

**MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT, INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND SERVICES (MDIC)**

**SECRETARIAT OF FOREIGN TRADE (SECEX)**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRADE REMEDIES (DECOM)**

**THIRD MARKET-ORIENTED COUNTRY QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PURPOSES OF NORMAL VALUE DETERMINATION**

Investigation of the practice of dumping in flat-rolled steel products, whether alloyed or unalloyed, in coils or not in coils, of any width or thickness, cold-rolled, exports to Brazil, usually classified under subitem(s) 7209.15.00, 7209.16.00, 7209.17.00, 7209.18.00, 7209.25.00, 7209.26.00, 7209.27.00, 7209.28.00, 7209.90.00, 7211.23.00, 7211.29.10, 7211.29.20, 7225.19.00, 7225.50.90, 7226.19.00 and 7226.92.00 of the MERCOSUR Common Nomenclature (NCM – Nomenclatura Comum do MERCOSUL), originating in China, and of injury to the domestic industry due to such practice.

Process Sei No 19972.000784/2024-92 restricted and 19972.000783/2024-92 confidential.

Contact: (+55 61) 2027- 7770 ou laminadosplanosfrio@mdic.gov.br

# GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. This questionnaire requests information to gather information necessary for the investigation of dumping in exports to Brazil of flat-rolled steel products, whether alloyed or unalloyed, in coils or not in coils, of any width or thickness, cold-rolled, usually classified under subitem(s) 7209.15.00, 7209.16.00, 7209.17.00, 7209.18.00, 7209.25.00, 7209.26.00, 7209.27.00, 7209.28.00, 7209.90.00, 7211.23.00, 7211.29.10, 7211.29.20, 7225.19.00, 7225.50.90, 7226.19.00 and 7226.92.00 of the MERCOSUR Common Nomenclature (NCM – Nomenclatura Comum do MERCOSUL), originating in China,.
2. In addition to the instructions in this questionnaire, the remarks contained in the notification related to the initiation of the investigation must be observed.
3. The cover page of your response to the questionnaire should be the document signed by the person who possesses power to act on behalf of the company, pursuant to the model in Appendix I.
4. All documentation to be presented to DECOM must always refer to the like product and to the number assigned to the process designated on the cover page of this questionnaire.
5. The responses must be clear and precise, indicating the provided information sources. Any information considered relevant or relatable to the process, even if not requested, can be presented.
6. Responses to the questionnaire should reflect exclusively the company’s sales transactions, even if the company controls or is controlled by another, or if it is associated or related to a Brazilian importer.
7. Under no circumstances will responses from producer/exporter along with those from Brazilian importers be accepted.
8. DECOM may conduct on-the-spot verification to examine the company’s records and confirm the reported information. Worksheets and auxiliary documents used on the elaboration of the questionnaire response must be preserved, in case of an eventual on-the-spot verification. Under no circumstances spreadsheets pre-elaborated by the company with the specific purpose of proving the reported data are going to be accepted. In case the company accounting system does not provide the information as requested by DECOM, the company has to demonstrate the calculation methodology used to gather the information requested.
9. In case there is an on-the-spot verification, during the procedure, DECOM may request the company to reproduce in real-time all the steps necessary to the extraction of the reported data.
10. Information presented under confidential terms must be accompanied by suitable justification to the confidentiality request and by a non-confidential summary of the information judged as confidential. The impossibility of presenting a non-confidential summary must be duly justified.
11. Both justification as the non-confidential summary must appear in the restricted version of the questionnaire response.
12. The confidential version of the questionnaire response, as well as other confidential information, must contain the CONFIDENTIAL expression in all its pages, centralized at the top and at the bottom of each page, in red.
13. The restricted version of the questionnaire response must contain the RESTRICTED expression in all its pages, centralized at the top and at the bottom of each page, in blue.
14. Public information treatment will be applied to all information that is not clearly identified as confidential or restricted.
15. A confidential version and a restricted version of the questionnaire response must be simultaneously protocolled.
16. It is recommended that the files are named in a short form, XX\_YYYY\_filename, being XX = file number (corresponding to the number of files sent) and YYYY = document terms (CONF or REST).
17. The electronic files with the answers to the questionnaire must have the" pdf" extension and spreadsheets in formats/extensions ". xlsx" or ". xlsb.". The files in format." xlsx" or "xlsb" must be submitted compressed within electronic files in the format/extension ".zip” up to 30 (thirty) MB.
18. Files larger than 30 (thirty) MB must be partitioned. Spreadsheets in format." xlsx" can be displayed in format ". xlsb,” reducing its size. If not enough, it is suggested that appendages in format ". xlsx" is partitioned by tab/year or that the information of a given appendix is divided into periods, semesters or quarters, in order to avoid the division of the period into different files as much as possible.
19. When processing the data, particularly in “.xlsx” formatted tables, the alphabetic fields must be entered left-justified and the numeric fields right-justified.
20. The dates must be formatted as date fields, and not as alphabetic fields, in the 12/34/5678 format, in which: positions 1 and 2 are equal to (=) day, positions 3 and 4 equal to (=) month, positions 5 to 8 equal to (=) year.
21. Data correspondent to monetary values must be filled separating the thousands by dots and the cents by commas. For example: 2.2550,30.
22. All fields must be filled. In case which there is no response to numeric fields, type number zero; in case there is no response to alphanumeric fields, type the words “none”, “does not apply”, “not available”, according to each case, explaining the reason.
23. All worksheets must contain the calculation memory and all formulas used.
24. It is suggested that documents delivered in PDF format be searchable. When scanned, which are preferably processed with OCR technology to enable content search. In the case of born-digital documents, it is recommended that the content be indexed and searchable.
25. Preferably, the response to the questionnaire shall be lodged through “peticionamento intercorrente” Process SEI No 19972.000784/2024-92 restricted and 19972.000783/2024-92 confidential in the Electronic Information System - SEI, available in <https://www.gov.br/economia/pt-br/acesso-a-informacao/sei/usuario-externo-1>.. Nevertheless, responses sent to the electronic address laminadosplanosfrio@mdic.gov.br or delivered at the Protocol of Ministry shall also be accepted. The Protocol of Ministry of Development, Industry, Commerce and Services– MDIC/SECEX/DECOM is located at Esplanada dos Ministérios, bloco J, sala T-10, CEP 70053-900, Brasília, Distrito Federal.

# I – INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPANY

## General Information

Company name, as presented on the company’s acts of incorporation:

Address:

Telephone number:

Website:

## Authorized Representative at DECOM

Provide data of only one addressee and the address to which the documents sent by DECOM must be forwarded.

Name:

Job position:

Address:

Telephone number:

Electronic address (e-mail):

# II – LIKE PRODUCT

**Like product:**

1. flat-rolled steel products, whether alloyed or unalloyed, in coils or not in coils, of any width or thickness, cold-rolled, commonly classified under subitem 7209.15.00, 7209.16.00, 7209.17.00, 7209.18.00, 7209.25.00, 7209.26.00, 7209.27.00, 7209.28.00, 7209.90.00, 7211.23.00, 7211.29.10, 7211.29.20, 7225.19.00, 7225.50.90, 7226.19.00 and 7226.92.00 of the MERCOSUR Common Nomenclature (NCM – Nomenclatura Comum do MERCOSUL), exported from China.

Steel can be defined as an alloy of iron with up to 2% carbon content, by weight, and may also contain some residual elements, such as sulfur, phosphorus, silicon, and manganese, originating from the production process. Other alloying elements may also be added, such as nickel, boron, chromium, niobium, vanadium, titanium, molybdenum, and manganese, which are commonly used to adjust the mechanical properties of the product to the needs of specific applications.

Steel results from the processing of various raw materials, especially iron ore and coal. In metallurgy, both coal and charcoal can be used. Coal plays a dual role in steelmaking. As a fuel, it allows reaching high temperatures (around 1,500 degrees Celsius), necessary for the fusion of the ore. As a reducer, it combines with oxygen, which is released from the ore at high temperatures, leaving the iron free. The reduction process of oxygen from iron to bond with carbon occurs within a blast furnace. During the reduction process, iron liquefies and becomes known as pig iron.

Pig iron is refined in blast furnaces to obtain liquid steel, which is poured into metal molds in the continuous casting process to obtain slabs. These, in turn, are reheated and subjected to hot-rolling mechanical shaping when they will be transformed into coils and sheets.

The cold-rolling process, in turn, is characterized by the deformation of the material (coils or sheets), at room temperature, in a cold strip mill, to obtain the final product thickness. This grain deformation occurs in the same direction as the rolling direction, which will give it a condition called "Full Hard". The restoration of the mechanical properties of the material depends on heat treatment, known as "annealing". The product subject to investigation, however, also includes cold-rolled steel flat products without annealing, when packaged for sale.

Cold rolling process increases the strength and hardness of steel products. Additionally, due to its smooth finish, cold-rolled steel flat products find broader applications in the automotive, construction, infrastructure, and electronics sectors.

Depending on its application, the products are subject to specific standards that determine thickness, coating, and mechanical properties. The product under investigation includes all cold-rolled flat products, regardless of width, thickness, and application.

Regarding possible distribution channels, the product subject to investigation can be sold to distributors or end-users. Finally, the following products are excluded from the scope of this petition:

•Flat-rolled silicon-electrical steel, also known as magnetic steel, of oriented and non-oriented grains, fully processed. Such steels may contain silicon, in weight, ranging from 0.6% to 6% and are supplied with final annealing and fully developed magnetic properties. They also have a high permeability value, low magnetic losses, and can be supplied with insulating coating. They are normally classified under subitems 7225.19.00 and 7226.19.00 of the NCM.

• Flat rolled stainless steel products, normally classified in subheadings 7219.3 and 7220.20 and their respective NCM subitems; and

•Cold-rolled flat products of high-speed steel, normally classified under item 7225.50.10 of the NCM.

1. Period of dumping investigation

January of 2023 to December of 2023.

1. Period of injury investigation

January of 2019 to December of 2023, divided into five periods, in accordance to the specification below:

P1 - January of 2019 to December of 2019.

P2 - January of 2020 to December of 2020.

P3 - January of 2021 to December of 2021.

P4 - January of 2022 to December of 2022.

P5 - January of 2023 to December of 2023.

# III – INFORMATION RELATED TO THE SALES OF THE PRODUCT CONCERNED

1. Provide detailed description of cold-rolled steel flat productproduced and sold by this company, indicating the codification used in the normal course of business, including the full range of prefixes, suffixes and other notations that identify the different types/models of the product. Inform the production process used in the manufacturing of cold-rolled steel flat product. Provide any catalogue, marketing material or another document that provides technical information about the cold-rolled steel flat product produced by your company.

2. Provide a list of the categories of customers (e.g., local distributor, end-user, trading companies, etc), specifying in each case the channels of distribution used. For instance, the channel of distribution of some of your sales can be the manufacturing of the product upon request. and the direct shipment to the customer; in other sales, the channel of distribution may involve the shipment of the goods kept in stock.

1. State how your company defines end-users or the consumer market for the products sold by resellers.
2. Indicate the existence of different types of package to the products sold in United States of America market.

5. Provide the percentage of sales of the product during the period of investigation JANUARY of 2023 to DECEMBER of 2023 destined to the comparison market and to third countries.

6. Provide the price list of the cold-rolled steel flat productused in the sales in the United States of America market.

7. Inform value and quantity of cold-rolled steel flat product sold during the period of dumping investigation JANUARY of 2023 to DECEMBER of 2023, pursuant to the model in Appendix II:

- to domestic market of the United States of America; and

- to export markets.

8. When filling out Appendix II, indicate separately the quantity and value of sales of cold-rolled steel flat productdestined, in the domestic market and exports, to affiliated parties, pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 10 of Article 14 of Decree No 8.058, of 2013.

# IV – SALES IN THE DOMESTIC MARKET OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. Prepare, pursuant to the model in Appendix III, the electronic data of the sales of cold-rolled steel flat productmanufactured by your company, in the domestic market of the United States of America, during the period of investigation.

2. Each computerized register must be equivalent to a sole item discriminated in the invoice.

3. Each register must contain the requested information referring to the product sold, to the sales conditions, to the incurred sales expenses and to other information.

**Instructions for filling out Appendix III**

**FIELD NUMBER 1.0: Product Code**

Description: Report the commercial product code assigned by your company in the normal course of trade to the similar product.

**FIELD NUMBER 2.0:** **Product Identification Code**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CODPROD | Feature 1  shape  (code F1 to F2) | Feature 2  Thickness  (code E1 to E5) | Feature 3  Width  (code L0 to L5) | Feature 4  Supply condition (code R0 to R3) | Feature 5  Product quality (Q1 and Q2) | CODIPa |
|  | F1= in coils | E1= of 0.45mm or less | L0= in coils, with a width less than 600mm | R0= Commercial (Chemical Composition) without guarantee of LE (flow limit) | Q1= first quality (“Prime”) |  |
|  | F2=not in coils | E2= greater than 0.45mm, but not exceeding 0.85mm | L1= in coils, with a width of 600mm or greater, but not exceeding 1,000mm | R1= Low Strength (with yield point of 300 MPa or less) | Q2= second quality (rejected for not meeting some specifications/guarantees required by the order/customer) |  |
|  |  | E3= greater than 0.85mm, but not exceeding 1.20mm | L2= in coils, with a width greater than 1,000mm, but not exceeding 1,300mm | R2= Medium Strength (with yield point greater than 300 MPa and less than 500 MPa) |  |  |
|  |  | E4= greater than 1.20mm, but not exceeding 1.90mm | L3= in coils, with a width greater than 1,300mm | R3= High Strength (with yield point of 500 MPa or greater) |  |  |
|  |  | E5= greater than 1.90mm | L4= not in coils, with a width of 600mm or greater |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | L5= not in coils, with a width less than 600mm |  |  |  |

ª The provided CODIP is represented by an alphanumeric combination that reflects the characteristics of the product. The alphanumeric combination reflects, in descending order, the importance granted to each characteristic of the product, starting from the most relevant.

Examples:   
F1E3L2R0Q1=Laminated in coils, greater than 0.85mm, with a width greater than 1,000mm, Commercial, first quality.  
F1E2L2R0Q1 = Laminated in coils, greater than 0.45mm, with a width greater than 1,000mm, Commercial, first quality.

**FIELD NUMBER 3.0: Customer Code**

Description: Report the name of the customer or the internal accounting code designating the customer.

Narrative: Provide a complete list of customer names and codes, relating the codes with theircorporate name.

**FIELD NUMBER 4.0: Customer Relationship**

Description: Report the code designating whether the customer is affiliated.

1 = Unaffiliated Customers

2 = Unaffiliated Resellers

3 = Affiliated Customers

4 = Affiliated Resellers

**FIELD NUMBER 5.0: Customer Category**

Description: Report the customer category

1 = industrial user

2 = end-users

3 = trading companies

4 = local distributors

5 = retailers

6 until n = specify additional categories

Narrative: Identify any customers that have been classified in more than one customer category and explain the circumstances requiring such treatment.

**FIELD NUMBER 6.0: Invoice Number**

Description: Report the reference number assigned to the invoice in your accounting system.

Narrative: Describe the invoice numbering system that originated the invoice number reported in this data file. Indicate the existence of a numerical sequence or any other coding system, in which case you should provide the description of each component of the code.

**FIELD NUMBER 7.0: Invoice Date**

Description: Report the invoice date.

Narrative: The date must be submitted in the DD/MM/YYYY format.

**FIELD NUMBER 7.1: Date of Sale**

Description: Report the date (for example, the date of the contract or the invoice date) selected to be the date of sale for your sales in the comparison market. In case you use dates that vary according to the type of transaction (for instance, in some transactions you use the date of the contract, while in others you use the invoice date), you must create a field to relate the date with the type of transaction (ex. CONT for contracts, FAT for invoices). In case your company uses other ways to determinate the date of sale, justify and explain.

The date must be submitted in the DD/MM/YYYY format

Narrative: In general, the date of sale is the invoice date. However, in long terms contracts, the date of sale can be, for instance, the contract date. The date of sale must be no later than the shipment date.

**FIELD NUMBER 8.0: Terms of Commerce (INCOTERMS)**

Description: Report the terms of commerce (INCOTERMS)

1 = ex works

2 = FOB

3 = CFR

4 = CIF

5 until n = specify any other terms of commerce (INCOTERMS)

Narrative: Describe the terms of commerce (INCOTERMS) and indicate the code used for each and its meaning. Clarify which transportation and insurance expenses, among others, were incurred by your company.

**FIELD NUMBER 9.0 : Quantity Sold (reported unit, preferably weight unit: kg or t)**

Description: report the quantity sold (reported unit, preferably weight unit: kg or t) in each transaction.

Narrative: explain how the returns, if allowed, affect your sales records both in the general ledger as sales journal.

**FIELD NUMBER 10.0: Gross Unit Price (currency/unit)**

Description: report the gross unit price. Indicate which unit of measure is being informed with the prices (currency/kg-t or currency/sales unit).Discounts and rebates should be reported separately in field numbered 11.0.

Narrative: report the sales taxes included in this price.

**FIELD NUMBER 11.0:** **Discounts and rebates** **(currency/unit)**

Description: Report discounts and rebates granted to your customers in the United States of America

**FIELD NUMBER 12.0:** **Inland Freight per Unit - Plant/Warehouse to Customer (currency/unit)**

Description: Report the unit cost of inland freight to the customer’s place of delivery from the factory or the distribution warehouse (or other intermediate location). Where it is necessary to allocate because multiple items were included in a shipment, freight cost should be allocated on the basis incurred (e.g., weight, volume).

Narrative: Describe the forms of transport you used to deliver the merchandise to your customers and any affiliations you had with the carriers during the period of investigation. If you shipped by common carrier, please submit the specific freight charges incurred on each transaction and the method of allocation, when more than one type or size of merchandise was shipped. If it is not possible to specifically identify the cost of each shipment please describe how you derived the freight cost per unit. Include your worksheets as attachments to the narrative response.

**FIELD NUMBER 13.0: Inland Insurance per Unit (currency/unit)**

Description: Report the unit cost of inland insurance on shipments from the factory or distribution warehouse to the customer’s place of delivery.

Narrative: Describe how you calculated the unit cost of inland insurance and include your worksheets as attachments to the narrative response.

**FIELD NUMBER 14.0: Destination**

Description: Report the customer’s place of delivery.

**FIELD NUMBER 15.0: Commissions (currency/unit)**

Description: Report the unit cost of commissions paid to selling agents, affiliated or not. If more than one commission was paid, report each commission in a separate field.

Narrative: Describe the terms under which commissions were paid and how commission rates were determined. Explain whether the amount of the commission varies depending on the party to whom it is paid and whether that party is affiliated with you. Include samples of each type of commission agreement used.

**APPENDIX I**

LIABILITY COMMITMENT

INTERESTED PARTY:

LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE:

LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE JOB POSITION:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

ADDRESS:

ELETRONIC ADDRESS (e-mail):

I hereby certify the veracity of the information contained in this questionnaire and I am aware that this information is subject to on-the-spot verification.

I authorize the Department of Trade Remedies (DECOM) to use the information contained in this questionnaire.

I am aware that the information presented as confidential,provided that this classification is justified, will be treated as such and will not be revealed without the express consent of the party I represent, pursuant to the legal provisions applicable.

Place and date

Legal representative’s signature

Legal representative’s legible name

Legal representative’s position