

**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE**

ARTICLE XIX - PROPOSED IMPORT RELIEF ACTION BY THE UNITED STATES

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Products

The following communication, dated 24 August 1984, has been received from the Permanent Mission of the United States.

1. On July 24, 1984, in accordance with the provisions of Section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974, The United States International Trade Commission (USITC) reported to the President its determination that certain carbon and alloy steel products are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury, or threat of serious injury, to the domestic industries producing like or competitive articles. A majority of the USITC Commissioners recommended that import restrictions be imposed on the affected products for a period of five years.

2. The USITC findings resulted from an investigation undertaken in response to a petition filed on January 24, 1984 on behalf of the United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO/CLC, and Bethlehem Steel Corporation. A majority of the USITC Commissioners recommended import restrictions for five years to remedy the serious injury or threat thereof found for the domestic industries producing five groups of iron and steel products: ingots, blooms, billets, slabs, and sheet bars; plates; sheets and strip; structural shapes and units (excluding light structural shapes); and wire and wire products. For purposes of the relief recommendation, the USITC treated wire and wire products as two separate categories and subdivided sheet and strip products into four subcategories: hot rolled, cold rolled, galvanized, and other further worked sheets and strip. The majority USITC recommendations include a tariff rate quota for ingots, blooms, billets, slabs, and sheet bars, an additional tariff for wire products, and quantitative restrictions on the other categories. The affected products and the tariff rates currently applicable are listed in the attachment to this notification.

3. The USITC's report shows that there has been an increase in imports relative to domestic shipments of all steel mill products subject to the investigation, from a ratio of 17.9 percent in 1979 to 34.1 percent in the first quarter of 1984. Injury to the domestic steel industry is demonstrated by the decline in domestic production of raw carbon steel from 134.2 million tons in 1979 to 82.9 million tons in 1983; the decline in employment in U.S. firms producing these products from 168,000 employees in 1979 to 98,400 in 1983; and the deterioration of the overall financial performance of the domestic industry which suffered operating losses of over 5 billion dollars in 1982 and 1983. A majority of the Commissioners determined that for the five industries listed above, the increase in imports was a substantial cause of serious injury or threat of serious injury. For the domestic industries producing four other groups of iron and steel products subject to the USITC investigation, a majority of the Commissioners determined that factors other than imports were more important causes of injury and import relief was not recommended. These product groups are; wire rods, railway-type products, bars, and pipes and tubes.

4. Additional details regarding the USITC investigation are available in the Public Report of the USITC to the President (USITC Publication 1553), which may be obtained from the Office of the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20436.

5. Under Section 202 of the Trade Act of 1974, the President has sixty days following the receipt of a recommendation for relief from the USITC to determine if providing relief is in the national economic interest and, if so, what method and amount of import relief he will provide.

6. The United States is prepared to consult with the CONTRACTING PARTIES and with contracting parties having a substantial interest as exporters of these products under Article XIX:2 of the General Agreement.

ATTACHMENT

TSUS #	DESCRIPTION	1984 TARIFF RATE
<b>INGOTS, BLOOMS, BILLETS, SLABS, AND SHEET BARS</b>		
606.67	Ingots, blooms, billets, slabs, and sheet bars of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel	5.1% ad val.
ex 606.69	Ingots, blooms, billets, slabs, and sheet bars of alloy iron or steel other than stainless steel	6.6% ad val. + additional duties
<b>PLATES</b>		
607.66	Plates of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, hot rolled	6.8% ad val.
607.69	Plates of tool steel of the type described in headnote 2(h)(vii) of Subpart B of Part 2 of TSUS Schedule 6, hot rolled	6.7% ad val. + additional duties
607.78	Plates of alloy iron or steel other than tool or stainless steel, hot rolled	6.7% ad val. + additional duties
ex 607.83	Plates of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, pickled or cold rolled	6.6% ad val.
607.86	Plates of tool steel of the type described in headnote 2(h)(vii) of Subpart B of Part 2 of TSUS Schedule 6, pickled or cold rolled	7% ad val. + additional duties
607.91	Plates of Alloy iron or steel other than tool or stainless steel, pickled or cold rolled	7.9% ad val. + additional duties
607.94	Plates of iron or steel, clad	9.3% ad val.

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TSUS #	DESCRIPTION	1984 TARIFF RATE
ex 608.07	Plates, other than alloy iron or steel, coated or plated with metal other than tin and other than terne plate, valued not over 10 cents per pound	7.3% ad val.
608.11	Plates, other than alloy iron or steel, coated or plated with metal other than tin and other than terne plate, valued over 10 cents per pound	7.1% ad val.
ex 608.14	Plates, alloy iron or steel, coated or plated with metal other than tin and other than terne plate	8.6% ad val. + additional duties
ex 609.14	Plates of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, cut, pressed, or stamped to nonrectangular shape	6.6% ad val. GSP eligible
ex 609.15	Plates of alloy iron or steel, cut, pressed, or stamped to nonrectangular shape	7.9% ad val. + additional duties GSP eligible
<b>HOT ROLLED SHEETS AND STRIP</b>		
607.67	Sheets of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, not pickled or cold rolled	6.2% ad val.
607.81	Sheets of alloy iron or steel other than tool or stainless steel, not pickled or cold rolled	9.5% ad val. + additional duties

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TSUS #	DESCRIPTION	1984 TARIFF RATE
ex 607.83	Sheets of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, pickled but not cold rolled	6.6% ad val.
ex 607.83	Sheets of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, pickled or cold rolled, painted or varnished	6.6% ad val.
ex 608.19	Strips of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, not over 0.01 inch thick, hot rolled	4.2% ad val.
ex 608.21	Strips of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, over 0.01 inch but not over 0.05 inch thick, hot rolled	6% ad val.
ex 608.23	Strips of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, over 0.05 inch thick, hot rolled	7.6% ad val.
608.59	Strips of tool steel of the type described in headnote 2(h) (vii) of Subpart B of Part 2 of TSUS Schedule 6, over 0.05 inch thick	8.9% ad val. + additional duties
ex 608.67	Strips of alloy iron or steel other than stainless, tool, or heat-resisting steel, over 0.05 inch thick	8.9% ad val. + additional duties
<b>COLD ROLLED SHEETS AND STRIP</b>		
607.62	Corrugated or crimped "black plate"	7.3% ad val.
607.64	"Black plate", other than corrugated or crimped	5.6% ad val.

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TSUS #	DESCRIPTION	1984 TARIFF RATE
ex 607.83	Sheets of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, cold rolled	6.6% ad val.
607.92	Sheets of silicon electrical steel	7.9% ad val. + additional duties
ex 607.93	Sheets of alloy iron or steel other than tool, stainless, silicon electrical, or heat-resisting steel	7% ad val. + additional duties
ex 608.19	Strips of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, not over 0.01 inch thick, cold rolled	4.2% ad val.
ex 608.21	Strips of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, over 0.01 inch but not over 0.05 inch thick, cold rolled	6% ad val.
ex 608.23	Strips of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, over 0.05 inch thick, cold rolled	7.6% ad val.
608.31	Strips of tool steel of the type described in headnote 2(h)(vii) of Subpart B of Part 2 of TSUS Schedule 6, not over 0.01 inch thick	6.6% ad val. + additional duties
ex 608.38	Strips of alloy iron or steel other than stainless, tool, or heat-resisting steel, not over 0.01 inch thick	6.6% ad val. + additional duties
608.39	Strips of silicon electrical steel over 0.01 but not over 0.05 inch thick	8.8% ad val. + additional duties

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TSUS #	DESCRIPTION	1984 TARIFF RATE
608.47	Strips of tool steel of the type described in headnote 2(h)(vii) of Subpart B of Part 2 of TSUS Schedule 6, over 0.01 but not over 0.05 inch thick	8.3% ad val. + additional duties
ex 608.55	Strips of alloy iron or steel other than stainless, tool, or heat-resisting steel, not over 0.01 inch thick	8.3% ad val. + additional duties
<b>GALVANIZED SHEETS AND STRIP</b>		
ex 608.13	Sheets of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, coated with zinc or aluminum, valued over 10 cents per pound	7.6% ad val.
<b>OTHER FURTHER WORKED SHEETS AND STRIP</b>		
ex 607.83	Sheets of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, pickled or cold rolled, painted or varnished	6.6% ad val.
607.96	Tin coated sheets of iron or steel imported for use in the manufacture of maple sap evaporators	Free
607.97	Other tin coated sheets of iron or steel valued not over 10 cents per pound	6.6% ad val.
607.99	Other tin coated sheets of iron or steel valued over 10 cents per pound	3.9% ad val.
608.01	Terne coated sheets of iron or steel	4.8% ad val.

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TSUS #	DESCRIPTION	1984 TARIFF RATE
ex 608.07	Sheets of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, coated or plated with metal other than tin or terne, valued not over 10 cents per pound	7.3% ad val.
ex 608.13	Sheets of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, coated or plated with metal other than tin, terne, zinc, or aluminum, valued over 10 cents per pound	7.6% ad val.
ex 608.14	Sheets of alloy iron or steel coated or plated with metal other than tin or terne	8.6% ad val. + additional duties
609.17	Sheets and Strips of iron or steel electrolytically coated or plated with base metal other than tin, lead, or zinc	7.6% ad val.
<b>WIRE</b>		
609.20	Flat wire of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, not over 0.01 inch thick	5.1% ad val.
609.21	Flat wire of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, over 0.01 but not over 0.05 inch thick	5.6% ad val.
609.22	Flat wire of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, over 0.05 inch thick	6.6% ad val.
609.25	Flat wire of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, coated or plated with metal, not over 0.01 inch thick	5.2% ad val.



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TSUS #	DESCRIPTION	1984 TARIFF RATE
609.28	Flat wire of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, coated or plated with metal, over 0.01 inch thick	6.7% ad val.
ex 609.30	Flat wire of alloy iron or steel other than stainless steel, not over 0.01 inch thick	5.6% ad val. + additional duties
ex 609.33	Flat wire of alloy iron or steel other than stainless steel, over 0.01 inch thick	7.9% ad val. + additional duties
609.35	Flat wire of alloy iron or steel coated or plated with metal, not over 0.01 inch thick	6.7% ad val. + additional duties
609.36	Flat wire of alloy iron or steel coated or plated with metal, over 0.01 but not over 0.05 inch thick	8.1% ad val. + additional duties
609.37	Flat wire of alloy iron or steel coated or plated with metal, over 0.05 inch thick	8.3% ad val. + additional duties
609.40	Round wire of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, under 0.060 inch in diameter	6.9% ad val.
609.41	Round wire of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, 0.060 inch or more in diameter, containing not over 0.25 percent by weight of carbon	1.5% ad val.
609.43	Round wire of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, 0.060 inch or more in diameter, containing over 0.25 percent by weight of carbon	6.9% ad val.
ex 609.45	Round wire of alloy iron or steel other than stainless or high speed tool steel	9.8% ad val. + additional duties

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TSUS #	DESCRIPTION	1984 TARIFF RATE
609.70	Wire other than flat or round of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, not coated or plated with metal	7.3% ad val.
609.72	Wire other than flat or round of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, coated or plated with metal	7.4% ad val.
609.75	Wire other than flat or round of alloy iron or steel, not coated or plated with metal	8.6% ad val. + additional duties
609.76	Wire other than flat or round of alloy iron or steel, coated or plated with metal	8.6% ad val. + additional duties
642.90	Single loop bale ties made of round wire of iron or steel over 0.055 but not over 0.082 inch in diameter, and 7.5 or more but not over 10.5 feet in length	Free
642.91	Other bale ties made from wire of iron or steel	7.1% ad val.
642.96	Galvanized wire wholly of round iron or steel wire measuring not over 0.20 inch and not under 0.075 inch in diameter, if covered with plastics	0.9% ad val.
642.97	Other milliners' wire and other wire covered with textile or other material not wholly of metal	6.9% ad val.
<b>WIRE PRODUCTS</b>		
642.02	Barbed wire	Free
ex 642.11	Wire strand of iron or steel other than stainless steel, other than brass plated wire	5.9% ad val.

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TSDS #	DESCRIPTION	1984 TARIFF RATE
642.35	Galvanized wire fencing wholly of round iron or steel wire measuring not over 0.20 inch and not under 0.075 inch in diameter, whether or not such wire is covered with plastics	0.1 cent/pound
646.25	Brads, nails, spikes, staples (other than in strip form), and tacks (other than thumb tacks), of iron or steel, of one piece construction, made of round wire under 1 inch in length and under 0.065 inch in diameter	0.5% ad val.
646.26	Brads, nails, spikes, staples (other than in strip form), and tacks (other than thumb tacks), of iron or steel, of one piece construction, made of round wire 1 inch or more in length and 0.065 inch or more in diameter	0.5% ad val.
<b>STRUCTURAL SHAPES AND UNITS</b>		
ex 609.80	Angles, shapes, and sections of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, having a maximum cross-sectional dimension of 3 inches or more	0.9% ad val.
ex 609.82	Angles, shapes, and sections of alloy iron or steel other than stainless steel, having a maximum cross-sectional dimension of 3 inches or more	2.2% ad val. + additional duties
609.84	Angles, shapes, and sections of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel, drilled, punched, or otherwise advanced	5.5% ad val.
609.86	Angles, shapes, and sections of alloy iron or steel, drilled, punched, or otherwise advanced	6.9% ad val. + additional duties

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<u>TSUS #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>1984 TARIFF RATE</u>
609.96	Sheet piling of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel	0.8% ad val.
609.98	Sheet piling of alloy iron or steel	1.9% ad val. + additional duties
652.94	Columns, pillars, posts, beams, girders, and similar structural units of iron or steel other than alloy iron or steel and other than cast iron	1.4% ad val.
652.96	Columns, pillars, posts, beams, girders, and similar structural units in part of alloy iron or steel other than stainless steel	4.5% ad val.