

## **The Domestic Rebar Industry Has Been Injured by a Surge of U.S. Rebar Imports**

As the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) recently confirmed in its affirmative final determination in the antidumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) cases on steel concrete reinforcing bar (rebar) from Japan and Turkey, the U.S. rebar industry has been materially injured by a surge of unfairly priced imports of rebar.

### **Background**

- The AD/CVD cases were filed by the Rebar Trade Action Coalition, a group of leading U.S. steel manufacturers representing over 30,000 workers, with production facilities in nearly all 50 states. Five major U.S. steel producers are members of the Coalition: Byer Steel Group, Inc., Commercial Metals Company, Gerdau Ameristeel U.S. Inc., Nucor Corporation, and Steel Dynamics, Inc. The Coalition continues to seek a fair and level playing field for American workers and manufacturers in the U.S. rebar market.
- Rebar is a steel product most used in critical infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, runways and power plants. In the United States, rebar is produced exclusively through the electric arc furnace (EAF) production method.

### **Imports of Rebar Have Flooded the U.S. Market**

- From 2012 to 2016, U.S. imports of rebar increased by 116 percent, or more than 1.1 million short tons, reaching a staggering 2.1 million short tons in 2016. Thus, imports took a significant percentage of the U.S. market, which reached only 8.8 million tons in 2016.
- In the first four months of 2017, U.S. rebar imports continued to increase, growing by 21 percent over import levels from the same period in 2016.

### **The U.S. Industry Remains Extremely Vulnerable to Further Injury from Imports**

- Recent determinations from the Commerce Department at the ITC will result in the imposition of AD orders on rebar from Japan and Turkey and a CVD order on rebar from Turkey, which should provide the U.S. industry with some measure of relief from imports from those countries.
- However, the domestic rebar industry remains extremely vulnerable to further injury from imports, including from other foreign countries.
- The domestic industry is currently operating only about 71 percent of its production capacity.
- Last year, the U.S. rebar industry barely broke even, earning only a dismal 2.3 percent operating margin. From 2015 to 2016 alone, U.S. producers' operating income fell by more than \$248 million.
- Over 10,000 American jobs at more than 100 rebar mill and fabrication facilities in 33 states are at risk due to continued unfair trade practices by foreign rebar producers. At least two hundred jobs have already been lost in the past three years, as a result of unfairly traded imports and their effects on the U.S. market.