



## **SOUTH AFRICAN IRON AND STEEL INSTITUTE**

### **PRIMARY STEEL INDUSTRY OVERVIEW**

#### **Overview of the primary steel industry in South Africa**

South Africa was ranked the 19'th largest crude steel producing country in the world by the International Iron and Steel Institute (IISI) in 2005 and as net exporting country (exports-imports) of primary steel, South Africa was ranked 9th in the world during 2004. South Africa is also the largest steel producer in Africa, producing 53% of the total crude steel production of the continent during 2005.

Total South African crude steel production amounted to 9,493 million tonnes in 2005, a decrease of 0.1%, compared with 9,500 million tonnes during 2004. This represents 0,8% of world production which reached 1 129,4 million tonnes in 2005 according to the International Iron and Steel Institute (IISI), an increase of 5,9% when compared with 2004.

Carbon steel deliveries by the primary steel industry amounted to 7,628 million tonnes in 2005, a decrease of 1,3% compared with 2004. During 2005 4,230 million tonnes of carbon steel products were sold on the local market, a decrease of 6,1% compared with 2004. During 2005 3,398 million tonnes of carbon steel products were exported, an increase of 5,5% compared with 2004.

Imports of carbon and alloy primary steel products during 2005 amounted to 0,336 million tonnes, an increase of 8,9% compared with 2004. Imports of carbon and alloy steel during 2005 accounted for 7,4% of apparent domestic carbon steel consumption compared to 6,4% of apparent domestic carbon steel consumption during 2004.

The range of primary carbon steel products and semi-finished products manufactured in South Africa includes billets, blooms, slabs, forgings, light-, medium- and heavy sections and bars, reinforcing bar, railway track material, wire rod, seamless tubes, plates, hot- and cold-rolled coils and sheets, electrolytic galvanised coils and sheets, tinsplate and pre-painted coils and sheets.

The range of primary stainless steel products and semi-finished products manufactured in South Africa includes slabs, plates and hot- and cold-rolled coils and sheets.

Apart from the estimated 2 million tonnes of ferrous-scrap sourced from the market, of which 0,087 million tonnes were imported by the local primary steel industry in 2005, a volume of 0,386 million tonnes of ferrous scrap were exported by metal recyclers.



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During 2005 an estimated total of 40 million tonnes of iron ore were mined in South Africa, contributing about 3 % to world production from about 1% of the world reserve base. Approximately 15 million tonnes were consumed locally. During this period about 25 million tonnes of iron ore were exported from South Africa accounting for approximately 4% of global trade.

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