plate?
	No YesPlease explain any such changes.

III-15.	Who are your major competitors?				
III-16.	Does your firm, and to the extent that you know, do your customers make purchasing decisions involving CTL carbon steel plate based on the producer of the CTL carbon steel plate you purchase?				
	Your firm:				
	Your customers:				
	If at least sometimes, please discuss how your firm or your customers determine the producer and why this information is important.				
	Your firm:				
	Your customers:				
III-17.	Does your firm, and to the extent that you know, do your customers make purchasing decisions involving CTL carbon steel plate based on the country of origin of the CTL carbon steel plate you purchase?				
	Your firm:				
	Your customers:				
	If at least sometimes, please discuss how your firm or your customers determine the source and why this information is important.				
	Your firm:				
	Your customers:				
III-18.	(a) How frequently do you make purchases?				
	Daily				
	Other (specify)				

III-18.	(b) Do you exp	pect this purchasing pattern to change in the next two years?
	□No	YesHow and why do you expect these changes to occur?
III-19.	How many sup	opliers do you generally contact before making a purchase?
III-20.	(a) Do purchas purchaser?	es of CTL carbon steel plate usually involve negotiations between supplier and
	No	YesPlease describe these negotiations. In your response, please comment on whether purchasers generally quote competing prices as part of the negotiation process.
		firm tend to vary its purchases from a given supplier within a specified time period rice offered for that period?
	No	YesSpecify the time period.
III-21.	Have you chan	ged suppliers in the last 5 years? YesPlease list the supplier or suppliers and indicate whether the firm was added or dropped as a supplier. Also give the reasons for the change and how frequently you change suppliers.
III-22.	(a) Are you aw in the last 3 year	rare of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have entered the market ars?
	□No	YesPlease identify the firms and indicate how you become aware of them.

III-22.	(b) Do you expect new CTL carbon steel plate suppliers to enter the market in the future?
	No YesPlease provide details, noting the specific future time period in your response.
III-23.	Please list, in order of their importance, the three major factors generally considered by your firm in deciding from whom to purchase CTL carbon steel plate for any one purchase order (examples include current availability, extension of credit, prearranged contracts, price, quality of product, range of supplier's product line, traditional supplier, etc.).
	1
	2
	3
III-24.	What characteristics does your firm consider when determining the quality of CTL carbon steel plate?
III-25.	How often does your firm purchase CTL carbon steel plate that is offered at the lowest price?
	Always Usually Sometimes Never
III-26.	(a) Are U.Sinland transportation costs a major factor in your firm's consideration of which suppliers to source its CTL carbon steel plate requirements?
	□ No □ Yes
	(b) Of the total cost of the CTL carbon steel plate that your firm purchases, approximately what percent is accounted for by U.S. inland transportation costs (please answer separately for each of your sources)?
	Source percent
	Source percent
	Source percent

III-27.	Have individual U.S. producers, importers, purchasers, or foreign producers/exporters of CTL carbon steel plate influenced the U.S. wholesale market price of CTL carbon steel plate since 1997?
	No YesPlease identify any such firm(s) and note the time period when the firm influenced price, whether the effect was to increase or decrease the price, and why your firm believes that the actions of the firm(s) were responsible for the price change.
III-28.	How frequently does the price of the CTL carbon steel plate you are purchasing change?
III-29.	(a) Do you require your suppliers to become certified or pre-qualified with respect to the quality, chemistry, strength, or other performance characteristic of CTL carbon steel plate they sell to your firm?
	No YesApproximately percent of your firm's total 2002 purchases of CTL carbon steel plate required some form of certification or prequalification.
	(b) Explain why your firm requires supplier certification or pre-qualification.
	(c) Briefly describe the factors that are considered when qualifying a new supplier (e.g., quality of product, reliability of supplier, etc.) and estimate the time it takes to qualify a new supplier.
	(d) Since 1997, have any domestic or foreign producers ever failed in their attempts to qualify their CTL carbon steel plate with your firm or have any producers lost their approved status?
	No YesPlease identify these firms, the countries where they are located, and the reasons why they failed the qualification process.

III-30. (a) As an attachment to this questionnaire, please identify and discuss any improvements/changes

	in the U.S. CTL carbon steel plate industry since 1997 and explain fully, to the extent possible, the factor(s), including the order(s) under review, that was/(were) responsible for each improvement/change.
	(b) Please also discuss fully, to the extent possible, any improvements/changes that you anticipate in the future in the U.S. CTL carbon steel plate industry. Identify the specific future time period covered in your response, and discuss the factors that you believe would be responsible for each improvement/change.
III-31.	Does your firm purchase CTL carbon steel plate over the internet?
	No YesPlease describe, noting the estimated percentage of your firm's total purchases of CTL carbon steel plate in 2002 accounted for by internet purchases.
III-32.	firm purchase CTL microalloy steel plate?
	No YesPlease describe the differences and similarities in CTL carbon and microalloy steel plate for the following factors: (a) characteristics and uses describe the differences and similarities in the physical/metallurgical characteristics and uses; (b) interchangeability discuss the interchangeability in end use of the two products; and (c) price -provide a discussion and specific examples of prices for the two CTL products. Use additional pages as necessary.
	(a) Characteristics and uses:
	(b) Interchangeability:
	(c) Price:

Purchasers' Questionnaire - CTL Carbon Steel Plate

IV-1.	V-1. Please indicate the countries of origin for CTL carbon steel plate for which your firm has marketing/pricing knowledge.				
	United States	China Russia South Africa Ukraine			
	Other countries (specify)				
IV-2.	Do the specifications of CTL c	arbon steel plate vary depending on the end-use application?			
	No	YesPlease list the specifications of the material for each end-use application. If the specifications vary based on the supplier, please list the CTL carbon steel plate specifications for each supplier, noting the country of origin in your response.			

IV-3. Is CTL carbon steel plate produced in the United States and in other countries used in the same applications?

Country-pair	China	Russia	South Africa	Ukraine
United States				
China				
Russia				
South Africa				
Ukraine				
Nonsubject				
	ar over other possible s YesPlea: both	sources of supply? se identify all rele subject and nonsu	vant countries (including lbject foreign countries)	g the United States and from which you or your
particula	YesPlease both custof these countries.	sources of supply? se identify all releasely subject and nonsubmers prefer to order countries is prefer	vant countries (including bject foreign countries)	g the United States and from which you or your TL carbon steel plate from teel plate from other

IV-6.	been higher, lowe Please answer for	r, or about the sa all country comb	me as those of pinations you a	CTL carbon s are familiar wit	teel plate from other the case indicated in you oth subject and nonsu	sources. ar response to
	(country)	Higher	Lower	Same	priced than from _	(country)
	(country)	Higher	Lower	Same	priced than from _	•
		Higher	Lower	Same	priced than from _	37
	(country)	Higher	Lower	Same	priced than from _	(country)
	(country)	C			_	(country)
IV-7.	If you purchased imported CTL car				2002, would you hav a lower price?	e purchased
	plate have	YesHow mue to have been (be CTL carbon stee	elow the price	d the price for you paid) befo	the imported CTL ca ore you would have p	rbon steel urchased the
	China			perc	ent lower	
	Russia			perc	ent lower	
	South Afr	rica		perc	ent lower	
	Ukraine _			perc	ent lower	
	Comments:					

IV-8.	(a) Since 1997, has there been a change in the price of CTL carbon steel plate? If so, has the price of U.Sproduced CTL carbon steel plate changed more or less than the price of imported CTL carbon steel plate from China, Russia, South Africa, and/or Ukraine?
	No change in price
	Prices have changed by the same amount
	Price of U.Sproduced CTL carbon steel plate has changed relative to the price of CTL carbon steel plate from China, Russia, South Africa, and/or Ukraine.
	(b) If the price of U.Sproduced CTL carbon steel plate has changed relative to the price of carbon steel plate from China, Russia, South Africa, and/or Ukraine, the price of U.Sproduced CTL carbon steel plate is now relatively
	Higher Lower

IV-9. For the factors listed below, please rate how CTL carbon steel plate produced in each country you identified in your response to question IV-1 compares with CTL carbon steel plate produced in each of the other countries you identified (including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries). Copy this page as necessary to cover all possible country combinations and please attach any comments you care to make concerning your responses, especially in comparisons where you rate CTL carbon steel plate from one country superior or inferior to CTL carbon steel plate from another.

	compared to _		
(specify country)		(specify country)	
	SUPERIOR	COMPARABLE	INFERIOR
Availability			
Other (specify):			

¹ A rating of "superior" means that the price is generally lower. For example, if you report United States compared to China, Russia, South Africa, and/or Ukraine and check "superior," this means that you rate the U.S. price as generally lower than the China, Russia, South Africa, and/or Ukraine price. Conversely, if you were to check "inferior" in this example, you would be rating the U.S. price as being generally higher than the China, Russia, South Africa, and/or Ukraine price.

IV-10. For the factors listed below, please rate each in terms of its importance in your purchase decision for CTL carbon steel plate.

	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Availability			
Other (specify):			

PART V.--SUPPLIER IDENTIFICATION

Please list the suppliers from which you have purchased CTL carbon steel plate since 1997 and approximate the percentage of your CTL carbon steel plate purchases each accounted for in 2002.

No.	Firm name	Percentage of purchases	No.	Firm name	Percentage of purchases
1			6		
2			7		
3			8		
4			9		
5			10		