



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

**CUT-TO-LENGTH CARBON-QUALITY STEEL PLATE FROM  
FRANCE, INDIA, INDONESIA, ITALY, JAPAN, AND KOREA  
Investigation Nos. 701-TA-388-391 and 731-TA-816-821 (Review)**

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

***Michael Szustakowski, investigator (202-205-3188; E-mail [mgs@USITC.GOV](mailto:mgs@USITC.GOV)) regarding general questions and trade and related information;***

***Justin Jee, auditor (202-205-3186; E-mail [justin.jee@USITC.GOV](mailto:justin.jee@USITC.GOV)) regarding financial information; and***

***Kelly Clark, economist (202-205-3166; E-mail [kelly.clark@USITC.GOV](mailto:kelly.clark@USITC.GOV)) regarding pricing, market, and related information.***

## GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS

### GENERAL INFORMATION

***Background.***--On February 10, 2000, the Department of Commerce issued countervailing duty and antidumping duty orders on imports of cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plate from France, India, Indonesia, Italy, and Korea, and an antidumping duty order on cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plate from Japan.<sup>1</sup> On January 3, 2005, the Commission instituted reviews 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 subject orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time (70 FR 110). If the Commission makes an affirmative determination, the orders will remain in place. If the Commission makes a negative determination, the Department of Commerce will revoke the orders.

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 this review 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 July 21, 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 July 21, 2005. If you do not use the enclosed envelope, please make sure the completed questionnaire is sent to the attention of Michael Szustakowski. **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 the 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).

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<sup>1</sup> (65 FR 6585 and 65 FR 6587). The countervailing duty order on imports of cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plate from France was revoked by the U.S. Department of Commerce on November 7, 2003 (68 FR 64858).

## GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

### GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

***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 workpapers and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire response(s).**

***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 the 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 this review 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.

### INSTRUCTIONS

***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 this review (i.e., a producer, importer, purchaser, and/or foreign producer questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions in the questionnaires.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued**

### **INSTRUCTIONS--Continued**

**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.**

### **DEFINITIONS**

**Cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plate.**--The products covered by the antidumping duty order are certain hot-rolled carbon-quality steel:

- (1) Universal mill plates (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 nominal or actual thickness of not less than 4 mm, which are cut-to-length (not in coils) and without patterns in relief), of iron or non-alloy-quality steel; and
- (2) flat-rolled products, hot-rolled, of a nominal or actual thickness of 4.75 mm or more and of a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness, and which are cut-to-length (not in coils).

These steel products are of rectangular, square, circular or other shape and of rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such non-rectangular cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process (i.e., products which have been "worked after rolling")--for example, products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges. Steel products that meet the noted physical characteristics that are painted, varnished or coated with plastic or other non-metallic substances are included within this scope.

Also, specifically included in the scope of these orders are high strength, low alloy ("HSLA") steels. HSLA steels are recognized as steels with micro-alloying levels of elements such as chromium, copper, niobium, titanium, vanadium, and molybdenum. Steel products to be included in this scope, 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 two percent or less, by weight, and
- (3) none of the elements listed below is equal to or exceeds the quantity, by weight, respectively indicated:

**GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued**

**DEFINITIONS--Continued**

1.80 percent of manganese, or	1.25 percent of nickel, or
1.50 percent of silicon, or	0.30 percent of tungsten, or
1.00 percent of copper, or	0.10 percent of molybdenum, or
0.50 percent of aluminum, or	0.10 percent of niobium, or
1.25 percent of chromium, or	0.41 percent of titanium, or
0.30 percent of cobalt, or	0.15 percent of vanadium, or
0.40 percent of lead, or	0.15 percent zirconium.

All products that meet the written physical description, and in which the chemistry quantities do not equal or exceed any one of the levels listed above, are included in this definition unless otherwise specifically excluded.

The following products are specifically excluded from these orders:

- (1) Products clad, plated, or coated with metal, whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastic or other non-metallic substances;
- (2) SAE grades (formerly AISI grades) of series 2300 and above;
- (3) products made to ASTM A710 and A736 or their proprietary equivalents;
- (4) abrasion-resistant steels (i.e., USS AR 400, USS AR 500);
- (5) products made to ASTM A202, A225, A514 grade S, A517 grade S, or their proprietary equivalents;
- (6) ball bearing steels;
- (7) tool steels; and
- (8) silicon manganese steel or silicon electric steel.

U.S. imports of **cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plate** are covered by statistical reporting numbers of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS):

7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7225.40.3050, 7225.40.7000, 7225.50.6000, 7225.99.0090, 7226.91.5000, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, 7226.99.0000.

## GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

### DEFINITIONS--Continued

Imports of **cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plate** may also include goods in the following HTS subheadings:

7207.12 and 7207.20 (certain hot-rolled slabs (e.g., “profile slabs”) meeting the written physical description on the previous page) and 7211.19 (certain thin-gauge material with a nominal thickness of 4.75 mm or more but an actual thickness of less than 4.75 mm).

Although the HTS statistical reporting numbers are provided for convenience and Customs purpose, the written descriptions of the merchandise under investigation are dispositive.

#### Specified cut-to-length plate products.--

- **X-70 plate:** Cut-to-length plate used to manufacture X-70 line pipe.
- **Other plate used to produce line pipe:** All cut-to-length plate used to manufacture line pipe other than API 5L X-70 and higher line pipe. This includes plate used to produce 5L-A, 5L-B, X-42, X-46, X-52, X-56, X-60, and X-65.
- **Floor plate:** All cut-to-length plate with raised patterns-in-relief.
- **Plate for oil-drilling platforms:** All cut-to-length plate which meets the specifications of (1) API 2H 50, API 2H 60, or their equivalent; (2) API 2W 50, API 2W 50T, API 2W 60, or their equivalent.
- **Shipbuilding plate:** Cut-to-length plate used in the shipbuilding industry for the construction plate of structural parts of ships, barges, and marine equipment. Such plate is typically produced to American Bureau of Shipping or Lloyds' specifications, or to ASTM specifications such as ASTM A-131.
- **Pressure vessel plate:** Cut-to-length plate intended for use in pressure vessels, such as boilers and other critical applications. ASTM specifications A285, A515, and A516 are the most common specifications.
- **Carbon structural steel plate:** Cut-to-length plate intended for general structural purposes, not including high-strength or mill-proprietary products. ASTM specification A-36 is the most common specification.

**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.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued**

### **DEFINITIONS--Continued**

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

**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 cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plate (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 cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plate (as defined above) from another firm that produces, imports, or otherwise distributes cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plate. 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.

**Shipments**--Shipments of cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plates produced in or imported by your U.S. establishment(s). Include shipments to the contracting firm of cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plate produced by your firm under a toll agreement.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued**

### **DEFINITIONS--Continued**

**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.

**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.



## **GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued**

### **DEFINITIONS--Continued**

***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), recordkeeping, 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. For the January-June periods, calculate similarly and divide by 6.

***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.