

diffused layer which is less than 1 micrometer in thickness and the other side coated with a three-layer coating composed of a base nickel-iron-diffused coating layer, with a middle coating layer of annealed and softened pure nickel and a surface coating layer of hard, luster-agent-added nickel which is not heat-treated; with combined coating thickness for all three layers of more than 2 micrometers; surface roughness (RA-microns) 0.18 or less; with SEM not revealing oxides greater than 1 micron; and inclusion groups or clusters shall not exceed 5 microns in length; or (D) products having one side coated with a nickel-iron-diffused layer which is less than 1 micrometer in thickness and the other side coated with a three-layer coating composed of a base nickel-iron-diffused coating layer, with a middle coating layer of annealed and softened pure nickel and a surface coating layer of hard, pure nickel which is not heat-treated; with combined coating thickness for all three layers of more than 2 micrometers; surface roughness (RA-microns) 0.18 or less; SEM not revealing oxides greater than 1 micron; and inclusion groups or clusters shall not exceed 5 microns in length.

Analysis of Comments Received

As stated above, the only comments the Department received on the Preliminary Results were from two respondents, NKK and Nippon, who each expressed support of the Department's analysis and decision. Since we received no comments in opposition to the Preliminary Results, we find it is not necessary to discuss these comments which were in support of the Department's decision.

Changes Since the Preliminary Results

As none of the submitted comments recommended changing the Preliminary Results and as the Department's analysis has not changed regarding any aspect of the Preliminary Results, we have not changed our results from the Preliminary Results.

Final Results

After our analysis, the Department found the following: (1) The increase of imports from Japan to the United States of corrosion-resistant steel ("CRS") with boron-added was only temporary; (2) there were imports to the United States from Japan of boron-added CRS at the time the scope of the order was proposed by the domestic industry and published by the Department; (3) there are commercially and metallurgically viable reasons for the addition of boron in the context of the Continuous Annealing Process ("CAP"), which was

used by the two respondents who exported the vast majority of the boron-added CRS to the United States; and (4) under the five factor test normally applied to determine if an article has been altered in form or appearance in minor respects so as to result in circumvention of the order, which includes an analysis of the overall physical characteristics, the expectations of the ultimate users, the use of the merchandise, the channels of marketing and the cost of modification, we found that, for companies that use the CAP, the addition of boron is not a minor alteration. Therefore, the evidence on the record of this inquiry, taken as a whole, leads to our final results that the United States imports of boron-added corrosion-resistant carbon steel flat products from the respondents were not minor alterations of the subject merchandise, within the meaning of section 781(c) of the Act, and are not circumventing the antidumping duty order on CRS from Japan.

We are issuing and publishing this notice in accordance with section 781(c) of the Act and §351.225(i) of the Department's regulations.

Dated: May 29, 2003.

Joseph A. Spetrini,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-791-810]

Certain Hot-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products From South Africa: Notice of Rescission of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review for the Period January 1, 2001, Through December 31, 2001

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: In response to a timely request from Bethlehem Steel Corporation, National Steel Corporation, and United States Steel Corporation (petitioners), the Department of Commerce (the Department) initiated an administrative review of the countervailing duty order on certain hot-rolled carbon steel flat products from South Africa, covering the period January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2001. See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews and Requests for Revocation in Part*, 68 FR 3009 (January 22, 2003).

Because petitioners have submitted a withdrawal of their request for an administrative review, and there was no request for review from any other interested party, the Department is rescinding this review in accordance with § 351.213(d)(1) of the Department's regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 5, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On December 23, 2002, the Department published a notice of opportunity to request an administrative review of the countervailing duty order on certain hot-rolled carbon steel flat products from South Africa. See *Notice of Opportunity to Request Administrative Review of Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation* (67 FR 78219). On December 31, 2002, the Department received a timely request from petitioners for an administrative review covering the period from January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2001, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(b)(1).

The Department published a notice of initiation of this countervailing duty administrative review on January 22, 2003. See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews and Requests for Revocation in Part*, 68 FR 3009 (January 22, 2003). This review covered two manufacturers/exporters of the subject merchandise, Iscor, Ltd. and Saldanha Steel, Ltd., for the period January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2001. On April 24, 2003, petitioners withdrew their request for review.

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(d), the Department will rescind an administrative review, "if a party that requested the review withdraws the request within 90 days of the date of publication of notice of initiation of the requested review." See 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1). The Department is authorized to extend this deadline if it decides that it is reasonable to do so. Although petitioners submitted their withdrawal request 92 days after the initiation publication date, *i.e.*, after the 90-day period had expired, the Department has decided that it is reasonable to extend the deadline and accept the request. Petitioners were the