

News from the Coalition of American Metal Manufacturers and Users

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STATEMENT ON EXTENSION OF SECTION 232 STEEL AND ALUMINUM COUNTRY EXCEPTIONS

The following statement on President Donald Trump's 30 day extension of country exceptions from the Section 232 steel and aluminum tariffs can be attributed to Paul Nathanson, spokesperson, The Coalition of American Metal Manufacturers and Users:

"We are disappointed that the President did not act last night to end the uncertainty in the metals market by ending the threat of tariffs on steel and aluminum. Our member companies are already seeing prices spike by more than 30% for steel and delivery times have more than tripled in many cases. That's because a tariff—or the threat of a tariff—on the imports of a product not only raises the price of the imported product, but also allows the domestic industry to raise the price of its products. Domestic steelmakers do not produce enough steel to meet demand nor, in many cases, do they supply the type of steel needed for steel-consuming U.S. manufacturers. The result is that these manufacturers will pay more for steel and aluminum in the U.S. than anywhere in the world. U.S. manufacturers will therefore lose business to overseas competitors, who pay global market prices for these important inputs and can therefore manufacture and import end products and component parts with significant content of steel and aluminum into U.S. markets at a much lower cost than they can be made by U.S. manufacturers.

Quotas are not the solution as they will have the same impact as tariffs by restricting access to, and raising the price of, steel and aluminum for U.S. manufacturers. We call on President Trump to enter into global negotiations about overcapacity for steel and aluminum before these trade wars cost tens of thousands of U.S. jobs."

The Coalition of American Metal Manufacturers and Users is a broad organization of U.S. businesses and trade associations representing over 30,000 companies and over one million American workers in the manufacturing sector and the downstream supply chains of industries including aerospace, agriculture, automotive, consumer goods, construction, defense, electrical, medical, and recreational, among others. The Coalition was formed to oppose the Section 232 steel and aluminum tariffs which threaten American jobs and global competitiveness. For additional information, visit www.tariffsaretaxes.org and follow the Coalition on Twitter at @dtariffsaretaxes.org