
STEEL IMPORT MONITORING AND ANALYSIS SYSTEM (SIMA) NEWSLETTER



Volume V

<http://ia.ita.doc.gov/steel/license/>

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The purpose of this newsletter is to communicate changes to the license system, steel import monitoring and analysis (SIMA) program, and other items of interest in an attempt to make the program run as smoothly as possible.

Welcome

It has been more than a year since our last newsletter, and we would like to update you on the numerous recent developments in the Steel Import and Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) program. This includes what will change when and how in the licensing module. There will also be significant changes in the import monitor. We also anticipate the issuance of the 1,000,000th steel license this summer. In the housekeeping category, we remind everyone, who applies for licenses, how important it is to keep their contact profile information current; that's our main way to communicate with you. Finally, we pass on a few frequently asked questions. Between newsletters, take a look at the website periodically to keep up with SIMA developments.....

Best Regards,

The Steel Licensing team

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New Steel Import Monitoring & Analysis System (SIMA)

On March 11, 2005, the Department published an interim final rule in the Federal Register that extended the Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis System (SIMA) until March 21, 2009. Product coverage will be expanded to include all basic steel mill products. Licensing which now covers product categories such as semifinished steel, hot-rolled and cold-rolled steel, rebar, plate and standard pipe will be expanded to include other major steel product categories such as wire rod, heavy structurals (beams), oil country tubular goods (OCTG), and stainless steel sheet and strip. For a list of all basic steel mill products, please refer to '[Steel Mill Products included under SIMA as of June 9, 2005](#)' link on the SIMA website. We also plan to make changes to the import monitor to provide the public with more detailed import information. Previously, information was provided on a product category basis only. In addition to this information, the Department intends to issue certain aggregate data on a 6-digit HTS code basis.

For more information on the expansion, please refer to the ‘[Frequently Asked Questions](#)’, ‘[Getting Started](#)’, and ‘[Import Monitor](#)’ links on the website. For those basic steel mill products not currently subject to licensing, licenses will not be required until June 9, 2005. The public comment period for the interim final will end on May 10, 2005. We appreciate very much all your helpful comments.

Products to be Covered in SIMA

The new SIMA system as currently envisioned will expand the number of HTS codes requiring licensing from 270 to 648. These codes cover all basic steel mill products, not just the products previously covered by the 201 remedy. Under this scenario, the new SIMA coverage will not include any downstream products. For a complete list of HTS codes see <http://ia.ita.doc.gov/steel/license/05-4971.txt> at Annex II. The codes to be dropped comprise downstream steel products such as carbon and alloy fittings and flanges and cold-finished forms that were covered under the 201 remedy but are not basic steel mill products.

We will continue to aggregate HTS codes into product groups, although these groups will change along with SIMA’s scope. The new product groups will be based on 36 steel mill product groups. The HTS codes that constitute each product group are listed at [Steel Mill Products included under SIMA as of June 9, 2005](#)’.

For a sneak peak into what some of the import monitor’s views may look like, here are 2 potential tables (the license data are those figures collected under the current licensing system):

US Imports of Steel Products FOR WORLD Quantities in Metric Tons				US Imports of Steel Mill Products FOR Slabs Quantity in Metric Tons								
				<i>Same Table in US Dollars</i>				<i>Same Table in Average Unit Value</i>				
Product	HTS Description	OCT04		Graph	Country	Census Data				Preliminary Census Data	License Data	
		Tons	AUV (\$/ton)			NOV04	DEC04	JAN05	FEB05		MAR05	MAR05
720712	SMFD IRN/NAL STL LT .25 PCT CRB RECT CS WID 2X THK	624980.829	\$483.42			685,610	472,173	645,839	576,836	456,281	418,852	445,014
720720	SMFD IRN OR NONALLOY STL, .25 PCT OR MORE CARBON	38469.466	\$445.21	M	WORLD	127,115	225,360	183,941	199,983	204,360	204,360	121,110
720810	FLAT-HOT-ROLL IRON, NONALY STL, COILS, PTRNS, NES01	17000.396	\$652.15	M	BRAZIL	183,917	114,116	262,328	121,344	97,896	97,420	205,342
720825	FLAT-HOT-ROLL IRN NONALY, COIL, PKLED, 4.75MM >, NES01	4427.819	\$604.80	M	RUSSIA	180,874	23,132	20,145	60,611	62,512	65,885	55,061
				M	CANADA	28,449	17,678	48,420	42,475	24,268	7,544	3,589

One Million - Steel Licenses Sweepstakes

As of today SIMA has issued more than 750,000 licenses. We will be looking forward to seeing the 1 millionth license some time toward the end of the summer. We will be sure to recognize that lucky applicant with a specially hand crafted award. Details to follow. Please Note: This contest is completely unofficial and no government funds will be used. ❖

Peter's Troubleshooting Tips

- Blank screens – If you receive a blank screen when submitting a new license please check to see if you have an email confirmation or contact us before applying for a new license as they often still go through and will create duplicates.
- If you submit a license with incorrect information you can easily go back and change that information using the correct a license feature available once you go into your user name.
- Make sure you check the box in the bottom left corner verifying that you completed the license to the best of your knowledge, if you do not check this the license will not be processed.
- Also, be aware that licenses open into different browser windows and so it may open into a window that you have minimized.

If you still experience problems, please do not hesitate to call or email the SIMA team for help. Also, if you have ideas on how to better the system and make it less of burden, please do not hesitate to contact us with suggestions. ❖

We anticipate having the expanded product lists in the licensing module to be available for your use the week of May 23rd. At this point we anticipate a smooth transition from the current coverage to the expanded coverage.

For Customs and Border Protection (CBP) purposes, you will need a license number for covered products with a “calculated date of duty computation” on or after June 9, 2005.

Updating User Profiles and Duplicates

As most everyone who applies for licenses is aware, we use email as our primary way of communicating on an individual basis and also for mass distribution, such as this newsletter. Each time we do a mass distribution, approximately 100 emails are returned because of an incorrect address. We are also finding an increasingly large amount of outdated addresses and phone numbers. Therefore, we would like to use this opportunity to remind our users that it is your responsibility to keep your information current. Changing contact information is quick and easy; all you need to do is log into the system, as you would to fill out a new license and click on “modify profile”.

We send out notices of duplicate licenses on a frequent basis in order to keep our data as correct as possible. We would appreciate your prompt attention to any such e-mail as it is critical to maintaining the accuracy of the monitoring system. Thanks.❖

<http://ia.ita.doc.gov/steel/license/>

**As always, we encourage you to
contact us with your ideas and
suggestions.**

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Steel License Team *

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