



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

Preliminary Steel Imports Decline 16% in February
Import Market Share at 18%

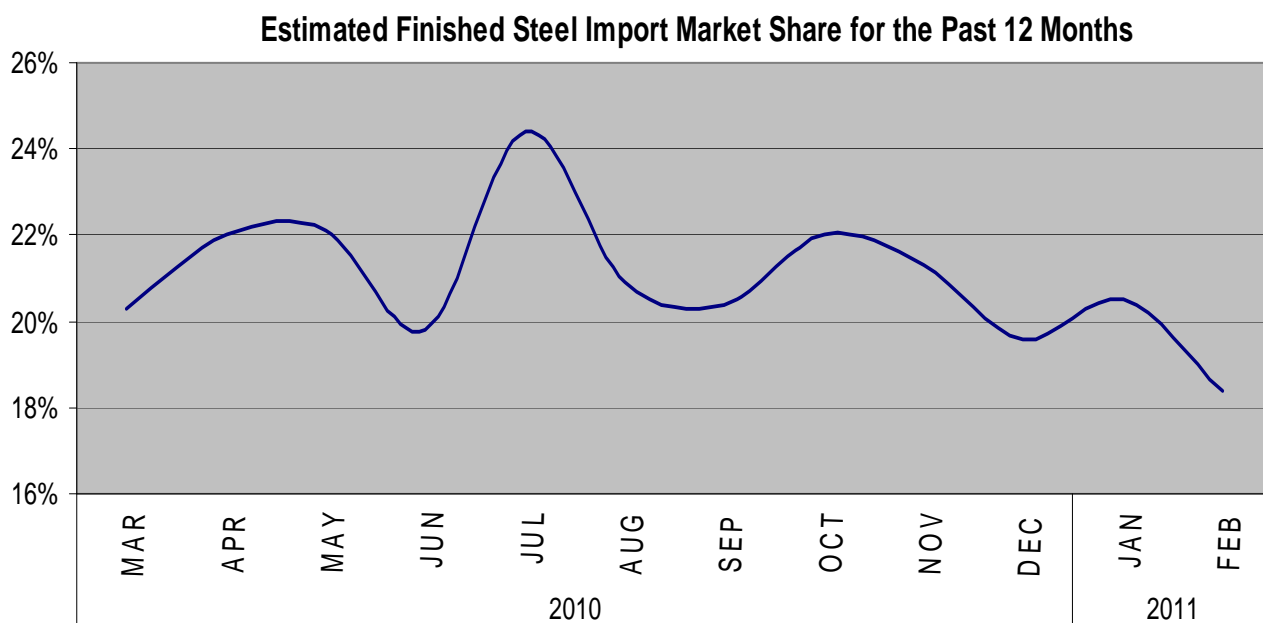
Washington, D.C. – Based on preliminary Census Bureau data, the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) reported today that the U.S. imported a total of 1,777,000 net tons (NT) of steel in February, including 1,371,000 NT of finished steel (down 16% and 19%, respectively, from January final data). Annualized total and finished steel imports in 2011 would be 23.4 and 18.4 million NT, respectively, each down 2% vs. 2010. Finished steel import market share in February was an estimated 18% and is 20% through 2 months of this year, a slight decline from the 21% for full year 2010.

In February 2011, compared to the month before, imports of reinforcing bars were up 63%; they are up 79% year-to-date. Other major products with significant year-to-date import increases vs. the same period last year include oil country goods (up 90%) and cut length plate (up 84%).

Steel Mill Product	Feb. (prelim)	Jan. final	% var Feb. vs. Jan.	(2 mo) YTD 2011	(2 mo) YTD 2010	% var '11 vs. 10	2011 Annualized	2010 12 mo.	% var 2011 ann. vs 2010 12 mo.
Ingots and Billets and Slabs	402,368	413,404	-2.7%	815,772	733,798	11.2%	4,894,630	5,005,064	-2.2%
Sheets Hot Rolled	168,367	220,075	-23.5%	388,441	354,345	9.6%	2,330,649	2,397,458	-2.8%
Oil Country Goods	164,759	237,301	-30.6%	402,061	211,952	89.7%	2,412,364	2,384,004	1.2%
Line Pipe	116,487	131,473	-11.4%	247,961	243,355	1.9%	1,487,763	1,490,643	-0.2%
Bars - Hot Rolled	87,751	107,972	-18.7%	195,723	149,845	30.6%	1,174,340	1,049,046	11.9%
Sheets Cold Rolled	83,849	97,644	-14.1%	181,494	185,427	-2.1%	1,088,962	1,221,365	-10.8%
Bars - Reinforcing	83,198	51,054	63.0%	134,253	75,210	78.5%	805,516	516,678	55.9%
Sheets & Strip Galv Hot	73,131	99,028	-26.2%	172,159	200,943	-14.3%	1,032,952	1,420,686	-27.3%
Wire Rods	69,452	108,616	-36.1%	178,068	214,317	-16.9%	1,068,411	1,317,772	-18.9%
Plates Cut Lengths	69,106	68,559	0.8%	137,665	74,887	83.8%	825,992	749,357	10.2%
Plates in Coils	58,303	82,777	-29.6%	141,081	110,979	27.1%	846,484	1,022,372	-17.2%
Standard Pipe	51,802	77,783	-33.4%	129,584	107,781	20.2%	777,506	777,599	0.0%
Wire Drawn	48,270	52,537	-8.1%	100,806	91,357	10.3%	604,838	631,547	-4.2%
Mechanical Tubing	35,631	51,009	-30.1%	86,641	47,979	80.6%	519,843	425,779	22.1%
Sheets & Strip All Other	32,536	34,511	-5.7%	67,047	57,438	16.7%	402,282	413,537	-2.7%
Structural Shapes Heavy	27,441	37,193	-26.2%	64,634	48,722	32.7%	387,806	522,001	-25.7%
Bars - Cold Finished	25,587	26,937	-5.0%	52,524	30,996	69.5%	315,143	268,227	17.5%
All Other	179,389	218,928	-18.1%	398,314	305,092	30.6%	2,389,889	2,316,016	3.2%
TOTAL	1,777,427	2,116,801	-16.0%	3,894,228	3,244,423	20.0%	23,365,370	23,929,151	-2.4%
SUBTOTAL Finished Imports	1,371,138	1,700,103	-19.3%	3,071,241	2,507,579	22.5%	18,427,446	18,857,005	-2.3%

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In February, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (183,000, down 15%), Japan (123,000 NT, down 5%), Turkey (70,000 up 96%), Germany (64,000 NT, down 34%) and Australia (53,000, down 29%). For the first 2 months of 2011, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (396,000, up 59%), Japan (252,000 NT, up 29%) and Germany (162,000 NT, up 150%). Below are charts on estimated steel import market share in recent months and on finished steel imports from offshore by country.



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

COUNTRY	Feb. 2010	Jan. 2010	% incr. Feb. vs Jan.	(2 mo.) YTD 2011	(2 mo.) YTD 2010	% incr. '11 YTD vs. '10	2011 full year (est.)	2010 Annual	% incr. 2011 an. vs. '10
South Korea	183	214	-14.5%	396	249	59.3%	2,378	2,041	16.5%
Japan	123	129	-4.8%	252	196	28.8%	1,513	1,325	14.2%
Turkey	70	36	95.9%	105	66	59.5%	632	582	8.6%
Germany	64	98	-34.1%	162	65	150.3%	972	879	10.5%
Australia	53	74	-29.0%	127	76	67.9%	763	519	47.0%
China	48	59	-17.5%	107	112	-4.8%	641	858	-25.3%
Taiwan	38	39	-4.0%	77	45	70.7%	462	536	-13.9%
All Other	793	1,052	-24.6%	1,845	1,700	8.5%	11,068	12,117	-8.7%
Total	1,371	1,700	-19.3%	3,071	2,508	22.5%	18,427	18,857	-2.3%

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

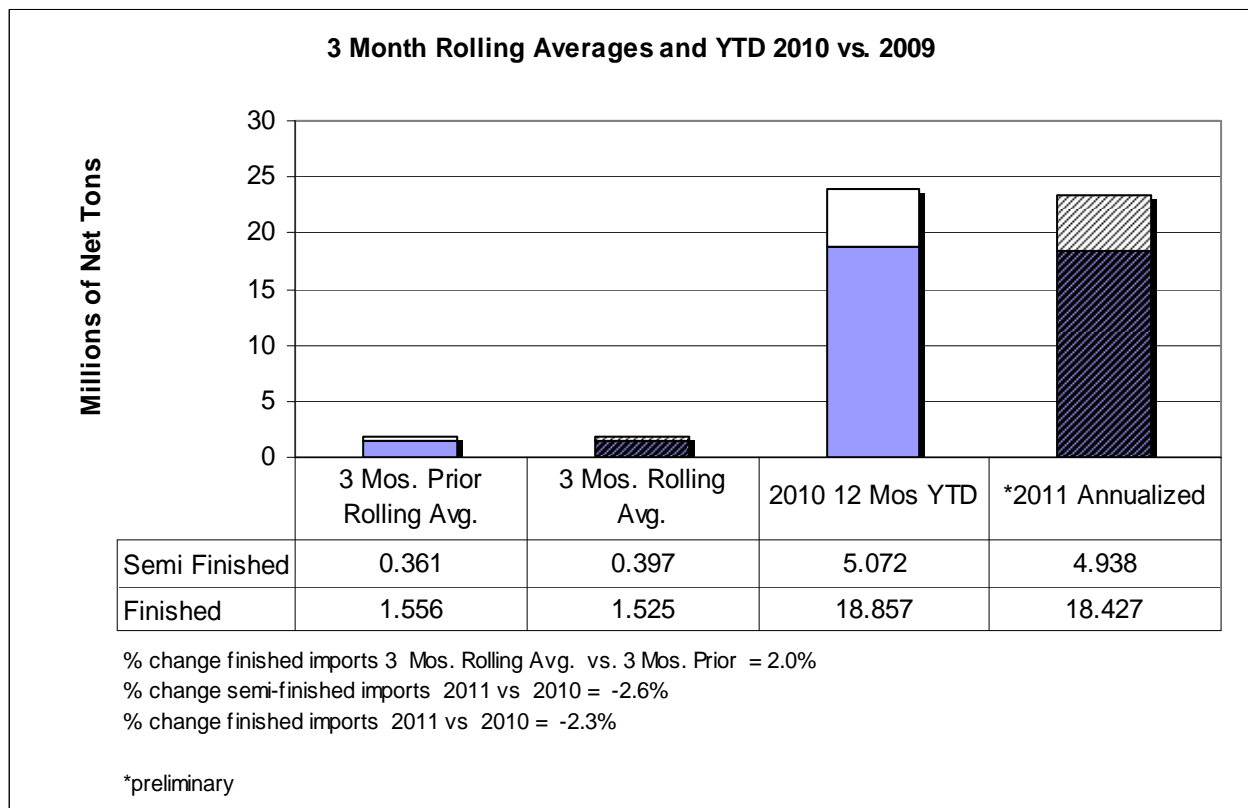
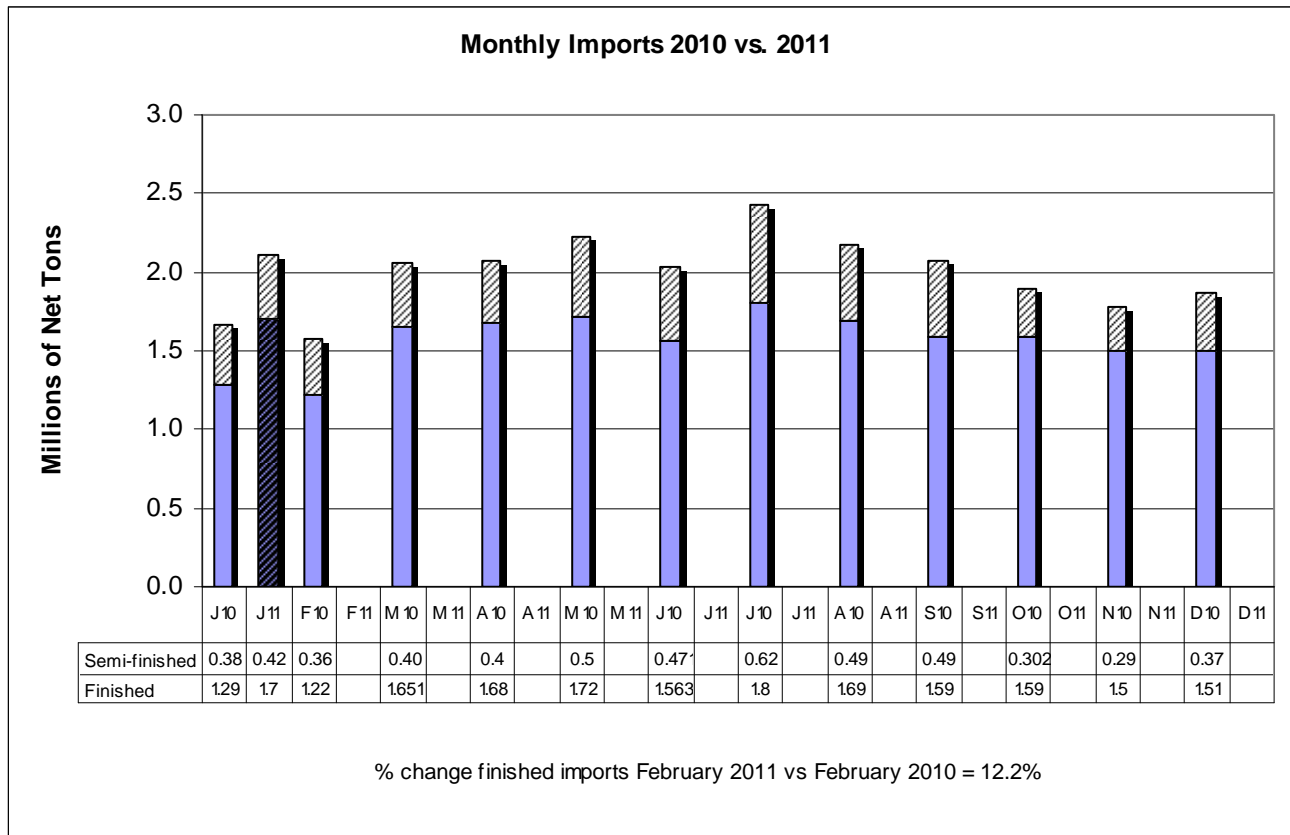
Product	Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Feb. 11 - Dec. 10	Actual 3 Mos. Prior Nov. 10 - Sep. 10	Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change
Hot Rolled Sheets	202	204	-0.9%
Oil Country Goods	191	230	-17.0%
Line Pipe	113	95	18.6%
Cold Rolled Sheets	99	115	-13.7%
Bars - Hot Rolled	98	83	18.1%
Wire Rods	86	91	-5.0%
Sheets & Strip Galv Hot Dipped	85	103	-17.3%
Plates in Coils	78	83	-6.2%
Plates Cut Lengths	71	60	17.8%
Standard Pipe	62	75	-18.2%
All Other	442	418	5.7%
Total	1,525	1,556	-2.0%

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

Country	Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. Feb. 11 - Dec. 10	Actual 3 Mos. Prior Nov. 10 - Sep. 10	Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change
South Korea	197	188	4.9%
Japan	118	112	5.4%
Germany	76	69	8.9%
China	57	76	-24.8%
Australia	56	42	32.8%
Turkey	42	36	16.0%
Taiwan	39	50	-22.4%
Netherlands	35	60	-41.9%
India	32	46	-30.7%
United Kingdom	31	22	38.8%
All Other	843	854	-1.3%
Total	1,525	1,556	-2.0%

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 25 member companies, including integrated and electric furnace steelmakers, and 140 associate and affiliate members who are suppliers to or customers of the steel industry. AISI's member companies represent approximately 80 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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