



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: NANCY GRAVATT
202.452.7115/ ngravatt@steel.org

Preliminary Steel Imports decline 3% in September
Import Market Share at 20%

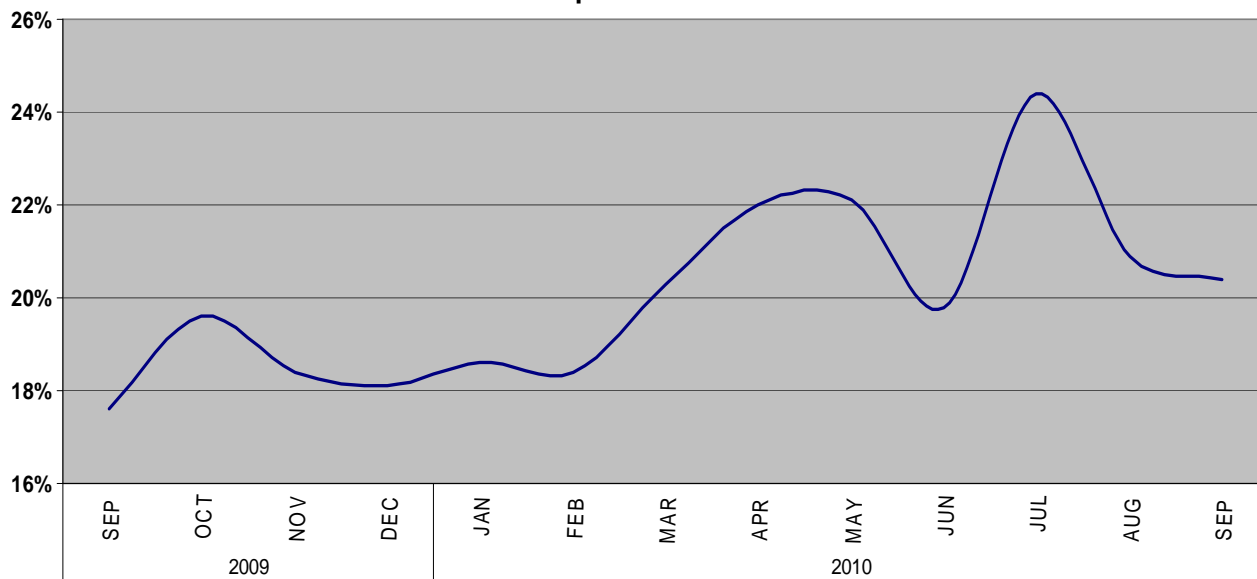
Washington, D.C. – Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported today that the U.S. imported a total of 2,107,000 net tons (NT) of steel in September, including 1,589,000 NT of finished steel (down 3% and 6%, respectively, from August data). Annualized total and finished steel imports in 2010 would be 24.6 and 19.0 million NT, respectively, up 51% and 34% vs. 2009. Finished steel import market share was an estimated 20% in September, vs. year-high 24% in July and a low of 15% in August 2009. For the year-to-date, finished steel import market share is 21%. In the first 9 months of 2010, total and finished steel imports were up 56% and 32%, respectively, compared to the same period last year.

Key finished steel products with significant import increases in September 2010 compared to August include cut length plates (up 51%), hot rolled sheets (up 39%), cold rolled sheets (up 36%), and plates in coils (up 27%). Many finished steel products have registered significant year-to-date import increases in 2010 vs. the same period last year, including wire rods (up 125%) and hot rolled sheets (up 50%).

Steel Mill Product	Sept. (prelim.)	Aug. final	% var Sep. vs. Aug.	(9 mo) YTD 2010	(9 mo) YTD 2009	% var '10 vs. '09	2010 Annualized	2009 12 mo.	% var 2010 ann. vs 2009 12 mo.
Ingot and Billets and Slabs	488,852	483,704	1.1%	4,057,158	995,726	307.5%	5,409,545	2,014,511	168.5%
Sheets Hot Rolled	229,486	165,143	39.0%	1,799,112	1,197,947	50.2%	2,398,816	1,739,209	37.9%
Oil Country Goods	223,379	265,962	-16.0%	1,747,143	1,455,036	20.1%	2,329,524	1,602,111	45.4%
Line Pipe	118,325	126,007	-6.1%	1,232,614	1,249,192	-1.3%	1,643,486	1,603,357	2.5%
Sheets & Strip Galv HD	92,750	142,856	-35.1%	1,121,590	787,449	42.4%	1,495,453	1,033,045	44.8%
Wire Rods	96,363	123,246	-21.8%	1,061,697	472,134	124.9%	1,415,596	763,391	85.4%
Sheets Cold Rolled	114,434	84,039	36.2%	876,386	836,674	4.7%	1,168,514	1,137,583	2.7%
Bars - Hot Rolled	84,079	108,869	-22.8%	787,279	455,610	72.8%	1,049,705	674,388	55.7%
Plates in Coils	85,648	67,206	27.4%	767,867	546,490	40.5%	1,023,822	710,897	44.0%
Plates Cut Lengths	67,457	44,833	50.5%	562,813	409,306	37.5%	750,417	530,221	41.5%
Standard Pipe	64,996	68,188	-4.7%	560,887	469,957	19.3%	747,850	593,409	26.0%
Wire Drawn	49,857	60,548	-17.7%	474,810	339,478	39.9%	633,080	486,302	30.2%
Bars - Reinforcing	46,649	60,648	-23.1%	414,638	356,606	16.3%	552,850	419,426	31.8%
Structural Shapes Heavy	31,421	58,622	-46.4%	386,544	294,348	31.3%	515,391	371,418	38.8%
Tin Plate	40,392	45,483	-11.2%	358,323	227,904	57.2%	477,764	322,955	47.9%
Sheets & Strip All Other	31,127	42,679	-27.1%	330,916	227,958	45.2%	441,222	298,070	48.0%
Mechanical Tubing	40,137	42,191	-4.9%	300,832	274,291	9.7%	401,109	332,661	20.6%
All Other	201,599	185,715	8.6%	1,573,238	1,205,788	30.5%	2,097,652	1,581,949	32.6%
TOTAL	2,106,951	2,175,939	-3.2%	18,413,847	11,801,894	56.0%	24,551,796	16,214,903	51.4%
SUBTOTAL Finished Imports	1,588,989	1,689,402	-5.9%	14,273,081	10,793,557	32.2%	19,030,774	14,178,577	34.2%

In September, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (208,000, up 5%), Japan (113,000 NT, down 19%), China (101,000 up 1%), The Netherlands (63,000 NT, up 43%) and Germany (58,000, down 13%). For the first nine months of 2010, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (1,491,000, up 49%), Japan (999,000 NT, up 37%) and China (668,000 NT, down 49%). Below are charts on estimated steel import market share in recent months and on finished steel imports from offshore by country.

Estimated Finished Steel Import Market Share For Past 12 Months



**U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS
BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
(thousands of net tons)**

COUNTRY	Sep. 2010	Aug. 2010	% incr. Sep. vs Aug.	(9 mo.) YTD 2010	(9 mo.) YTD 2009	% incr. '10 YTD vs. '09	2010 full year (est.)	2009 Annual	% incr. 2010 an. vs. '09
South Korea	208	198	5.3%	1,491	1,001	49.0%	1,988	1,323	50.3%
Japan	113	140	-19.4%	999	732	36.6%	1,333	981	35.9%
China	101	100	1.4%	668	1,300	-48.6%	890	1,463	-39.2%
Germany	58	67	-13.3%	663	375	77.1%	884	495	78.8%
India	17	63	-72.9%	565	470	20.3%	754	581	29.7%
Turkey	41	85	-52.0%	494	382	29.5%	659	492	34.1%
Netherlands	63	44	43.1%	372	187	99.2%	495	375	32.3%
All Other	989	994	-0.5%	9,021	6,349	42.1%	12,028	8,470	42.0%
Total	1,589	1,689	-5.9%	14,273	10,794	32.2%	19,031	14,179	34.2%

**U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS
3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE
(thousands of net tons)**

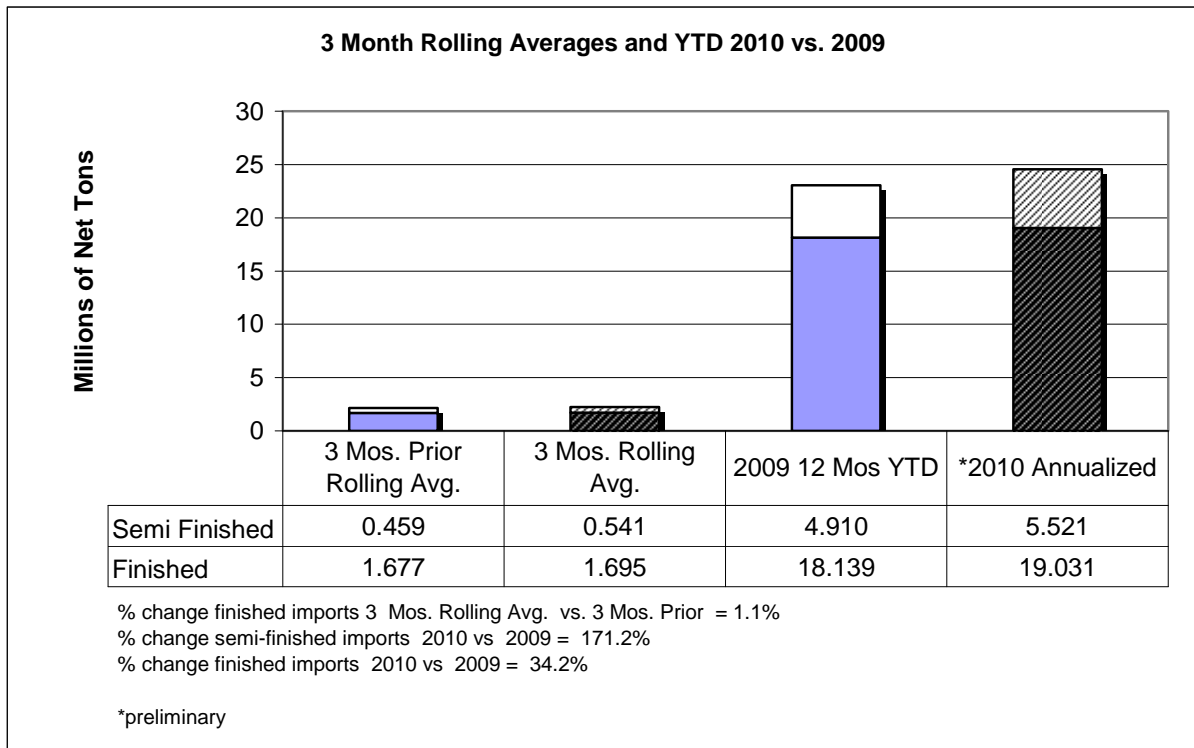
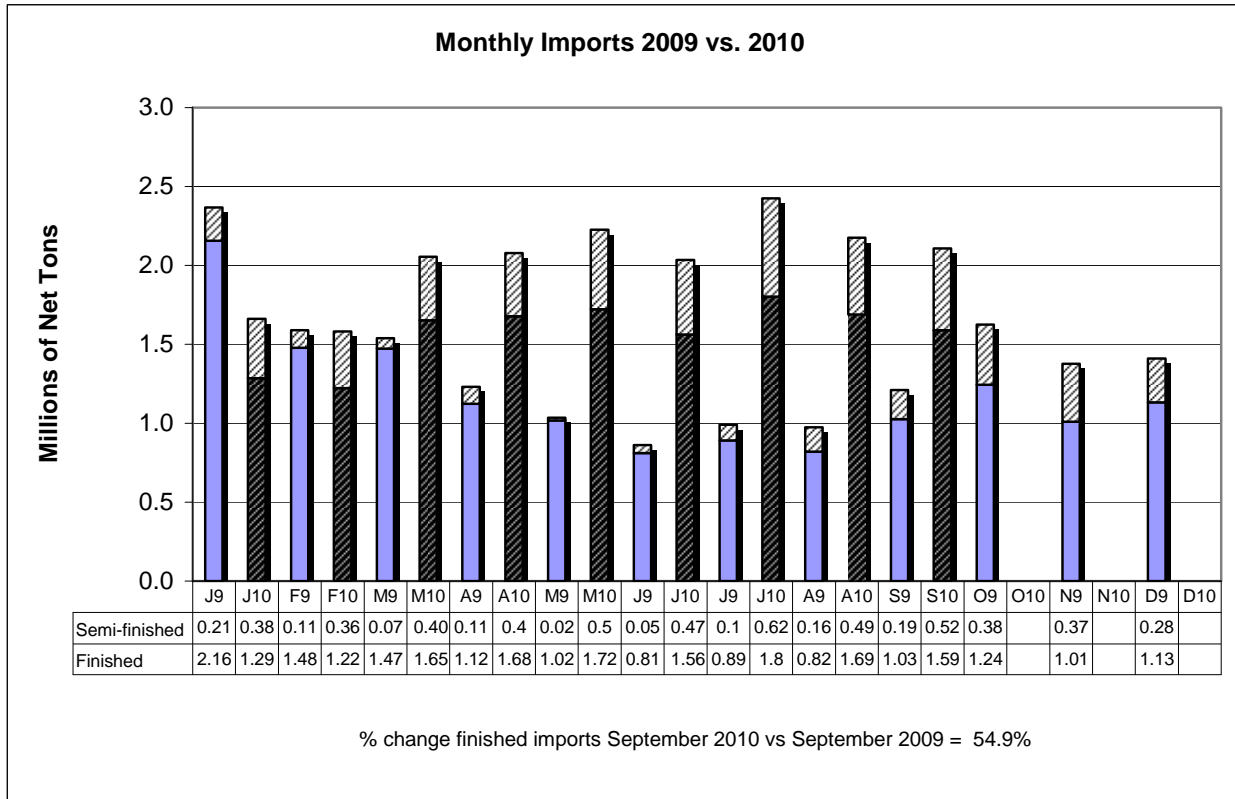
Product	Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Sep. 10 - Jul. 10	Actual 3 Mos. Prior Jun. 10 - Apr. 10	Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change
Oil Country Goods	252	211	19.7%
Hot Rolled Sheets	210	199	5.9%
Line Pipe	139	141	-1.9%
Sheets & Strip Galv Hot Dipped	121	135	-10.5%
Wire Rods	115	123	-6.4%
Cold Rolled Sheets	101	98	3.7%
Bars - Hot Rolled	94	88	7.0%
Plates in Coils	81	108	-25.0%
Standard Pipe	68	65	4.3%
Plates Cut Lengths	63	62	1.3%
All Other	450	447	0.7%
Total	1,695	1,677	1.1%

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3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE
(thousands of net tons)**

Country	Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Sep. 10 - Jul. 10	Actual 3 Mos. Prior Jun. 10 - Apr. 10	Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change
South Korea	201	177	13.5%
Japan	126	96	31.8%
China	98	67	46.4%
India	75	70	7.2%
Germany	71	82	-14.3%
Turkey	58	68	-14.3%
Netherlands	53	45	17.6%
Taiwan	48	56	-14.2%
Australia	43	45	-4.6%
Russia	33	35	-4.7%
All Other	889	936	-5.0%
Total	1,695	1,677	1.1%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

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AISI serves as the voice of the North American steel industry in the public policy arena and advances the case for steel in the marketplace as the preferred material of choice. AISI also plays a lead role in the development and application of new steels and steelmaking technology. AISI is comprised of 23 member companies, including integrated and electric furnace steelmakers, and 138 associate and affiliate members who are suppliers to or customers of the steel industry. AISI's member companies represent approximately 75 percent of both U.S. and North American steel capacity. For more news about steel and its applications, view AISI's Web site at www.steel.org.

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