# **U.S. PURCHASERS' QUESTIONNAIRE**

# STAINLESS STEEL BAR FROM BRAZIL, INDIA, JAPAN, AND SPAIN

This questionnaire must be received by the Commission by <u>May 14, 2018.</u>

See last page for filing instructions.

The information called for in this questionnaire is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its review of the antidumping duty order concerning stainless steel bar from Brazil, India, Japan, and Spain (Inv. Nos. 731-TA-678-679 and 681-682 (Fourth Review)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII. This report is mandatory and failure to reply as directed can result in a subpoena or other order to compel the submission of records or information in your possession (19 U.S.C. § 1333(a)). Further information on this questionnaire can be obtained from Lauren Gamache (202-205-3489, lauren.gamache@usitc.gov).

Name of firm

Audress			
City	StateZip Code		
Website			
Has your firm purchase at any time since Janua	ed stainless steel bar (as defined on the next page) from ary 1, 2012?	any source (domestic or foreign)	
NO (Sign the	e certification below and promptly return only this page of the	questionnaire to the Commission)	
YES (Comple	ete all parts of the questionnaire, and return the entire questio	nnaire to the Commission)	
https://dropbox.usite	c.gov/oinv/. (PIN: SSBAR)		
-	CERTIFICATION serein supplied in response to this questionnaire is	•	-
lge and belief and unders of this certification I als tion provided in this que ed by the Commission on ndersigned, acknowledge ing or other proceedings el (a) for developing or n and evaluations relatir ix 3; or (ii) by U.S. govern		lit and verification by the Commis yees and contract personnel, to her import-injury proceedings or uest for information and through , its employees and Offices, and g, or (b) in internal investigations he Commission including under	sion. use revie out conti , aud
lge and belief and unders of this certification I als tion provided in this que ed by the Commission on ndersigned, acknowledge ing or other proceedings el (a) for developing or n and evaluations relatir ix 3; or (ii) by U.S. govern	perein supplied in response to this questionnaire is a stand that the information submitted is subject to audit or grant consent for the Commission, and its employestionnaire and throughout this proceeding in any of the same or similar merchandise.  The that information submitted in response to this requirement in the same of the commission and the proceeding the records of this or a related proceeding to the programs, personnel, and operations of the timent employees and contract personnel, solely for cylindrical services.	lit and verification by the Commis yees and contract personnel, to her import-injury proceedings or uest for information and through , its employees and Offices, and g, or (b) in internal investigations he Commission including under	sion. use revie  out a contr , aud 5 U.S
lge and belief and undersof this certification I alsoftion provided in this queed by the Commission on andersigned, acknowledge ing or other proceedings and evaluations relativity of the personnel will sign appropersors.	perein supplied in response to this questionnaire is a stand that the information submitted is subject to audit or grant consent for the Commission, and its employestionnaire and throughout this proceeding in any of the same or similar merchandise.  The that information submitted in response to this required may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding to the programs, personnel, and operations of the ament employees and contract personnel, solely for cylindrical proceeding to the programs of the programs of the programs of the programs and contract personnel, solely for cylindrical proceeding the programs of the pr	lit and verification by the Commis yees and contract personnel, to her import-injury proceedings or uest for information and through , its employees and Offices, and g, or (b) in internal investigations he Commission including under persecurity purposes. I understand	sion. use revie  out to

#### PART I.—GENERAL INFORMATION

**Background.**--On February 21, 1995, the Department of Commerce ("Commerce") issued antidumping duty orders on imports of stainless steel bar from Brazil, India, and Japan (60 FR 9661), and subsequently issued an antidumping duty order on imports of stainless steel bar from Spain (60 FR 11656) on March 2, 1995. On July 3, 2017, the Commission instituted reviews pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1675(c)) (the Act) to determine whether revocation of the orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time. If both the Commission and Commerce make affirmative determinations, the orders will remain in place. If either the Commission or Commerce makes negative determinations, Commerce will revoke the orders. Questionnaires and other information pertinent to this proceeding are available at

https://www.usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2017/stainless steel bar brazil india japan and spain/f ourth review full.htm.

**Stainless steel bar** covered by these reviews are articles of Stainless steel in straight lengths that have been either hot-rolled, forged, turned, cold-drawn, cold-rolled or otherwise cold-finished, or ground, having a uniform solid cross section along their whole length in the shape of circles, segments of circles, ovals, rectangles (including squares), triangles, hexagons, octagons or other convex polygons. Stainless steel bar includes cold-finished stainless steel bars that are turned or ground in straight lengths, whether produced from hot-rolled bar or from straightened and cut rod or wire, and reinforcing bars that have indentations, ribs, grooves, or other deformations produced during the rolling process.

Except as specified above, the term does not include Stainless steel semi-finished products, cut length flat-rolled products (i.e., cut length rolled products which if less than 4.75 mm in thickness have a width measuring at least 10 times the thickness, or if 4.75 mm or more in thickness having a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness), wire (i.e., cold-formed products in coils, of any uniform solid cross section along their whole length, which do not conform to the definition of flat-rolled products), and angles, shapes and sections.

**Exclusions for Japan:** Effective for entries entered, or withdrawn for warehouse, for consumption on or after February 1, 2010, the term does not include one stainless steel bar product under Grade 304 and two types of stainless steel bar products under Grade 440C.

- (1) The Grade 304 product meets the following descriptions: round cross-section, cold finished, chrome plated (plating thickness 10 microns or greater), hardness of plating a minimum 750 HV on the Vickers Scale, maximum roundness deviation of 0.020 mm (based on circularity tolerance described in JIS B 0021 (1984)), in actual (measured) lengths from 2000 mm to 3005 mm, in nominal outside diameters ranging from 6 mm to 30 mm (diameter tolerance for any size from minus 0.010 mm to minus 0.053 mm). Tolerance can be defined as the specified permissible deviation from a specified nominal dimension; for example if the nominal outside diameter of the product entering is 6 mm, then the actual measured sizes should fall within 5.947 mm to 5.990 mm;
- (2) The first Grade 440C product meets the following descriptions: round cross-section, cold finished, heat treated through induction hardening, minimum Rockwell hardness of 56 Hardness of 56 HRC, maximum roundness deviation of 0.007 mm (based on circularity tolerance described in JIS B 0021 (1984)), in actual (measured) lengths from 500 mm to 3005 mm, in nominal outside diameters ranging from 3 mm to 38.10 mm (diameter tolerance for any size from 0.00 mm to minus 0.150 mm). Tolerance can be defined as the specified permissible deviation from a

specified nominal dimension; for example if the nominal outside diameter of the product entering is 3 mm, then the actual measured sizes should fall within 2.850 mm to 3.000 mm; (3) The second Grade 440C product meets the following descriptions: round cross-section, cold finished, chrome plated (plating thickness 5 microns or greater), heat treated through induction hardening, minimum Rockwell Hardness of 56 HRC, maximum roundness deviation of 0.007 mm (based on circularity tolerance described in JIS B 0021 (1984)), in actual (measured) lengths from 2000 mm to minus 3005 mm, (diameter tolerance for any size from minus 0.004 mm to minus 0.020 mm). Tolerance can be defined as the specified permissible deviation from a specified nominal dimension; for example if the nominal outside diameter of the product entering is 6 mm, then the actual measured sizes should fall within 5.980 mm to 5.996 mm. Except as specified above, the term does not include Stainless steel semi-finished products, cut length flatrolled products (i.e., cut-length rolled products which if less than 4.75 mm in thickness have a width measuring at least 10 times the thickness, or if 4.75 mm or more in thickness having a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness), wire (i.e., cold-formed products in coils, of any uniform solid cross section along their whole length, which do not conform to the definition of flat-rolled products), and angles, shapes and sections.

Stainless steel bar is currently imported under statistical reporting numbers 7222.10.00, 7222.11.00, 7222.19.00, 7222.20.00, and 7222.30.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). The HTSUS provisions are for convenience and customs purposes; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

<u>Purchaser</u>.--Any firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in purchasing stainless steel bar from another firm that produces, imports, or otherwise distributes stainless steel bar.

**Reporting of information**.--If information is not readily available from your records, provide carefully prepared estimates. If your firm is completing more than one questionnaire in connection with this proceeding (i.e., a producer, importer, and/or purchaser questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions.

<u>Confidentiality</u>.--The commercial and financial data furnished in response to this questionnaire that reveal the individual operations of your firm will be treated as confidential by the Commission to the extent that such data are not otherwise available to the public and will not be disclosed except as may be required by law (see 19 U.S.C. § 1677f). Such confidential information will not be published in a manner that will reveal the individual operations of your firm; however, general characterizations of numerical business proprietary information (such as discussion of trends) will be treated as confidential business information only at the request of the submitter for good cause shown.

<u>Verification</u>.--The information submitted in this questionnaire is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. To facilitate possible verification of data, please keep all of your files, worksheets, and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire response. Please also retain a copy of the final document that you submit.

**Release of information**.--The information provided by your firm in response to this questionnaire, as well as any other business proprietary information submitted by your firm to the Commission in connection with this proceeding, may become subject to, and released under, the administrative protective order provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1677f) and section 207.7 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.7). This means that certain lawyers and other authorized individuals may temporarily be given access to the information for use in connection

with this proceeding or other import-injury proceedings conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise; those individuals would be subject to severe penalties if the information were divulged to unauthorized individuals.

	-	ourchase of stainless steel bar, incl r or not physically separate from)
OwnershipIs your firn	n owned, in whole or in part, by	any other firm?
☐ No ☐ Yes-	-List the following information.	
Firm name	Address	Extent of ownership (percent)
		related firms, either domestic or tates or that export stainless stee
foreign, that import sta to the United States?  No Yes-	nless steel bar into the United S -List the following information.	tates or that export stainless stee
foreign, that import sta to the United States?	nless steel bar into the United S	
foreign, that import sta to the United States?  No Yes-	nless steel bar into the United S -List the following information.	tates or that export stainless steel
foreign, that import sta to the United States?  No Yes-  Firm name	nless steel bar into the United S  -List the following information.    Country	Affiliation
foreign, that import sta to the United States?  No Yes-  Firm name  Related producersDo produce stainless steel	nless steel bar into the United S  -List the following information.    Country	tates or that export stainless stee

I-5.	Business planDoes your company or any related firm have a business plan or any internal
	documents that describe, discuss, or analyze expected market conditions for stainless steel bar?

No	If yes, please provide these documents. If you are not providing the requested documents, please explain why not.

### PART II.--PURCHASES

<u>Contact information.</u>--Please identify the responsible individual and the manner by which Commission staff may contact that individual regarding the confidential information submitted in this questionnaire.

Name	
Title	
Email	
Telephone	

### II-1. Purchases.—

(a) Please estimate your firm's total U.S. purchases of stainless steel bar in 2017. (Do not include imports for which your firm was the importer of record; such imports should be reported in your U.S. importer's questionnaire.)

Quantity (short tons)	
-----------------------	--

(b) Estimate the percentage of the quantity of your firm's purchases of stainless steel bar in 2017 that were produced in each of the specified countries.

Stainless steel bar produced in:	Share of quantity of 2017 purchases
United States	%
Brazil	%
India	%
Japan	%
Spain	%
All other countries: <sup>1</sup>	%
Sources unknown	%
Total (should sum to 100.0%)	0.0 %
<sup>1</sup> Please identify these countries:	

II-3.	Changes in purchasing patternsPlease indicate how the shares of your firm's purchases of
	stainless steel bar from different sources have changed since January 1, 2012.

Source of purchases	Did not purchase	Decreased	Increased	Constant	Fluctuated	Explanation for trend
United States						
Brazil						
India						
Japan						
Spain						
All other countries						
Sources unknown						

II-4. <u>Country knowledge</u>.--Please indicate the countries of origin with which your firm has experience or information in the stainless steel bar market.

United States	Brazil	India	Japan	Spain	Other countries	Other countries (specify)

II-5. <u>Supplier identification.</u>--Please list your firm's <u>FIVE</u> largest suppliers for stainless steel bar since January 1, 2012. Also, provide the share of the quantity of your firm's total purchases of stainless steel bar that each of these suppliers accounted for in 2017.

No.	Supplier's name	City and state	Share of quantity of 2017 purchases
1			%
2			%
3			%
4			%
5			%

# PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES

III-1.	Firm typeWhich of the following best describes your firm as a purchaser of stainless steel bar
	(check all that apply)?

End user	Distributor	Finisher/ fabricator	Other	Describe other

If your firm is a distributor of stainless steel bar, please answer questions III-2 and III-3.

III-2.	Competition for salesDo you compete for sales to your customers with the manufacturers or
	importers from which you purchase stainless steel bar?

No	Yes	If yes, please describe.

III-3.	Types of customersWhat are the major types of consumers to which you sell stainless stee
	bar?

If your firm is an end user of stainless steel bar, please answer questions III-4 and III-5.

III-4.	End	uses.—
--------	-----	--------

(a) List the top 3 products you make using stainless steel bar and estimate the percent of your <u>total production cost</u> that is accounted for by stainless steel bar and by other inputs (such as labor, energy, and other raw materials).

	Share of total cost in each of the product(s) your firm produces accounted for by			<b>Total</b> (should	
Product(s) your firm produces	Stainless steel bar		Other inputs		sum to 100.0% across)
	%	+	%	=	0.0 %
	%	+	%	=	0.0 %
	%	+	%	11	0.0 %

(b) Have there been any changes in the end uses of stainless steel bar since January 1, 2012? Do you anticipate any future changes?

Changes in end uses	No	Yes	Explain
Changes since January 1, 2012			
Anticipated changes			

### III-5. Demand for end use products.--

(a) Has the demand for your firm's final products incorporating stainless steel bar changed since January 1, 2012?

Increase	d No change	Decreased	Fluctuated

(b) Has this had any effect on your firm's demand for stainless steel bar?

No	Yes	Explain

# U.S. Purchasers' Questionnaire - Stainless steel bar (Fourth Review) Page 9 III-6. Substitutes .--(a) Can other products be substituted for stainless steel bar? □No Yes--Please fill out the table. Have changes in the price of this substitute affected the price for stainless steel bar? End use in which this Substitute Yes substitute is used No **Explanation** 2. 3. Have there been any changes in the number or types of products that can be (b) substituted for stainless steel bar since January 1, 2012? Do you anticipate any future changes? Changes in substitutes No Yes Explain Changes since January 1, 2012 Anticipated changes

III-7. <u>Demand trends.</u>-- Indicate how demand within the United States and outside of the United States (if known) for stainless steel bar has changed since January 1, 2012, and how you anticipate demand will change in the future. Explain any trends and describe the principal factors that have affected, and that you anticipate will affect, these changes in demand.

Market	Overall increase	No change	Overall decrease	Fluctuate with no clear trend	Explanation and factors
		Deman	d since Jan	uary 1, 2012	
Within the United States					
Outside the United States					
		Antici	pated futu	re demand	
Within the United States					
Outside the United States					

- III-8. Market studies.--Please provide as a separate attachment to this request any studies, surveys, etc. that you are aware of that quantify and/or otherwise discuss stainless steel bar supply (including production capacity and capacity utilization) and demand in (1) the United States, (2) each of the other major producing/consuming countries, including Brazil, India, Japan, and Spain, and (3) the world as a whole. Of particular interest is such data from 2012 to the present and forecasts for the future.
- III-9. <u>Country preferences.</u>--Do you or your customers ever specifically order stainless steel bar from one country in particular over other possible sources of supply?

No	Yes	If yes, identify the countries and explain.

IIC Durchace	rs' Questionnaire	Ctainlaca cta	al har (Eau	rth Daviana)
U.S. PUICHASE	us coesiioiiiane	— Staithess ste	ei Dai trot	II III KEVIEW

III-10.	Importance of purchasing domestic productPlease fill out the table below, estimating the
	percentage of your firm's total 2017 purchases of stainless steel bar that required stainless steel
	bar produced in the United States.

	Estimated percentage of your firm's total 2017 purchases of stainless steel bar
Purchases that did not require domestic product	%
Purchases that were required by law or regulation to be domestic product (e.g., government purchases under "Buy American" provisions)	%
Purchases that were not required by law or regulation, but were required by your customers to be domestic product	%
Purchases that were required to be domestic product for other reasons (explain: )	%
Total (should sum to 100.0%)	0.0 %

# III-11. Conditions of competition.--

(a) Is the stainless steel bar market subject to business cycles (other than general economywide conditions) and/or other conditions of competition distinctive to stainless steel bar?

Check all th	nat apply.	Please describe.
	No	Skip to question III-12.
	Yes-Business cycles (e.g. seasonal business)	
	Yes-Other distinctive conditions of competition	

(b) If yes, have there been any changes in the business cycles or conditions of competition for stainless steel bar since January 1, 2012?

No	Yes	If yes, describe.

III-12.	Decisions based on producer and country-of-originHow often does your firm, and if you
	know, do your customers, make purchasing decisions involving stainless steel bar based on its
	producer or country of origin?

Item	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Never	If at least sometimes, explain.	
Decision based on producer						
Your firm						
Your customers						
		Decision ba	ased on countr	y of origi	n	
Your firm						
Your customers						

III-13. Availability of supply.--Has the availability of stainless steel bar in the U.S. market changed since January 1, 2012? Do you anticipate any future changes?

Availability in the U.S. market	No	Yes	Please explain, noting the countries and reasons for the changes.
		Char	nges since January 1, 2012:
U.Sproduced product			
Imports from Brazil, India, Japan, and/or Spain			
Imports from all other countries			
			Anticipated changes:
U.Sproduced product			
Imports from Brazil, India, Japan, and/or Spain			
Imports from all other countries			

	_							
	No	Yes	If yes,	please identi	fy the countr	ies and the	grade/typ	pe/size.
ō.	stainless "control	steel ba led orde	ar since Jar er entry,"	anuary 1, 2012 declining to a	2 (examples i ccept new cu	include placi ustomers or	ng custon renew ex	upply your firm with mers on allocation or isting customers, shipment commitmen
	No	Yes	s If ye	s, please desc	cribe.			
7.	Purchas	ing frequ	<del></del>	lo vou mako n		-t-i-l	al bay (ab	
			90.0, 0	io you make p	urchases of s	stainiess stee	ei bar (che	eck one) ?
		Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually	Other	If other, specify
	[	Daily		· · ·	Τ	Τ	· I	, I
	(b)		Weekly	· · ·	Quarterly	Annually	Other	If other, specify
	(b)		Weekly  Expect th	Monthly	Quarterly  Grequency to	Annually	Other	If other, specify
	(b)	Do you e	Weekly  Expect th	Monthly  is purchasing	Quarterly  Grequency to	Annually	Other	If other, specify
3.	Number	Do you e	Weekly  expect th  Yes  liers con	Monthly is purchasing	Quarterly frequency to	Annually  change in th	Other	If other, specify
3.	Number purchase Supplier	No Of supple? Between negotia	Weekly  Expect th  Yes  Continuous content  Co	Monthly is purchasing If yes, explain	Quarterly  frequency to  many supplications.  purchases of	Annually  change in the	Other  ne next tweenerally continued to the continue of the co	If other, specify  vo years?  ontact before making
	Number purchase Supplier	No Of supple? Between negotia	Weekly  Expect th  Yes  College Content  Content	Monthly  is purchasing  If yes, explain  tactedHow and o your firm's oplier and pur	Quarterly  frequency to  many supplications.  purchases of chaser?	Annually  change in the	Other  ne next tweel bar using y negotia	If other, specify  vo years?  ontact before making ually involve

U.S. Purchasers' Questionnaire – Stainless steel bar (Fourth Review)  Page    III-20.   Change in suppliersHas your firm changed suppliers since January 1, 2012?    If yes, please list the supplier(s), whether the firm was added or dropped, and the reasons for the change.    III-21.   New suppliers    (a)   Are you aware of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have entered the market since January 1, 2012?	e 14					
If yes, please list the supplier(s), whether the firm was added or dropped, and the reasons for the change.    III-21. New suppliers  (a) Are you aware of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have entered the suppliers and the suppliers are suppliers.						
No Yes dropped, and the reasons for the change.	<u>Change in suppliers</u> Has your firm changed suppliers since January 1, 2012?					
(a) Are you aware of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have entered th						
(a) Are you aware of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have entered th						
	e					
No Yes If yes, please identify the firms.						
(b) Do you expect new stainless steel bar suppliers to enter the U.S. market?						
No Yes If yes, please explain.						
III-22. <u>Supplier qualification</u> Do you require your suppliers to be or to become certified or qualifie to sell stainless steel bar to your firm?	d					
<ul> <li>If yes, provide the following information.</li> <li>The number of days to qualify a new supplier.</li> <li>A general description of the certification or qualification process. Also, a brief description of the factors that you consider when qualifying a new supplier (e.g., qual of product, reliability of supplier, etc.).</li> </ul>	lity					
Number No Yes of days Process and factors						
III-23. Failure to certifySince January 1, 2012, have any domestic or foreign producers failed in the attempts to certify or qualify their stainless steel bar with your firm or have any producers lost their approved status?						
No Yes If yes, please identify these firms, the countries where they are located, a the reasons why they failed the certification/qualification.	and					

III-24.	Major purchasing factors Please list, in order of their importance, the three major factors
	your firm considers in deciding from whom to purchase stainless steel bar (examples include
	availability, extension of credit, contracts, price, quality, range of supplier's product line,
	traditional supplier, etc.).

1.	
2.	
3.	
Ple	ease list any other factors that are very important in your purchase decisions:

III-25. <u>Purchasing factors.</u>—Please rate the importance of the following factors in your firm's purchasing decisions for stainless steel bar.

Factor	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
Availability			
Delivery terms			
Delivery time			
Discounts offered			
Extension of credit			
Minimum quantity requirements			
Packaging			
Price			
Product consistency			
Product range			
Quality meets industry standards			
Quality exceeds industry standards			
Reliability of supply			
Technical support/service			
U.S. transportation costs			

U.S. Pu	rchasers' Ques	stionnaire – S	Stainless steel ba	r (Fourth Rev	riew)		Page 10
III-26.	Quality chara quality of sta		Vhat characterist ar?	tics does your	firm consider v	when determi	ning the
II-27.			often does stainle ations for your us			ng countries r	neet
	So	urce	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely or never	Don't know
	United States	;					
	Brazil						
	India						
	Japan						
	Spain						
	All other sour	ces					
II-28.	Frequency of bar that is off		ased on priceH owest price?	ow often doe	s your firm pur	chase the stai	nless steel
	Alwa	ys	Usually	S	ometimes	Ne	ever
II-29.	either upward significant im	d or downwa pact on price e names of ar	der is defined as ord, that is follow es. <i>A price leader</i> ony firms you cons	ed by other fi is not necess	rms, or (2) one arily the lowest	or more firms -priced suppli	that have er.
	Firm(s)	Describe	how the firm(s)	exhibited pri	ce leadership		
				•	•		

III-30.	<u>Change</u>	es in U.S. industry
	(a)	Please identify and discuss any improvements/changes in the U.S. stainless steel bar industry since January 1, 2012 and explain the factors, including the order(s) under review, that were responsible for each improvement/change.
	(b)	Please discuss any improvements/changes that you anticipate in the future in the U.S. stainless steel bar industry. Identify the time period and causes for these improvements/changes.
III-31.	U.S. m	of revocation of orders What do you think will be the effects on your firm and on the arket of any revocation of the antidumping duty orders on imports of stainless steel bar Brazil, India, Japan, and Spain?

Effect of 232 invest	tigation of steel on cond	litions	of com	petition
(a) Are you familiar products?	with the 232 investigation	on or tl	ne impo	osition of tariffs on imported steel
No (skip to II	I-33)	mplete	parts b	through c)
• •		_		il 2017 or the imposition of tariffs on conditions of competition for stainless
		No	Yes	If yes, describe.
Announcement of April 2017	the 232 investigation in			
Imposition of tariff products in <b>March</b>	s on imported steel <b>2018</b>			
(c) How has the implemental for stainless stee	•	orted s	teel pr	oducts affect your sourcing decisions
Source	Explain how tariffs decisions	have a	ffected	l or will affect your firm's sourcing
United States				
Brazil				
India				
Japan				
Spain				

### PART IV.--PRODUCT COMPARISIONS

IV-1. <u>Interchangeability</u>.--Is stainless steel bar produced in the United States and in other countries interchangeable (i.e., can they physically be used in the same applications)?

Please indicate A, F, S, N, or 0 in the table below:

- A = the products from a specified country-pair are *always* interchangeable
- F = the products are *frequently* interchangeable
- S = the products are *sometimes* interchangeable
- N = the products are *never* interchangeable
- 0 = no familiarity with products from a specified country-pair

Country-pair	Brazil	India	Japan	Spain	Other countries
United States					
Brazil					
India					
Japan					
Spain					

For any country-pair producing stainless steel bar that is *sometimes* or *never* interchangeable, identify the country-pair and explain the factors that limit or preclude interchangeable use:

IV-2. **Factors other than price.**--Are differences other than price (e.g., quality, availability, transportation network, product range, technical support, *etc.*) between stainless steel bar produced in the United States and in other countries a significant factor in your firm's purchases of the products?

Please indicate A, F, S, N, or 0 in the table below:

A = such differences are *always* significant

F = such differences are *frequently* significant

S = such differences are *sometimes* significant

N = such differences are *never* significant

0 = *no familiarity* with products from a specified country-pair

Country-pair	Brazil	India	Japan	Spain	Other countries
United States					
Brazil					
India					
Japan					
Spain					

For any country-pair for which factors other than price *always* or *frequently* are a significant factor in your firm's sales of stainless steel bar, identify the country-pair and report the advantages or disadvantages imparted by such factors:

IV-3. <u>Factor country comparisons.</u>—For the factors listed below, please rate how stainless steel bar produced in each country you identified in your response to the first question in Part IV compares with stainless steel bar produced in each of the other countries you identified.

	Product from United States compared to product from Brazil		Product from <u>United States</u> compared to product from <u>India</u>			Product from <u>United States</u> compared to product from <u>Japan</u>			
Factor	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability									
Delivery terms									
Delivery time									
Discounts offered									
Extension of credit									
Minimum quantity requirements									
Packaging									
Price <sup>1</sup>									
Product consistency									
Product range									
Quality meets industry standards									
Quality exceeds industry standards									
Reliability of supply									
Technical support/service									
U.S. transportation costs <sup>1</sup>									

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A rating of superior on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second country.

IV-3. <u>Factor country comparisons.</u>—For the factors listed below, please rate how stainless steel bar produced in each country you identified in your response to the first question in Part IV compares with stainless steel bar produced in each of the other countries you identified.

	<u>Un</u>	Product from United States compared to product from Spain		coi	Product from <u>Brazil</u> compared to  product from <u>India</u>			Product from <u>Brazil</u> compared to product from <u>Japan</u>		
Factor	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	
Availability										
Delivery terms										
Delivery time										
Discounts offered										
Extension of credit										
Minimum quantity requirements										
Packaging										
Price <sup>1</sup>										
Product consistency										
Product range										
Quality meets industry standards										
Quality exceeds industry standards										
Reliability of supply										
Technical support/service										
U.S. transportation costs <sup>1</sup>										

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A rating of superior on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second country.

IV-3. <u>Factor country comparisons.</u>--For the factors listed below, please rate how stainless steel bar produced in each country you identified in your response to the first question in Part IV compares with stainless steel bar produced in each of the other countries you identified.

	Product from <u>Brazil</u> compared to  product from <u>Spain</u>		cor	Product from <u>India</u> compared to product from <u>Japan</u>			Product from <u>India</u> compared to product from <u>Spain</u>		
Factor	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability									
Delivery terms									
Delivery time									
Discounts offered									
Extension of credit									
Minimum quantity requirements									
Packaging									
Price <sup>1</sup>									
Product consistency									
Product range									
Quality meets industry standards									
Quality exceeds industry standards									
Reliability of supply									
Technical support/service									
U.S. transportation costs <sup>1</sup>									

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A rating of superior on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second country.

IV-3. <u>Factor country comparisons.</u>—For the factors listed below, please rate how stainless steel bar produced in each country you identified in your response to the first question in Part IV compares with stainless steel bar produced in each of the other countries you identified.

	coı	Product from  Japan  compared to  product from  Spain		Product from <u>United States</u> compared to product from <u>Nonsubject</u> sources			Product from <u>Brazil</u> compared to  product from <u>Nonsubject</u> <u>sources</u>		
Factor	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability									
Delivery terms									
Delivery time									
Discounts offered									
Extension of credit									
Minimum quantity requirements									
Packaging									
Price <sup>1</sup>									
Product consistency									
Product range									
Quality meets industry standards									
Quality exceeds industry standards									
Reliability of supply									
Technical support/service									
U.S. transportation costs <sup>1</sup>									

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A rating of superior on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second country.

IV-3. <u>Factor country comparisons.</u>—For the factors listed below, please rate how stainless steel bar produced in each country you identified in your response to the first question in Part IV compares with stainless steel bar produced in each of the other countries you identified.

Product from India compared to product from Nonsubject sources		Product from  Japan  compared to  product from  Nonsubject  sources			Product from <u>Spain</u> compared to product from <u>Nonsubject</u> <u>sources</u>			
Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
	Superior Sup	compared sources  Sources  Sources  Combarage  Sources  Combarage  Sources  Combarage  Sources  Source	compared to product from Nonsubject sources  Sources  Combarage  Sources  Sources  Inderior  Compared to product from Nonsubject sources  Combarage  Comba	compared to product from Nonsubject sources  Sources  OCOMBAR SOURCES  Sour	compared to product from Nonsubject sources    Nonsubject sources   Sources	compared to product from Nonsubject sources    Nonsubject sources   Nonsubject sources	compared to product from Nonsubject sources    Application   Application	compared to compared to product from product

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A rating of superior on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second country.

IV-4. Change in price	V-4.	Change	in	price
-----------------------	------	--------	----	-------

(a)	has th	te January 1, 2012, has there been a change in the price of stainless steel bar? If so, the price of U.Sproduced stainless steel bar changed more or less than the price of orted stainless steel bar from Brazil, India, Japan, and Spain?					
		No change in price.					
		Prices have changed by the same amount.					
		Price of U.Sproduced stainless steel bar has changed relative to the price of stainless steel bar from Brazil.					
		Price of U.Sproduced stainless steel bar has changed relative to the price of stainless steel bar from India.					
			produced stainless steel teel bar from Japan.	bar has changed relative to the price			
		Price of U.Sproduced stainless steel bar has changed relative to the price of stainless steel bar from Spain.					
(b)	If the price of U.Sproduced stainless steel bar has changed relative to the price stainless steel bar from Brazil, India, Japan, and/or Spain, the price of U.Sprodustainless steel bar is now relatively						
		Higher	Lower				
				than those from Brazil.			
				than those from India.			
				than those from Japan.			
than tho				than those from Spain.			

#### PART V.—ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

V-1.	Other	expl	anati	ons
------	-------	------	-------	-----

(a)	If your firm would like to further explain a response to any question that did not provide a narrative response box, please note the question number and the explanation in the space provided below.
(b)	If your firm's responses are substantially different for a subset of years since January 2012, please describe below.

V-2. <u>OMB statistics</u>.--Please report the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of completing this questionnaire.

Hours	Dollars

The questions in this questionnaire have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible. Public reporting burden for this questionnaire is estimated to average 40 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering data, and completing and reviewing the questionnaire.

We welcome comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate, suggestions for reducing the burden, and any suggestions for improving this questionnaire. Please attach such comments to your response or send to the Office of Investigations, USITC, 500 E St. SW, Washington, DC 20436.

# **HOW TO FILE YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE**

This questionnaire is available as a "fillable" form in MS Word format on the Commission's website at:

https://www.usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2017/stainless steel bar brazil india ja pan and spain/fourth review full.htm

**Please do not attempt to modify the format or permissions of the questionnaire document**. Please submit the completed questionnaire using one of the methods noted below. If your firm is unable to complete the MS Word questionnaire or cannot use one of the electronic methods of submission, please contact the Commission for further instructions.

• <u>Upload via Secure Drop Box</u>.—Upload the MS Word questionnaire along with a scanned copy of the signed certification page (page 1) through the Commission's secure upload facility:

Web address: <a href="https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/">https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/</a> Pin: SSBAR

• E-mail.—E-mail the MS Word questionnaire to <a href="kristina.lara@usitc.gov">kristina.lara@usitc.gov</a>; include a scanned copy of the signed certification page (page 1). Submitters are strongly encouraged to encrypt nonpublic documents that are electronically transmitted to the Commission to protect your sensitive information from unauthorized disclosure. The USITC secure drop-box system and the Electronic Document Information System (EDIS) use Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 140-2 cryptographic algorithms to encrypt data in transit. Submitting your nonpublic documents by a means that does not use these encryption algorithms (such as by email) may subject your firm's nonpublic information to unauthorized disclosure during transmission. If you choose a non-encrypted method of electronic transmission, the Commission warns you that the risk of such possible unauthorized disclosure is assumed by you and not by the Commission.

**If your firm** does not purchase this product, please fill out page 1, print, sign, and submit a scanned copy to the Commission.

<u>Parties to this proceeding</u>.—If your firm is a party to this proceeding, it is required to serve a copy of the completed questionnaire on parties to the proceeding that are subject to administrative protective order (see 19 CFR § 207.7). A list of such parties may be obtained from the Commission's Secretary (202-205-1803). A certificate of service must accompany the completed questionnaire you submit (see 19 CFR § 207.7). Service of the questionnaire must be made in paper form.