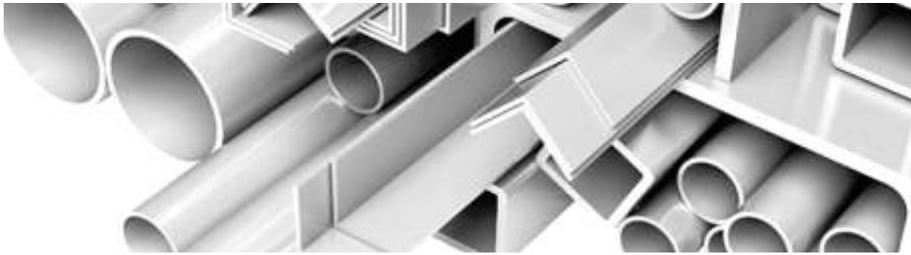




U.S. and Canada made shipment of 463.0 million pounds of Aluminium Extruded Products in August



According to the preliminary estimate of The Aluminum Association, for the month of August, U.S. and Canada shipped 463.0 million pounds of Aluminium Extruded Products. This is an increase of 4.3 per cent over the August 2015 total of 444.1 million pounds. On a month-on-month comparison, shipments increased 12.9 per cent over the revised total of 410.0 million pounds in July 2016. Total shipments from January to August 2016 were 3,536.9 million pounds, up 1.7 per cent over from the same period of 2015.

For the month of August, U.S. and Canada made an estimated net shipment of

2,135 million pounds of Aluminium including exports, up 6.8 per cent over the August 2015 total of 1,999 million pounds. Shipments of aluminium mill products increased 3.3 per cent YOY to 1,394 million pounds. Notably, shipments of aluminium ingot for castings, exports and destructive uses also increased by 14.2 per cent YOY to 741 million pounds. Total shipments from January to August 2016 totalled 15,854 million pounds, up 2.5 per cent YOY.

August aluminium inventory levels totalled an estimated 2,957 million pounds, slightly down from the previous month and down 3.9 per cent YOY.

ITC to take action against China trade practices



U.S. Senator Charles Schumer pressed the International Trade Commission to take action against the alleged wrong trade practises by foreign metal producers especially China. He is concerned about the predatory trade practices damaging the business interest of domestic producers.

In a testimony submitted to the Trade Commission on behalf of aluminium producers from New York, Schumer, D-NY, said Chinese producers are actually shipping aluminium through third-party countries to US. This is practised to distort facts so that exports can be passed through as from a different country of origin or to misclassify aluminium exports in order to circumvent U.S. export duties.

In addition, he says that Chinese regulators have barred U.S. producers from purchasing aluminium scrap from the Chinese market to import to U.S. However, Chinese producers continue to purchase large sums of scrap from the U.S. which is driving up costs for American producers.

He cited the names of aluminium producers like Alcoa with a local employment capacity of 600 people in Massena, and Novelis, which employs 1,100 in Scriba.

"The ITC has to step up and be a better cop on the beat to enforce a genuine fair trade system that allows our companies and workers to compete fair and square," he added.

Meanwhile, Garney Scott, President & CEO of Scepter, Inc. and Chairman of the Aluminum Association, as well as Heidi Brock, President and CEO of the Aluminum Association also testified on Chinese Industry Practices at U.S. International Trade Commission Hearing.

India signs contract with ISA for Polymetallic Sulphides



Polymetallic sulphides containing iron, copper, zinc, silver, gold and platinum in variable constitutions are precipitates of hot fluids from upwelling hot magma from deep interior of the oceanic crust, discharged through mineralised chimneys. PMS in the Ocean Ridges have attracted worldwide attention for their long term commercial as well as strategic values.

Government of India signed a 15 year contract with the International Seabed Authority for exploration of polymetallic sulphides in Indian Ocean.

The ISA earlier approved an application submitted by the Ministry of Earth Sciences for allotment of 10,000 sq km area along with 15 year plan of work for exploration of PMS along Central Indian Ridge and Southwest Indian Ridge region of the Indian Ocean.

By signing the 15 year contract, India's exclusive rights for exploration of PMS in the allotted area in the Indian Ocean will be formalized. Further, it will enhance India's presence in the Indian Ocean where other players like China, Korea and Germany are active. The program will be implemented by the Ministry of Earth Sciences with the participation from various national institutes and research laboratories & organizations.