

and United States Steel Corporation (collectively, petitioners), the Department of Commerce (the Department) is conducting an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on certain hot-rolled carbon steel flat products (hot-rolled steel) from the Netherlands (A-421-807). This administrative review covers imports of subject merchandise from Corus Staal BV (Corus Staal). The period of review is May 3, 2001 through October 31, 2002.

We preliminarily determine that sales of hot-rolled steel from the Netherlands in the United States have been made below normal value (NV). If these preliminary results are adopted in our final results of administrative review, we will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Customs) to assess antidumping duties based on the difference between the export price (EP) or constructed export price (CEP) and NV. Interested parties are invited to comment on these preliminary results. Parties who submit argument in this proceeding are requested to submit with the argument: (1) A statement of the issues, (2) a brief summary of the argument, and (3) a table of authorities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 8, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deborah Scott or Robert James, Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Enforcement Group III, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482-2657 or (202) 482-0649, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On November 29, 2001, the Department published the antidumping duty order on certain hot-rolled carbon steel flat products from the Netherlands. See *Antidumping Duty Order: Certain Hot-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from the Netherlands*, 66 FR 59565 (November 29, 2001). On November 1, 2002, the Department published the opportunity to request administrative review of, *inter alia*, certain hot-rolled carbon steel flat products from the Netherlands for the period May 3, 2001 through October 31, 2002. See *Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation; Opportunity to Request Administrative Review*, 67 FR 66612 (November 1, 2002).

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(b)(1), on November 26 and 27,

2002,¹ petitioners requested that we conduct an administrative review of sales of the subject merchandise made by Corus Staal. On December 26, 2002, the Department published in the **Federal Register** a notice of initiation of this antidumping duty administrative review covering the period May 3, 2001 through October 31, 2002. See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews*, 67 FR 78772 (December 26, 2002).

On January 9, 2003, the Department issued its antidumping duty questionnaire to Corus Staal. Corus Staal submitted its response to section A of the questionnaire on January 30, 2003, and its response to sections B, C, D, and E of the questionnaire on March 4, 2003. On March 10, 2003, the Department issued a supplemental questionnaire for section A, to which Corus Staal responded on March 28, 2003. On March 31, 2003, the Department issued a supplemental questionnaire for sections D and E of the questionnaire; Corus Staal submitted its response on April 21, 2003. On April 23, 2003, the Department issued a supplemental questionnaire for sections B and C of the questionnaire. Corus Staal filed its response to the supplemental questionnaire for sections B and C on May 19, 2003. We verified Corus Staal's submitted data as discussed below in the "Verification" section of this notice. Finally, on October 3, 2003, we issued a supplemental questionnaire requesting Corus Staal to report entered value data. Corus Staal responded to this request on October 17, 2003.

Because it was not practicable to complete this review within the normal time frame, on June 19, 2003, we published in the **Federal Register** our notice of extension of time limit for this review. See *Certain Hot-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from the Netherlands; Antidumping Duty Administrative Review; Extension of Time Limit*, June 19, 2003 (68 FR 36769). This extension established the deadline for these preliminary results as December 1, 2003.

Period of Review

The POR is May 3, 2001, through October 31, 2002.

Scope of the Review

For purposes of this order, the products covered are certain hot-rolled carbon steel flat products of a

rectangular shape, of a width of 0.5 inch or greater, neither clad, plated, nor coated with metal and whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances, in coils (whether or not in successively superimposed layers), regardless of thickness, and in straight lengths, of a thickness of less than 4.75 mm and of a width measuring at least 10 times the thickness. Universal mill plate (*i.e.*, flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 mm, but not exceeding 1250 mm, and of a thickness of not less than 4.0 mm, not in coils and without patterns in relief) of a thickness not less than 4.0 mm is not included within the scope of this review. Specifically included within the scope of this order are vacuum degassed, fully stabilized (commonly referred to as interstitial-free (IF)) steels, high strength low alloy (HSLA) steels, and the substrate for motor lamination steels. IF steels are recognized as low carbon steels with micro-alloying levels of elements such as titanium or niobium (also commonly referred to as columbium), or both, added to stabilize carbon and nitrogen elements. HSLA steels are recognized as steels with micro-alloying levels of elements such as chromium, copper, niobium, vanadium, and molybdenum. The substrate for motor lamination steels contains micro-alloying levels of elements such as silicon and aluminum.

Steel products to be included in the scope of this order, regardless of definitions in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS), are products in which: (i) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; (ii) the carbon content is 2 percent or less, by weight; and (iii) none of the elements listed below exceeds the quantity, by weight, respectively indicated:

1.80 percent of manganese, or
2.25 percent of silicon, or
1.00 percent of copper, or
0.50 percent of aluminum, or
1.25 percent of chromium, or
0.30 percent of cobalt, or
0.40 percent of lead, or
1.25 percent of nickel, or
0.30 percent of tungsten, or
0.10 percent of molybdenum, or
0.10 percent of niobium, or
0.15 percent of vanadium, or
0.15 percent of zirconium.

All products that meet the physical and chemical description provided above are within the scope of this order unless otherwise excluded. The following products, by way of example, are outside or specifically excluded from the scope of this order:

¹ Nucor filed its request for administrative review on November 26, 2002, while Bethlehem Steel Corporation, National Steel Corporation, and United States Steel Corporation filed their request for review on November 27, 2002.