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AISI COMMENTS ON THE ADMINISTRATION’S SECTION 232 ANNOUNCEMENT TODAY

WASHINGTON, DC – Thomas J. Gibson, president and CEO of the American Iron and Steel Institute, issued the following statement in reaction to the announcement today on Section 232:

“On behalf of the U.S. producers of AISI, we thank the president for his actions to ensure a strong American steel sector that is fundamental to our national and economic security. The U.S. producers of AISI fully support the administration’s position that any country that is granted an exemption from the tariffs must be subject to a quota, in order to safeguard against the exempt country becoming a conduit for trade diversion, transshipment and import surges. We look forward to additional details on how the exemption for Australia will further the objectives of Section 232. The president wants the industry to achieve 80 percent or more capacity utilization over the long-term. We wholeheartedly agree. We believe the NAFTA discussions should continue as they can be a basis for ensuring use of more NAFTA steel while achieving the objectives of the Section 232 remedies.

“The president’s trade actions have already begun putting steel workers back to work in Ohio and Illinois, and we are grateful for the administration’s commitment to the nearly two million jobs supported by the domestic steel industry.”

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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 21 member companies, including integrated and electric furnace steelmakers, and approximately 120 associate members who are suppliers to or customers of the steel industry. For more news about steel and its applications, view AISI’s website at www.steel.org. Follow AISI on Facebook or Twitter (@AISISteel).