American Iron and Steel Institute

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 25, 2012

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Finished Steel Imports Decline in June, But Up 22 Percent in First Half 2012

Import Market Share in 2012 at 24 Percent

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 2,593,000 net tons (NT) of steel in June, including 2,098,000 NT of finished steel (down 15 and 13% each, respectively, from May final data). Year-to-date (YTD) finished imports are up 22% vs. the same period in 2011. Annualized total and finished steel imports in 2012 would be 34.8 and 27.0 million NT, respectively, up 22 and 24%, each, respectively vs. 2011. Finished steel import market share in June was 23% and is 24% YTD.

A key finished steel product with a significant import increase in June 2012 compared to May is tin plate (up 20%). Major products with significant YTD import increases vs. the same period last year include reinforcing bar (up 55%), plates – cut lengths (up 51%), oil country goods (up 40%), sheets and strip – all other metallic coatings (up 38%) and sheets and strip galvanized hot dipped (up 38%).

Steel Mill Product	June (prelim.)	May final	% var June vs. May	(6 mo) YTD 2012	(6 mo) YTD 2011	% var '12 vs. '11	2012 Annualized	2011 12 mo.	% var 2012 ann. vs 2011 12 mo.
Ingots and Billets and Slabs	489,228	646,729	-24.4%	3,885,087	3,520,022	10.4%	7,770,174	6,624,733	17.3%
Oil Country Goods	324,542	384,116	-15.5%	1,951,614	1,396,893	39.7%	3,903,228	2,908,516	34.2%
Sheets Hot Rolled	235,030	233,915	0.5%	1,417,939	1,350,753	5.0%	2,835,878	2,664,062	6.4%
Line Pipe	189,231	257,266	-26.4%	1,377,940	1,002,087	37.5%	2,755,880	1,974,262	39.6%
Sheets & Strip Galv Hot Dipped	154,863	196,107	-21.0%	985,159	714,065	38.0%	1,970,318	1,461,926	34.8%
Bars - Hot Rolled	157,019	165,912	-5.4%	817,370	674,127	21.2%	1,634,740	1,325,170	23.4%
Plates in Coils	101,530	130,441	-22.2%	808,974	667,422	21.2%	1,617,948	1,359,883	19.0%
Sheets Cold Rolled	130,204	144,162	-9.7%	778,699	719,754	8.2%	1,557,398	1,392,689	11.8%
Plates Cut Lengths	122,366	134,469	-9.0%	734,194	487,713	50.5%	1,468,388	1,168,748	25.6%
Wire Rods	93,626	90,054	4.0%	633,139	595,583	6.3%	1,266,278	1,015,111	24.7%
Bars - Reinforcing	66,463	75,983	-12.5%	618,750	399,957	54.7%	1,237,500	655,419	88.8%
Standard Pipe	85,453	96,543	-11.5%	501,216	439,056	14.2%	1,002,432	832,144	20.5%
Sheets & Strip All Other Met.	53,245	68,185	-21.9%	371,604	268,672	38.3%	743,208	532,532	39.6%
Mechanical Tbing	58,334	69,706	-16.3%	358,048	306,802	16.7%	716,096	615,366	16.4%
Wire Drawn	61,450	64,916	-5.3%	346,798	334,217	3.8%	693,596	635,787	9.1%
Structural Shapes Heavy	26,783	42,615	-37.2%	266,007	304,375	-12.6%	532,014	512,416	3.8%
Tin Plate	37,490	31,125	20.4%	225,359	198,674	13.4%	450,718	403,009	11.8%
All Other	205,713	231,768	-11.2%	1,326,353	1,265,218	4.8%	2,652,706	2,433,503	9.0%
TOTAL	**2,592,570**	**3,064,012**	**-15.4%**	**17,404,250**	**14,645,390**	**18.8%**	**34,808,500**	**28,515,276**	**22.1%**
SUBTOTAL Finished Imports	**2,097,784**	**2,412,472**	**-13.0%**	**13,498,491**	**11,092,492**	**21.7%**	**26,996,981**	**21,834,625**	**23.6%**

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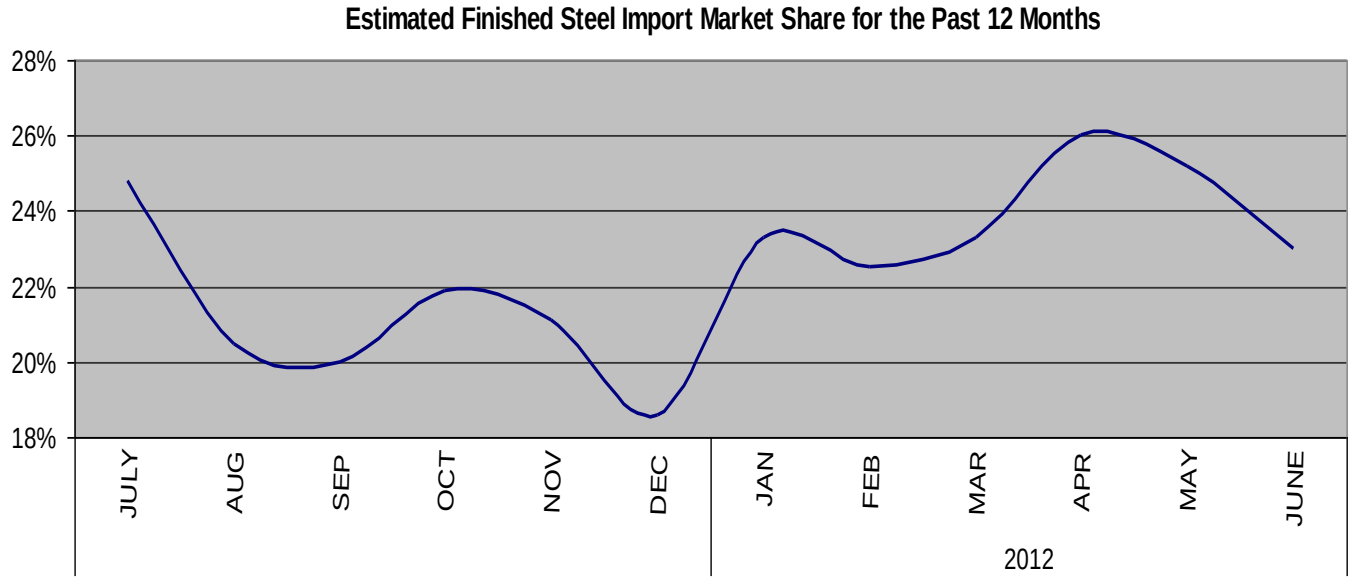
In June, the largest volumes of finished steel imports from offshore were from South Korea (293,000 NT, down 14%), China (174,000 NT, up 1%), Japan (131,000 NT, down 30%), Germany (121,000 NT, no change) and Turkey (88,000 NT, down 33%). For the first 6 months of 2012, the largest offshore suppliers were South Korea (1,866,000 NT, up 24%), Japan (982,000 NT, up 30%), Turkey (905,000 NT, up 100%), China (785,000 NT, up 40%) and Germany (635,000 NT, up 31%). 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	June 2012	May 2012	% incr. June vs May	(6 mo.) YTD 2012	(6 mo.) YTD 2011	% incr. '12 YTD vs. '11	2012 full year (est.)	2011 Annual	% incr. 2012 an. vs. '11
South Korea	293	340	**-13.9%**	1,866	1,510	**23.6%**	3,733	2,837	**31.6%**
China	174	172	**1.1%**	785	562	**39.7%**	1,569	1,231	**27.4%**
Japan	131	188	**-30.1%**	982	757	**29.7%**	1,963	1,477	**32.9%**
Germany	121	121	**0.0%**	635	485	**30.9%**	1,269	954	**33.1%**
Turkey	88	132	**-33.0%**	905	452	**100.2%**	1,809	733	**146.7%**
Russia	69	67	**2.9%**	454	231	**96.9%**	908	521	**74.4%**
Taiwan	66	80	**-16.5%**	465	348	**33.6%**	931	647	**43.8%**
All Other	1,156	1,313	**-12.0%**	7,407	6,748	**9.8%**	14,814	13,434	**10.3%**
Total	2,098	2,412	**-13.0%**	13,498	11,092	**21.7%**	26,997	21,835	**23.6%**

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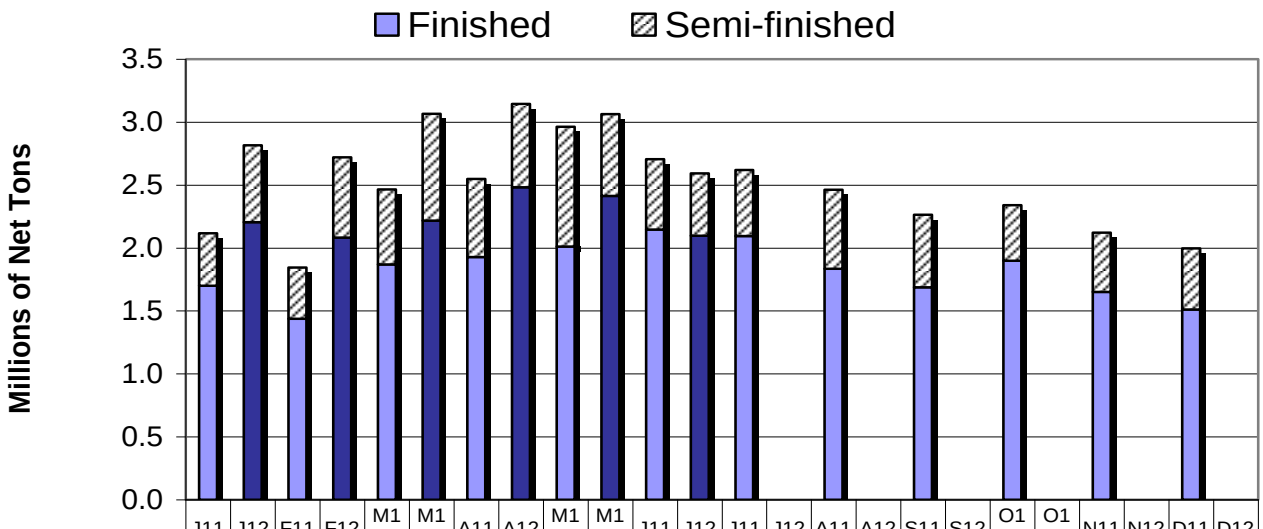
U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS 3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE (thousands of net tons)			
Product	**Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. June 12 - April 12**	**Actual 3 Mos. Prior Mar. 12 - Jan 12**	**Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change**
Oil Country Goods	337	314	7.3%
Sheets Hot Rolled	258	214	20.6%
Line Pipe	233	226	3.1%
Sheets & Strip Galv Hot	186	143	30.1%
Plates in Coils	152	117	29.9%
Bars - Hot Rolled	152	121	25.6%
Sheets Cold Rolled	126	134	-6.0%
Plates Cut Lengths	125	120	4.2%
Wire Rods	114	97	17.5%
Standard Pipe	86	81	6.2%
All Other	562	601	-6.5%
Total	2,331	2,168	7.5%

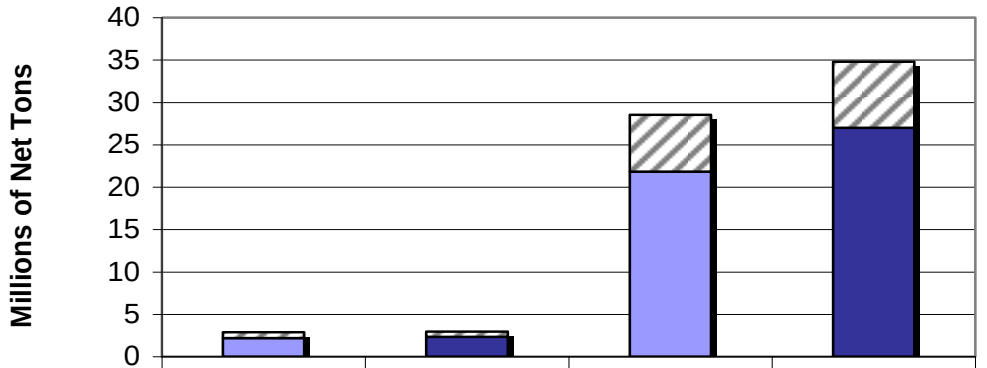
U.S. IMPORTS OF FINISHED STEEL MILL PRODUCTS 3 MONTHS ROLLING AVERAGE (thousands of net tons)			
Country	**Preliminary 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. June 12 - April 12**	**Actual 3 Mos. Prior Mar. 12 - Jan 12**	**Current 3 Months vs 3 Months Prior % Change**
South Korea	314	308	1.9%
China	163	99	64.6%
Japan	165	162	1.9%
Germany	113	99	14.1%
Turkey	130	171	-24.0%
Russia	105	46	128.3%
Taiwan	82	73	12.3%
United Kingdom	62	38	63.2%
Italy	63	44	43.2%
Netherlands	50	37	35.1%
All Other	1,084	1,091	-0.6%
Total	2,331	2,168	7.5%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce



	J11	J12	F11	F12	M1 1	M1 2	A11	A12	M1 1	M1 2	J11	J12	J11	J12	A11	A12	S11	S12	O1 1	O1 2	N11	N12	D11	D12
Semi-finished	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5		0.6		0.6		0.4		0.5		0.5	
Finished	1.7	2.2	1.4	2.1	1.9	2.2	1.9	2.5	2.0	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.1		1.8		1.7		1.9		1.7		1.5	

% change finished imports May 2012 vs April 2011 = +13.0%



	3 Mos. Prior Rolling Avg.	3 Mos. Rolling Avg.	2011	*2012
Semi Finished	0.699	0.602	6.681	7.812
Finished	2.168	2.331	21.835	26.997

% change finished imports 3 Mos. Rolling Avg. vs. 3 Mos. Prior = +7.5%
% change semi-finished imports 2012 vs 2011 = +16.9%
% change finished imports 2012 vs 2011 = +23.6%

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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 124 associate members who are suppliers to or customers of the steel industry. AISI's member companies represent over three quarters 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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