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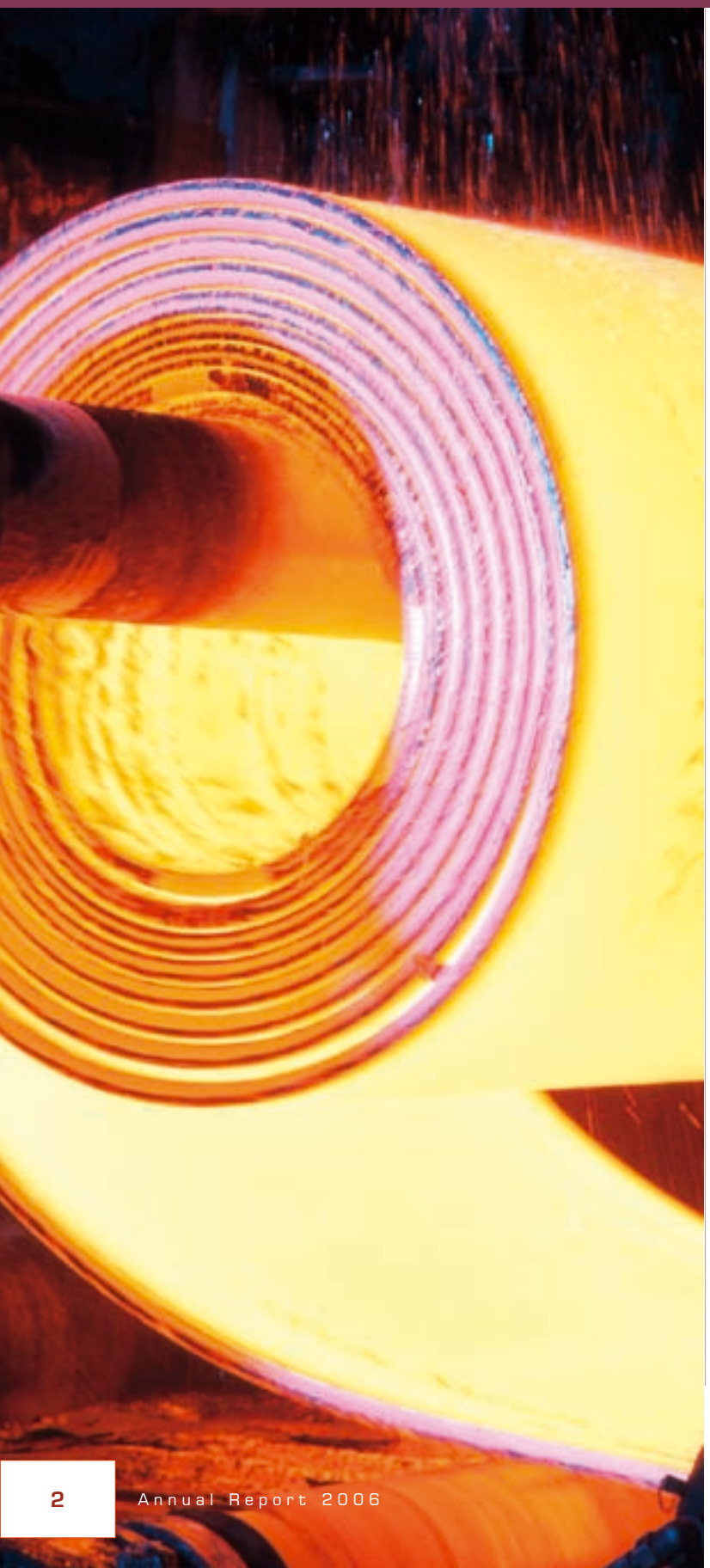
Introduction



There was a robust improvement in the economic environment in Europe in 2006, led by a revived Germany. Economic growth was well-balanced, driven by the powerful combination of firm growth in domestic demand and exports. Consumer and business confidence reached new highs with unemployment declining across the EU and company liquidity underpinning a strong rise in capital spending.

This translated into a very strong rise in activity in steel using sectors particularly in the two main drivers of steel consumption – construction and engineering. Total output by the main steel using sectors rose by just under 6 %, an extremely strong performance which was twice as high as manufacturing industry in general.

Real consumption rose by an estimated 6 %, apparent consumption by 12 % fuelled by strong end-user demand, stocks replenishment and a huge rise in imports. Inventories rose but remained on a par with the rise in end-user activity.

The emergence of China as a major exporter to Europe was the chief characteristic of the trade pictures in 2006. Chinese exports of finished products rose to 5 Mio t up from just over 1 Mio t in the previous year and from a substantially lower level in earlier periods. This sudden appearance of additional volumes from a relative newcomer to the European market could have had disastrous consequences if it had come in a period with weaker demand conditions. As it is, with no signs of the Chinese surge receding, the supply/demand balance in Europe will be more critical this year.

Despite the exceptional nature of the increase in steel imports last year, EUROFER filed no trade cases. In part this reflected the strong market conditions which persisted despite the import pressure. However, it also reflects the genuinely sparse use of TDI by the steel industry in Europe. We use anti-dumping on only very rare occasions and only as an instrument of last resort, preferring instead to use dialogue with our major trading partners as the best and most efficient means to resolve trade tensions. Nevertheless we recognise that the existence of strong efficient trade defence instruments is an essential defence against unfair trade which must be available for use if all else fails.

It was for this reason that we viewed with concern the review of the EU's trade defence regime launched by Commissioner Mandelson in mid-2006. We are now engaged constructively in the debate which he has started. We believe that the existing system works well, is by far the most liberal and the most rigorously administered WTO-plus system in the world. This being said, there may well be elements of the present regime which could be modernised or improved. We also believe that, rather than the EU making unilateral changes to its TDI, priority should be given to encouraging others to bring their TDI standards to the same level as ours.

Climate change continues to be a large focus of EUROFER's activities.
The pursuit of workable policy solutions that balance sound environmental results with the maintenance of the competitiveness of the steel industry in Europe, remains the objective. Last year saw initial reactions to the Commission's adjustment of Phase II National Allocation Plans. The insistence by the Commission that member states base their NAPs on the verified figures of 2005 – a year of low demand for steel – led to results for the steel industry which were broadly unsatisfactory in terms of allocations.

The current cap and trade system has significant flaws because it does nothing to reward those companies which have improved their efficiency in terms of emissions. By simply capping output levels it encourages companies to shift production outside the EU. Most tellingly it fails to make a measurable impact on emission levels at a world level.

EUROFER, with the unanimous support of the industry in Europe has now engaged with the EU Commission on a different approach for the post-2012 period. An approach which focuses on plant efficiency rather than absolute output levels, that promotes reductions in emissions per tonne of production through improvements in efficiency rather than just imposing a cap on production levels. Such a system can deliver real results without damaging economic activity in the EU or the competitivity of the sector. Most importantly, it can become global and give measurable improvements in the environmental performance of the sector at a world level. The industry in Europe will intensify its efforts this year to convince policy makers of the merits of this approach.

Philippe Varin — President

Gordon Moffat — Director General

General Economic Development

In 2006, the global economy registered another year of robust expansion. Economic growth amounted to 5.2% (2000 PPP Purchasing Power Parity), surpassing the already significant growth rates seen in 2004 and 2005. As in the preceding years, the Asian region provided the strongest impulse to economic growth worldwide, driven by the continued strength of the Chinese economy (10.7% growth) and increasingly by India. But also the economy in Japan remained on a positive growth track (2.2%) with exports to Asia and particularly China as the main driver.
Meanwhile, in North America, the US economy continued to perform well with overall 2006 GDP growth amounting to 3.3%, despite quarter four indicators signalling some increase in fragility towards the end of the year. Also Latin America, Eastern Europe and the CIS countries showed a solid economic performance.

The great surprise of 2006, however, was the stronger than expected recovery in Europe. Although - via exports - strengthening global demand continued to be an important stimulus, it has been the broadly based improvement in domestic demand that supported economic growth in 2006. The business situation became more supportive to investment owing to strong corporate balance sheets, higher profit margins, still favourable financing conditions and rising capacity utilisation rates. This resulted in a robust growth in corporate spending. But also private consumption proved to be more dynamic than originally anticipated; surveys point also to a significant improvement in consumer confidence during the year, not least owing to a better labour market. The fact that Germany, having lagged behind for several years, was the strongest large economy in the EU has been of particular importance and provided strong spin-off effects to other EU countries. At the end of last year, economic confidence in the EU was at a 5-year high. With unemployment falling and inflation broadly under control, the EU has entered 2007 with significant momentum.

On a par with the better than expected improvement in general economic conditions, also the performance of the manufacturing industry surprised on the upside in 2006. Supported by strengthened export and particularly domestic demand, industrial production (including extraction, utilities and construction) increased by 3%. Particularly for German industry, 2006 was a bumper year with industrial output growing substantially above the growth rate anywhere else in Western Europe. Meanwhile, the industrial performance in the Central European countries continued the strongly upward trend seen in previous years.

Development of Certain Elements of the EU Economy
Yearly Variations in %
Source: EUROFER

	2005	2006	2007 (forecast)
GDP	1,5	2,7	2,4
Private Consumption	1,5	2,3	2,2
Investments	3,1	5,1	4,4
of which:			
Investments in equipment	4,1	5,4	5,1
Exports	5,1	9,3	5,7
Imports	5,6	9,0	6,0
Unemployment rate	8,9	8,1	7,6
Inflation	2,1	2,1	2,0

Steel Market

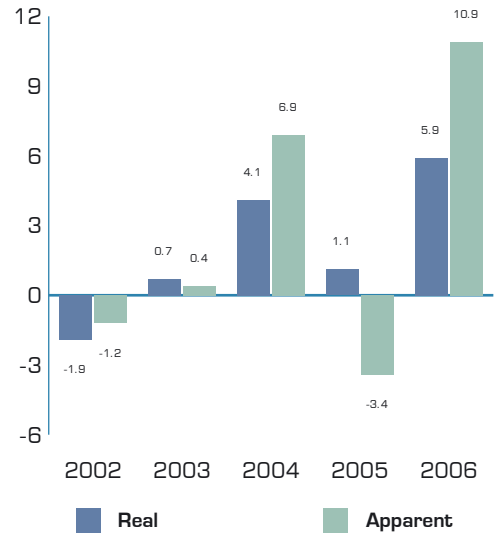
Supply-demand balance

Much in line with the general economic and industrial performance, the EU steel market clearly surpassed expectations in 2006. In the first quarter, steel buyers returned to the market following their absence during the second half of 2005 as a result of drastic inventory cuts. In these first months of 2006, the key driver was stock replenishment, together with support coming from the marked improvement in construction demand. End-use consumption from other key steel using sectors strengthened in the second quarter as the EU economy shifted into a higher gear. The remainder of 2006 saw steel consumption in most key steel using sectors on a strongly upward trend. Particularly construction activity – owing to a upswing in the non-residential sector (the key steel consumer within the construction industry). In the whole of 2006, real steel consumption increased by 5.9%, whereas apparent steel consumption grew by 10.9%.

Although the demand side of the EU steel market developed very positively, the supply side situation changed quite significantly over the year. In the first quarter, supply-side pressures remained at a moderate level owing to continued domestic supply discipline and imports rising to a lesser extent than earlier anticipated. This created a favourable setting for price rises after several quarters of downward price adjustments during 2005. However, from the second quarter onwards, the combination of strong demand fundamentals, rising steel prices and the strong Euro resulted in Europe becoming the preferred export destination for most third country exporters. Consequently, imports peaked at unprecedented levels in the final quarter of 2006.

Until the end of the year, however, strong demand enabled the EU market to absorb the rapid rise in imports without much difficulty. Overall inventory levels at SSC's, merchants and stockists are considered to have remained at normal to only slightly too high levels, even with significant volumes of imports arriving at Europe's main ports during the second half of the year.

Real and Apparent Consumption: Yearly Variation (in %)
Source: EUROFER



Trade

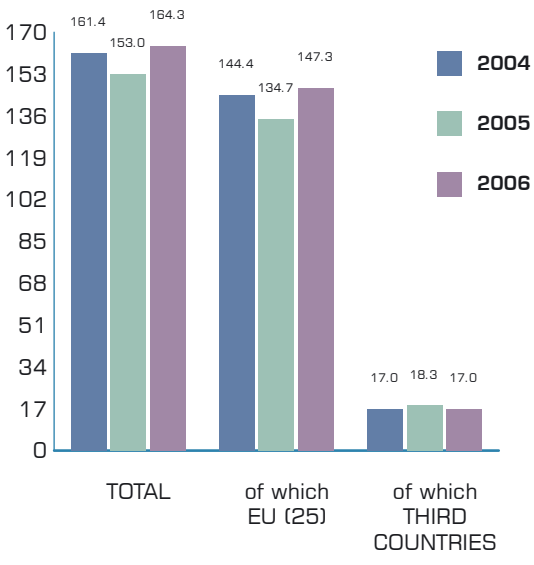
The huge increase in imports in 2006 – up by more than 50% - was largely dominated by the sharp rise in Chinese exports to the EU. Due to strong investment, China's domestic steel making and processing capacity has continued to grow significantly in recent years. In 2006, output of crude steel steel grew by 20% and production of finished steel products even by 25% (to 473m tonnes), outpacing domestic steel demand growth which is estimated to have grown by 'just' 10%. Consequently, China's steel industry is looking increasingly for foreign market outlets. Meanwhile, the combination of strong demand and continued pricing strength also encouraged other countries such as India, Brazil, Serbia, Iran and others to step up their exports to the EU. The strong rise in imports and slackening exports resulted in a negative net trade balance of 9.7 mln tonnes following four consecutive years of small trade surplusses.

Deliveries of Steel (all qualities except stainless steel)

Owing to the strength of the EU steel market and the related improvement in steel prices, EU steel producers focused primarily on the domestic market during the greater part of 2006. As a result, deliveries into the home market increased by 9.4% to 164.3 mln tonnes. At the same time, this limited the possibilities to sell to customers outisde the EU and consequently, exports to third countries from EU producers showed a steadily declining trend during the first three quarters of 2006. However, in the final quarter of the year, with imports into the EU at unprecedented highs and intensifying competition, EU producers stepped up their deliveries to third countries. All in all, EU exports declined by 7.1% in 2006. Total deliveries from EU producers rose 7.4% in 2006.

Total Steel Deliveries	**+ 7.4%**
of which to the EU25 market	+ 9.4%
of which to export markets	- 7.1%

Carbon Steel: Total Deliveries (million tonnes)
Source: EUROFER

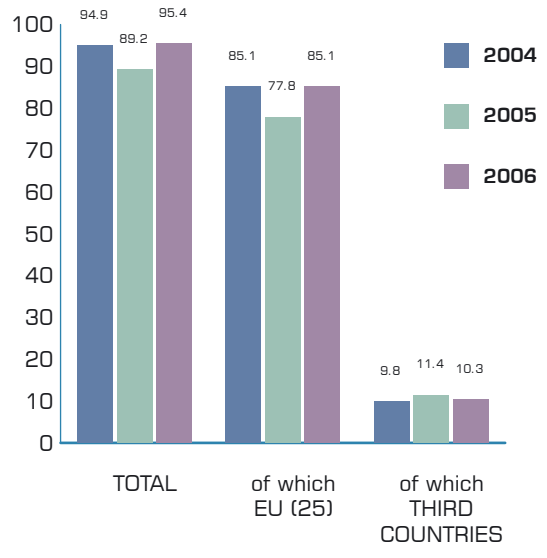


Steel Market

The breakdown into the main product categories – flat and long products - shows a fairly similar development. As far as flat products are concerned, total 2006 deliveries increased by 7%. Deliveries by EU producers on the home market grew by 9.4% while export deliveries fell by 7.1%. Very strong increases were registered for coated product deliveries, supported by the strong recovery of the construction market and solid demand from automotive customers. Hot-dipped metal coated sheet deliveries into the EU increased by 14.4% and organic coated sheet deliveries by 11.6%. Also deliveries of hot-rolled material were substantially higher than in 2005. As mentioned before, flat product export were on a downward trend with organic coated sheets, tinplate and hot-rolled narrow strip being the main exceptions.

Total Flat Product Deliveries	**+ 7.0%**
of which to the EU25 market	+ 9.4%
of which to export markets	- 9.6%

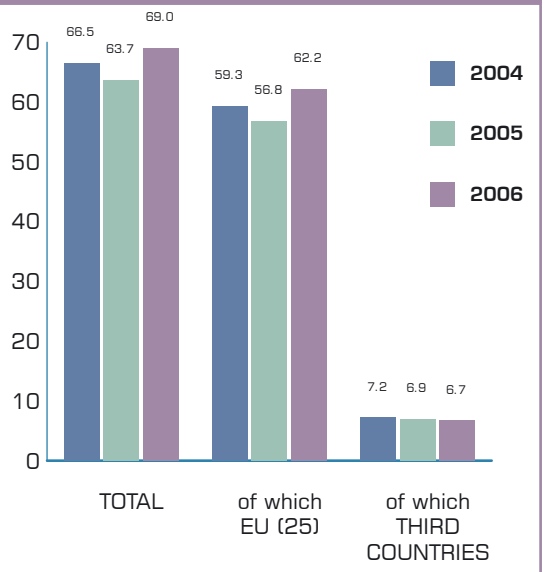
Carbon Steels: Flat Products Deliveries
(million tonnes)
Source: EUROFER



Long product deliveries showed slightly stronger dynamics than the those of flat products, basically because of a larger proportion of deliveries being used in construction applications. Given the strength of the construction market – both in the EU and abroad – total deliveries of long products increased 8.3% in 2006 with domestic EU deliveries growing by 9.5% and exports falling by 2.5%. Strongest growth in deliveries was registered in sheet piling and heavy sections.

Total Long Product Deliveries	**+ 8.3%**
of which to the EU25 market	+ 9.5%
of which to export markets	- 2.9%

Carbon Steels: Long Products Deliveries
(million tonnes)
Source: EUROFER



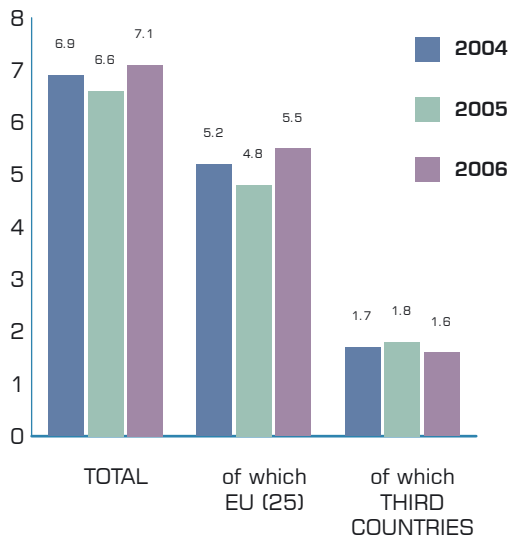
Stainless steels

Whilst the stainless steel business in the 4th quarter 2005 had been affected by a strong de-stocking process, a contraction of order books, production cuts and a market price erosion, this negative trend was completely reversed at the beginning of 2006. Robust underlying real consumption from end-users, low inventories, supply tightness aggravated by some industrial incidents and the unrelentless upsurge in the price of nickel to unprecedented levels which propelled stainless steel transaction values to record highs as the year progressed were the reasons for this radical change in apparent consumption. As a consequence, stainless steel melting in the EU/25 area

reached 9,35 Million tonnes in 2006, up by 12, 4 % compared to 2005.

At the end of 2006 however, with a strong pressure of cheap material imports from Asia coupled with increased stocks and an easier availability of material from all sources, apparent demand started to weaken. Owing to the high transaction prices lifted by the record alloy cost factor, customers started to show caution in placing orders beyond their immediate needs and EU mills delivery lead times shortened. More than ever, the nickel price volatility was the major factor determining the stainless steel market evolution in 2006.

Stainless Steels: Development of Deliveries
(million tonnes)
Source: EUROFER



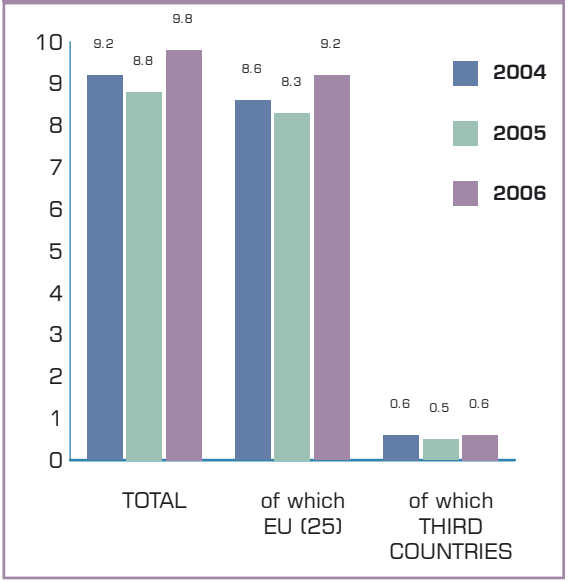
Alloy Special Steels (other than stainless)

In 2006, deliveries of alloy special steels other than stainless, by EU producers, increased by 10,5 % on the EU/25 market and exports to third countries grew by 1 %. Imports from third countries pushed the EU market supply further up with an increase close to 25 % year-on -year. The driver of the growth in apparent consumption was the alloy engineering steels long products segment whilst the overall deliveries of EU tool and high speed steels producers decreased slightly, partly due to rising competition from third countries on commodity products, partly owing to manufacturers' allocations of available capacities to other steel categories.

Sustained demand for alloy engineering steels long products was fuelled by a strong activity in their key end-user sectors: mechanical engineering , which enjoyed a record year in 2006 on the basis of rising investments in plants and equipment and the revival in German manufacturing, the automotive sector which showed a stable demand overall thanks to passenger car export business and strength in the industrial vehicles segment, a very high activity in the energy sector, worldwide.

With a growing strength of consumer and business confidence at the beginning of 2007, EU alloy special steels producers continue to record a high level of incoming orders, long lead times and a full capacity loading. The energy and raw material costs increases incurred in 2006 were reflected in the market prices that have been following a rising trend for over a year. Although there is still some lack of visibility on the 2nd half-year 2007 business, the outlook for the whole year 2007 is positive.

Other Special Steels: Development of Deliveries
(million tonnes)
Source: EUROFER



Trade Policy

EU Trade Cases

No steel trade defense actions were initiated by EUROFER in 2006. New anti-dumping cases against imports of ferro-alloys were initiated in September and November 2006 (Ferro-silico-manganese and Ferro-silicon). Within EUROFER, European steel industry has set up a common user defense to ensure an optimal participation in these procedures, the outcome of which is expected in the second half of 2007.

Third Country Trade Cases against the EU

Russia – Stainless Flat Products

In March 2007, Russia imposed an anti-dumping measure on imports of certain stainless flat products from the EU, more than 2 years after initiation of the investigation (EUR 840 per tonne). Despite repeated interventions by the Commission and member states, Russia seems to have proceeded in this case with little respect for the rules established by the WTO.

Commission's Public Consultation on European Trade Defense Instruments (TDI)

In December 2006, Commissioner Mandelson launched a public stakeholders' reflection on the need to modernise the use of TDI in a changing global economy when more EU companies produce

outside the EU for export to the European market, or outsource steps in the production process. EUROFER has communicated a common steel industry position stressing the essential nature of TDI for preserving and promoting fair market competition, a fortiori in globalizing economy, and the need for strengthening the effectiveness of TDI in view of persisting foreign government actions encouraging dumping and subsidisation of excessive capacities and production.

Bilateral Agreements with Russia, the Ukraine and Kazakhstan

New bilateral agreements have been negotiated for 2007- 2008, raising quotas to 2.9 Mio tonnes (Russia), 1.3 Mio tonnes (Ukraine) and 250,000 tonnes (Kazakhstan) for 2007, with a 2.5% increase for 2008. The new quotas take into account an annual increase, the impact of EU enlargement (Bulgaria and Romania) and additional tonnages for captive supply to Russian producer-owned distribution activities in the EU. Pending the publication of the new bilateral agreements in 2007, autonomous measures limit import volumes up to the level of 2006 ensuring a seamless continuation of the quota regimes in 2007.

Prior Community Surveillance System

The EU import monitoring and licensing system has been prolonged beyond 2006 for three years until 2009. Strongly urged by EUROFER, this no-cost, non-trade restrictive instrument is the only available and indispensable forward indicator of variations in trade flows, notably in view of the trend of China increasingly releasing important quantities of steel products looking for new markets.

USA

In 2006, two steel-related WTO disputes were settled against the USA: USA Congress repealed the Byrd Amendment ending illegal disbursement of proceeds of anti-dumping duties to the complaining USA industries as from September 2007. Since 2000, Byrd proceeds to the USA steel industry totaled around USD 100 Mio. In addition, a dispute settlement ruling finally declared the USA practice of zeroing illegal "as such" under WTO anti-dumping rules, a practice disregarding negative dumping margins (put to zero) having the effect of bringing up the overall dumping margin. USA has announced to implement this WTO ruling by recalculating specific anti-dumping cases potentially reducing or eliminating applicable USA duties on certain steel products from EU exporting countries including the Netherlands, France, Germany, Italy, the UK, Sweden, Spain Italy and Belgium.

In December 2006, USA Sunset reviews terminated anti-dumping and countervailing duty orders on imports of corrosion-resistant (coated) carbon steel from Australia, Canada, France and Japan – but extended duty orders on this product from Germany and South Korea. Also, USA duty orders were sunsetted on plate imports from 11 exporting countries of which Belgium, Germany, Spain, Sweden, the UK, Finland, Poland and Romania.

Turkey

Upon strong pressure by the Commission and after multiple delays, Turkey submitted to the EU its national steel restructuring plan in October 2006. This plan, which should serve the objective of assuring the long-term viability of the Turkish steel industry by waivering past and last-time subsidisation in return for capacity adjustment, is being evaluated by the Commission in terms of reality of projected estimations, notably domestic consumption growth. EUROFER is closely following up on this process by communicating its opinion on the realism of the forecasts to the Commission and member states.

Raw Materials

Iron Ore

In 2005, the increase in prices of 71,6 % imposed by iron ore suppliers reflected the tight supply – demand balance driven by the emergence of China onto world raw materials markets. There was a new jump upwards of 19% in 2006, a total rise of 190% since 2002.

2006 saw a new record for seaborne traded iron ore which rose to 723 Mio t. All of this increase was due to China which imported 325 Mio t, up from 275 Mio t in the previous year (+18%).The domestic iron ore production in China amounted to 570 Mio t in 2006 compared to 410 Mio t in 2005 (+39%).

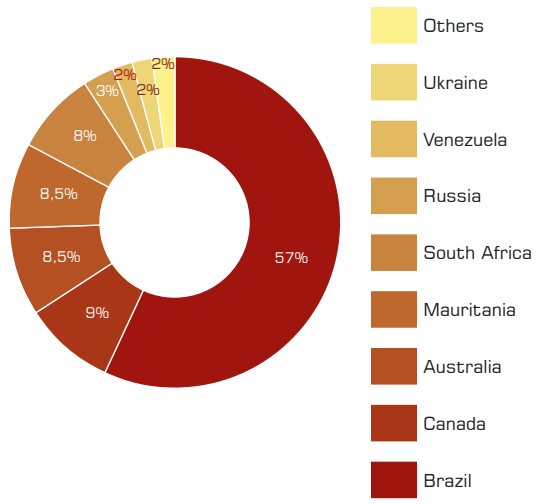
China now accounts for 45 % of world seaborne trade in iron ore, and the three main suppliers represent 70 % of the world trade.

There are many projects aimed at increasing supply, led by projects aimed at increasing existing capacities but also at developing new capacities, in Brazil (expansion of capacity of Carajas, of the Ponda da Madeira maritime terminal, construction of a new pellet plant in Minas Gerais State), in Australia (Hopes Downs project), in Guinea (Simandou project), in Liberia (Nimba County project) and also in Sweden (the Dannemora iron ore mine could be reopened before end of 2008).

Pig iron production levels (EUROFER Cies) were at 95,8 Mio t in 2006 (EU25 : 110,2 Mio t), 2,7% up from the 93,3 Mio t of the previous year. Imports of iron ore fell 1 Mio t – as producers decreased stocks – to 124 Mio t, plus 16,5 Mio t from Sweden.

The import share in 2006 of fines (60%), lumps (15%) and pellets (25%) is similar to 2005.

EU25 Receipts of Imported Iron Ore
Source: EUROFER



Coal and Coke

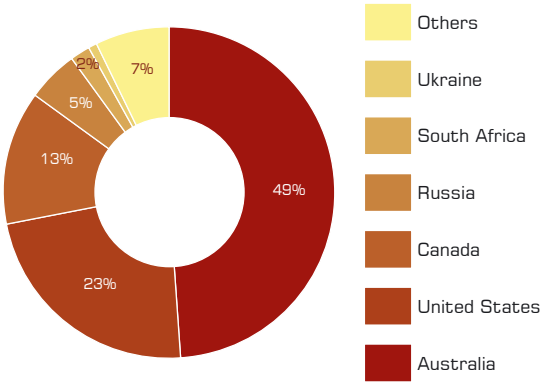
Imports of coal in 2006 (EUROFER Cies) were 54 Mio t, an increase of 1,2 Mio t of which 40,7 Mio t of coking coal and 13,3 Mio t of pulverised coal for injection (140 kg pci/t pig iron).

The pattern of imports was unchanged with however a large increase from Australia (+6 %) and a decrease from South Africa (-28 %). Australia (49 %), the United States (23 %) and Canada (13 %) together represent 85 % of the imports into the EU25.

In 2006, coking coal consumption in the EU 25 (EUROFER Cies) amounted to 57,6 Mio t, an increase of 2,3 % compared to an increase of 2,7% of pig iron production.

Following the explosion in coal pricing in 2005, reflecting higher demand worldwide, prices have decreased (-10% in 2006) but remain above their former levels. Nevertheless, the market is likely to remain tight for the foreseeable future.

EU25 Receipts of Imported Coking Coal
Source: EUROFER



Scrap

The volatility of scrap prices became evident again in the first half of the year 2006 which saw a substantial rise of 24%. In the second half, prices remained at a high level but the trend upwards was more flat. The average scrap prices for all the year 2006 are finally at the same level than in 2004.

The volumes of scrap being exported from markets on the Black Sea were in decline due to rising domestic demand in Eastern Europe and the CIS, and, in the future, Russia and Ukraine may become scrap importers. Accordingly, this situation forced some steel mills, in Turkey for example, into increasing the consumptions of alternatives such as HBI and DRI. Pressure on supplies and high prices are therefore likely to remain a feature of the scrap market worldwide for some time to come.

On the other hand, scrap availability in EU25 was good in the course of the year, as the stock levels.

Raw Materials

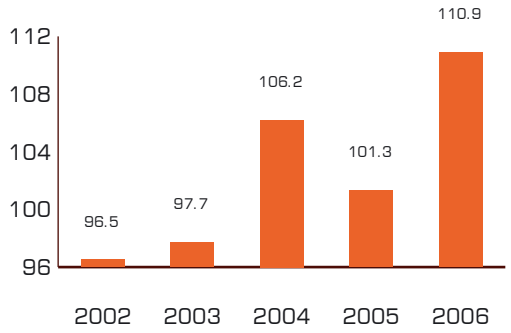
In 2006, scrap demand in the EU25 remained at very high levels, scrap consumption was 110,9 Mio t, an increase of 9,5 %, while the crude steel production amounted 198,4 Mio t (+5,9%). The differential is due to the share of the electric arc furnace route, increasing from 39% in 2005 to 41% in 2006. The scrap recycling rate was 56% (2% of improvement).

The import of scrap of 7,5 Mio t was only slightly below the 7,6 Mio t of the previous year. The main suppliers remain yet Russia (3,4 Mio t, but -16% compared to 2005), Switzerland (0,6 Mio t) and United States (0,5 Mio t).

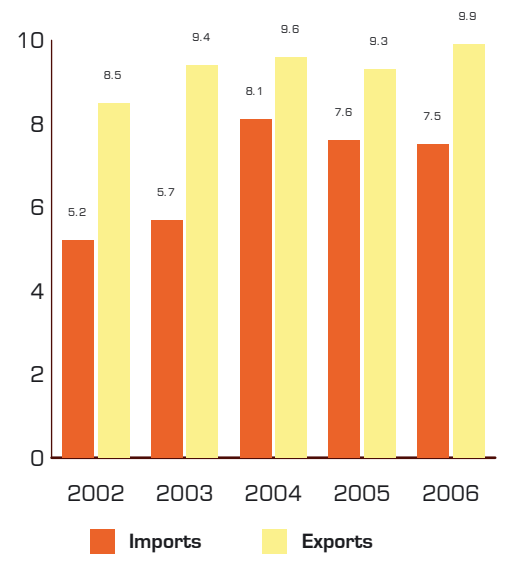
Exports increased from 9,3 Mio t to 9,9 Mio t. Exports to Asia fell by 47%, from 4 Mio t to 2,1 Mio t, while those to Turkey amounted 4,6 Mio t (+50%) and to Egypt 1,3 Mio t (+110%). Europe therefore was clearly a net exporter of scrap with the gap between imports and exports growing.

At the same time, there was an increase of the apparent domestic supply in EU 25 (=consumption – imports + exports) of 10%, to reach 113,3 Mio t of scrap.

Scrap: EU Consumption (million tonnes)
Source: Eurostat - EUROFER

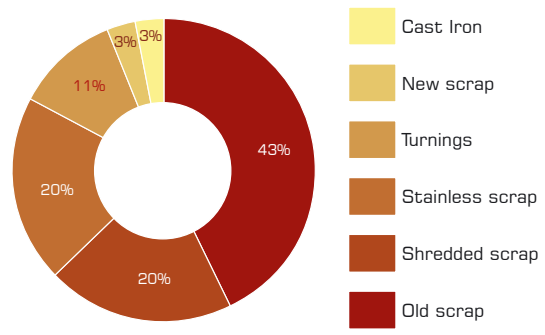


Scrap: Imports and Exports (million tonnes)
Source: Comext - Eurostat



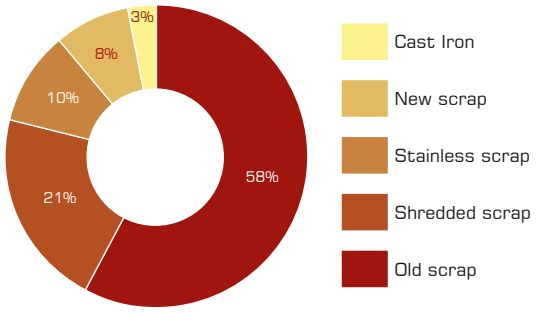
EU25 Imported Scrap by Grade

Source: EUROFER



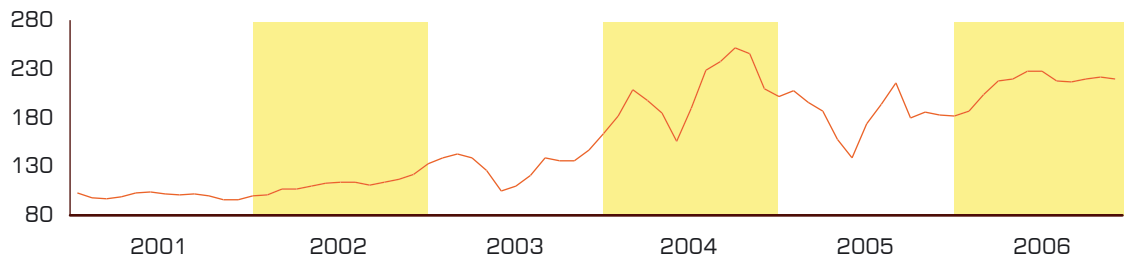
EU25 Exported Scrap by Grade

Source: EUROFER



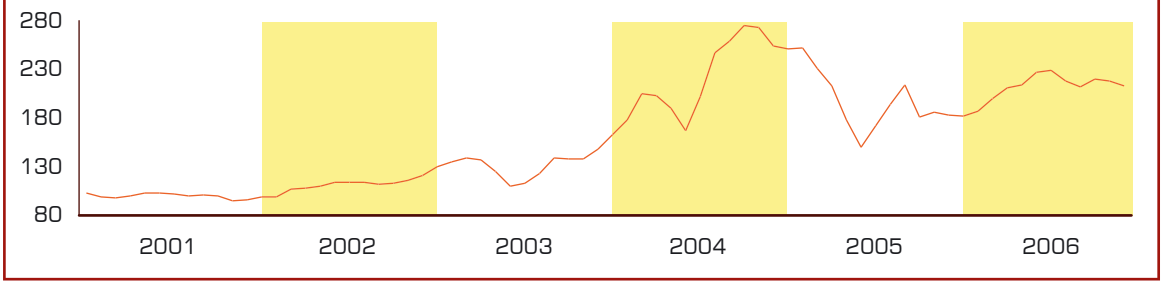
Scrap - Demolition Quality: Price EU Market (€/t)

Source: EUROFER



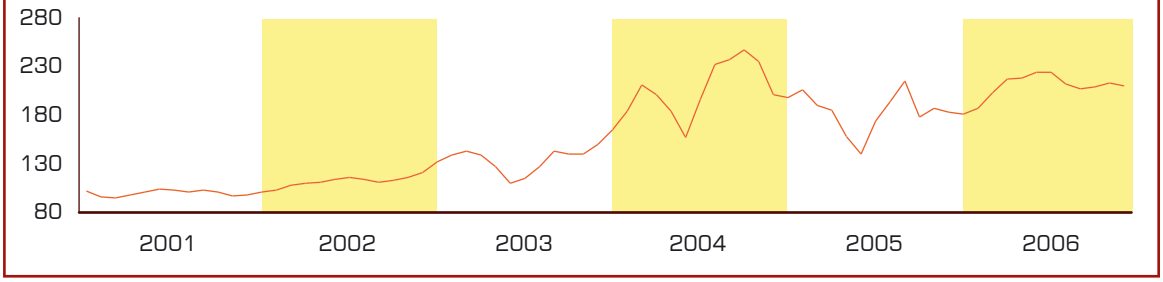
Scrap - New Arisings: Price EU Market (€/t)

Source: EUROFER



Scrap - Shredded: Price EU Market (€/t)

Source: EUROFER



Technology and environment

Energy

The Alliance of Energy Intensive Industries, including EUROFER, is a strong supporter of the new energy strategy for Europe and actively contributed in 2006 to the EU Energy Strategic Review, advocating urgent measures to improve the functioning of electricity markets.

The key consideration in the achievement of this objective will be to obtain internationally competitive market-driven prices with long-term predictability and stability. Until recently, energy intensive industries have invested in the EU, with the confidence of long-term price stability linked to the secure EU energy mix base, with a high share of low cost hydro, nuclear, coal and lignite generation. To continue to invest and operate, energy intensive industries must continue to access this base-load generation.

EU and national authorities should encourage and define the measures whereby EU-based energy intensive industries can remain competitive, as soon as possible. This requires transitional measures to be put in place until such time as there is a properly functioning, fair and competitive electricity and gas market. The Alliance strongly recommends including this sense of urgency and the need for very quick solutions in the follow-up to the further legislative plans.

Key actions needed

- Enforce competition and add measures to attract competitive new entrants for base load generation.
- Ensure a price forming mechanism that provides transparency and reflection of supply demand in an open market.
- Ensure full ownership unbundling of the networks from the producers.
- Ensure there are sufficient energy connections between the Member States.
- Provide a framework that allows Member States to develop transitional measures in line with State aid legislation.
- Develop and maintain appropriate fuel mix policies, including reviewing the nuclear option, to secure supply for the long term and tackle climate change.
- In parallel, use the ETS review to address the substantial pass through of opportunity costs by electricity producers, which further deteriorates the competitiveness of industrial users – instead give priority to allocation methods that promote good practice and ensure that Europe's most CO_2 efficient plants are fairly rewarded.

Research

Framework Programme 7

The legislation for the 7th Framework Programme (FP 7) was subject to decisions by the European Parliament and the Council. In 2006, it was adopted and decisions on specific programmes (Cooperation, Ideas, People and Capacities) and related budget have been taken for the period 2007-2013.

The first calls for proposals were published on December 22, 2006, just right to start the FP 7 in 2007. The Working Groups of the European Steel Technology Platform are preparing proposals for those first calls.

More information are available under:
http://cordis.europa.eu/estep/
http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/

Research Fund for Coal and Steel

In 2006, 143 research proposals for steel were submitted to the European Commission to be selected and financed under the Research Fund for Coal and Steel (RFCS). Due to a limited budget of about 39,5 M €, only 35 %

of the submitted proposals were finally financed. The percentage of funded proposals in accordance to the priority areas was as following:

Steelmaking and finishing techniques: 47 %
Products and application: 42,5 %
Factory wide control, social, environment: 10,5 %

EUROFER Steel Advisory Group (SAG) members were involved in the scheduled revision of the Technical Guidelines for RFCS as well as in the new version of the Infopack for RFCS, in particular the priority list for the ESTEP related proposals (see activity report available at: www.cordis.europa.eu/estep). According to its terms of reference, the RFCS programme is subject to a "Monitoring Exercise". EUROFER SAG members were consulted by the experts appointed by the European Commission and commented the final report.
More information are available under:
http://cordis.europa.eu/coal-steel-rtd/home.html

After 5 years, it has been decided to update the booklet "Networking in European Steel Research" with the target to finish it by mid of 2007. The new version will be available on http://www.eurofer.org/publications/pdf/2002-NetEURes.pdf

Standards

Over the past years, the European Rebar industry has been actively contributing to the development of the standard EN 10080 "Steel for reinforcement of concrete – weldable reinforcing steel". Unfortunately, there was no unanimous agreement at the end of a recent stakeholders' consultation and the European Commission has concluded this standard had to be withdrawn from the Official Journal (OJ). The EU rebar producers are not satisfied with the current situation and will keep on working on a solution in the coming months. More generally, it is EUROFER's view that the system of standards applying to products needs to be stable so that industry can implement them. Priority should be given to procedures that allow the speedy amendment of standards, when justified, without withdrawing them from the OJ in order to avoid disruption of CE marking.

The other important topic is the ongoing revision of the Construction Products Directive (CPD). EUROFER members were involved in a case study on structural steel "Study to evaluate the Internal Market and competitiveness effects of the CPD Directive prepared by PRC, Consultant mandated by the European Commission.

Environment

Air Quality

In September 2005 the European Commission adopted a proposal to revise the EU Air Quality legislation.

The new proposal is intended to streamline the legislation in the spirit of the Commission's initiative on Better Regulation but includes also new measures on fine particulates, $PM_{2.5}$.

EUROFER's position during the first reading has been that:

- The daily mean value for PM_{10} should be removed
- Since important information about the current situation is still lacking, an immediate shift from to $PM_{2.5}$ as the main metric for particulate matter in air is not suitable
- Due to the lack of reliable measurement results and the uncertainties surrounding $PM_{2.5}$, a target value for $PM_{2.5}$ is the only suitable regulatory option for the time being
- The Directive should not impose any conditions that cannot be met by the application of Best Available Techniques

The position paper outlining EUROFER's views more in detail can be accessed through EUROFER's website (http://www.eurofer.org).

EUROFER was very active in the first reading discussing both with members of the European Parliament and representatives from the Council.

Among other things, EUROFER participated, on the request of the Rapporteur Mr. Holger Krahmer, in a public hearing organised in the European Parliament. EUROFER also featured in a debate article in ENDS Report (http://www.eurofer.org/).

For the second reading, EUROFER will keep arguing for realistic values and recognition for the actions that has been and will be taken by industry regulated under the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive.

In December 2006 EUROFER organised a Work Shop on dust emissions in order for the members to share experiences and learn from each other. The WS took place at TKS' plant in Duisburg and was very well attended. The topics focused on the current situation in the various member states, legal developments, measures and best practices in the field of dust abatement.

Revision of the National Emission Ceilings Directive (NEC)

During 2006 the revision of the National Emission Ceilings Directive (2001/81/EC) intensified. The revised directive will introduce stricter emission ceilings for SO2, NOx, VOC and NH3 as well as a new ceiling for $PM_{2.5}$ all of which Member Sates will have to comply with by 2020.

EUROFER is working closely with BusinessEurope to provide input to the process.

In the context of the revision of NEC, emission trading of SO2 and NOx is mentioned as a possibly useful tool for Member States to achieve their ceilings in a cost effective manner. EUROFER is strongly opposed to any such future emission trading scheme and takes, together with nine other energy intensive sectors, a very active role in the debate. The ten sectors have produced a position paper that is available on the EUROFER website http://www.eurofer.org/

Climate change

The EU Emissions Trading Scheme – National Allocation Plans 2008-2012

In November 2006 the Commission released a Communication in which it sets the rules used when assessing the first ten NAPs phase II but in which by doing so it deviates from the legally binding ETS Directive. Indeed, this Communication is in conflict with the subsidiarity principle (the Commission is committing Member States to an EU Allocation Plan with non-negotiable rigid rules and strict calculation formula) and is an attempt to introduce rules which are contrary to those contained in the Directive itself (imposing the use of verified 2005 data as the reference for setting the cap for phase 2).

Not only is there no obligation on the member states to base their NAPs on the verified figures of 2005, the use of this year of reference is unfair and unrepresentative as far as the steel industry is concerned.

2005 was a year in which there was lower steel production compared to the baseline period (often 2002) and a weak market demand compared to the previous year (- 4 % EU25). Among other criticisms, EUROFER pointed out that a yearly allocation which was issued on a linear basis where the production plant shows an increased production along the three year period is also giving rise to a wrongly perceived overallocation. Consequently to take 2005 as the basis for CO_2 allocations for the subsequent period is not justified.

The November' 06 Communication also defines a carbon intensity improvement which does not fit the reality of the European steel industry: the technological difficulty to further reduce emissions in our sector is simply not taken into account even if this criterion is one of the key directive mandatory criteria. This criterion has been treated in a totally new way which is difficult to accept for a sector like steel with process related emissions (by metallurgical transformation) that cannot be reduced. Instead of improving the system and making clear recommendations to all MS on a harmonised approach that sets no cap

on the process related emissions, the Commission is proposing deterioration and considers it inappropriate to maintain special provisions at installation level. However the initial objective of the ETS was to offer companies a choice between cutting emissions or buying allowances, not to force them to close capacity or cut back production. This would simply provoke a carbon leakage outside the EU – a relocation of emissions not a cut in emissions.

The EU ETS review

The NAPs phase II exercise underlines the fundamental problems of the present emissions trading scheme and the urgent need to improve it.

The main problems with the present ETS are a massive distortion of competition between materials included and excluded from the scheme; between industries situated in the EU and those outside; the impossibility to internalise CO_2 costs and pass these on to customers and the rising price of electricity due to the opportunity cost effect.

Moreover the present system limited to an EU level has a negligible impact on global emissions and does nothing to provide incentives to improve efficiencies and reduce per unit of production emissions. There is no reward for innovation as new installations receive adapted constraints, there is no recognition of earlier actions by the steel industry which has halved its CO_2 emissions over the last 30 years, there is no certainty as every commitment period has its own allocation and the ex-ante system makes no provision for variations in production level.

Urgent action by the Commission and member states is required to address these failings.

As regards the steel sector, EUROFER has been exploring in 2006 whether there is a possibility to use a sector-specific allocation methodology. In this respect EUROFER has considered a performance based approach which is not based on projections or on emissions data in a historic base period but rather on efficiency parameters. EUROFER will promote this new approach in 2007 when the ETS review process will take place.

Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)

EU common rules on permitting for industrial installations, set out in the IPPC Directive, are aimed at minimising pollution from various stationary sources.

The IPPC review process (2006-2007)

EUROFER is a Member of the Advisory Group set up by the Commission to ensure a consultation and close dialogue with Member States and other stakeholders. Irrespective of the final conclusions of this ongoing review process, EUROFER will keep on supporting the underlying principles of the IPPC Directive : an integrated approach with operating conditions based on BAT taking environmental objectives, cross-media effects, local conditions and economic aspects into account in a balanced manner.

The Iron and Steel BREF revision (2006-2008)

EUROFER and its members are deeply involved in the revision of the Iron and Steel BREF which was adopted in 2000. In September 2006 more than 25 experts from the EU steel industry have attended the first Technical Working Group meeting where the kick off for revision process was given. Complementary to those experts more than 50 other people are coordinating their inputs in the different shadow exercises EUROFER has initialised already two years ago. The next key step is now to gather data and information to feed into the revision process by end of May 2007, the whole revision process keeping steel industry experts busy in 2007 and 2008 when draft revised documents will be submitted to stakeholders for consultation.

Product Related Environmental Issues

The European Commission's communication on Integrated Product Policy, IPP, released in June 2003 (COM(03)302), is of specific interest to the steel industry and triggered the initiation of a EUROFER project on IPP.

EUROFER IPP Project

The intention of the project was to run in parallel to and support the work of the European Commission, to be proactive in the development of IPP and to develop an industry approach to IPP.

As a result of the EUROFER IPP project and, based on the requirements of key steel industry customers (determined during individual customer interviews), product specific Eco-design packages have been developed for a number of specific case study products, namely a stainless steel roofing system and a composite flooring system for the construction sector, a generic tailor welded blank for the automotive sector and the casing of a dishwasher for the consumer goods sector (http://www.eurofer.org/). These packages contain a broad range of eco-design information, focusing on product and technical information as well as environmental information over the whole product life cycle and are designed so as to contain the relevant eco-design information which will satisfy existing and future legislative requirements.

An LCA for each of these products has been developed and included within the eco-design packages. The credits and burdens associated with the recyclability of steel have been incorporated within the LCAs. A methodology to determine the beneficial use of the co-products (also known as by-products) from the steel making process is currently being developed, to allocate an LCI to the production of materials such as blast furnace slag, which are subsequently used within other industries.

The final aspect of the project has been to develop a Material Flow Analysis of the material steel, focusing on data from EU15 for 2004 (due to data representivity), and which emphasises the closed loop material-to-material recyclability of steel. The data includes production, imports, exports, use, storage and recycling of steel and provides the basis for developing an even more comprehensive set of data on MFA, with further potential for expansion to incorporate data for EU27.

The results of the project were disseminated during the EUROFER IPP Workshop in Brussels, where representatives from the industry, customers, the European Commission and other interested parties were given the opportunity to learn about the work of EUROFER and to discuss the approach undertaken.

In addition, communication of the outcomes of this project has been presented at the LCE2006 conference in Leuven and the International Seminar on Society and Materials, SAM1, in Seville. A further presentation will be made at the SETAC Europe 17th Annual Meeting in Portugal.

Further project information can be obtained from eco-design@eurofer.org.

Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

EUROFER is continuing to play an active role in the development of the European Commission's European Platform on Life Cycle Assessment and is a member of the European Reference Life Cycle Data System Business Advisory Group, and as such provides advice and expertise to the Commission for the development of a web-based Life Cycle Inventory database. Steel industry LCI data is provided on the Commission's European life Cycle Database (ELCD) (http://lca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/).

Waste

Revision of the Waste Framework Directive

In 2006, the Waste Framework Directive proposal was discussed in both the European Parliament (EP) and in the Council. EUROFER welcomes the Commission's initiative to revise the Waste Framework Directive and appreciates the intention of simplifying and streamlining the legislation

e.g. by including the hazardous waste directive and the clarification regarding the permits. However, some key issues for the iron and steel industry were not properly addressed in the proposal and EUROFER members sought support through contacts in the Council and in the EP in order to improve the text.

Definition of recycling:

In EUROFER's opinion a recycling definition should be unambiguously material based meaning that a material remains available to undertake a new cycle giving birth to the same material (steel to steel, paper to paper, plastic to plastic, etc). Therefore EUROFER proposes to clarify the wording of the proposed recycling definition in order to reduce the use of natural resources by encouraging recycling practices throughout Europe without undermining other methods of material recovery.

Lack of definition of by-products:

Apart from the main product, many industries produce other materials during the manufacturing process. These by-products have an established market and are produced in order to fulfil customer requirements. EUROFER appreciates that the Commission recognises the need to clarify the distinction between by-products and waste by developing guidelines. However, although the use of guidelines might be helpful, EUROFER does not believe that they alone will provide the legal certainty required and shares the view of the European Court of Justice that industrial by-products are not and were never waste. Therefore, EUROFER supports the introduction of an adequate definition of by-products in the Directive itself, together with their exclusion from the scope.

Waste / non-waste

The Commission is planning to establish criteria for certain waste streams in order to define when waste ceases to be waste. The criteria will include parameters such as: low environmental risk, potential environmental benefit and a solid market for the recycled products.

EUROFER appreciates this suggestion. However, the steel industry finds it important to decouple the end of waste and the end of re-use or recycling. Several waste materials are recovered in several process steps. The waste material is first recovered (for instance by sorting which is a key step) into a secondary raw material (like processed scrap) which is then recycled into a final product like new steel. In order to ensure that the material is recycled, the recycling process should be completed within the manufacturing process.

The use of Economic Instruments

The Directive is encouraging the use of different economical instruments in the Member States. One tool that is mentioned is taxes on raw materials. EUROFER strongly opposes any such taxes since the market price of primary resources is a part of a global system in which Europe has little influence. Therefore any economic measures in Europe alone will only create distortion of competition.

Water

Directive on Environmental Quality standards for surface waters

On 17 July 2006, the European Commission tabled the proposal of "Directive on Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) in the field of water policy

EQS will be set for substances identified as priority ones among which four metals including nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons that are of high concern for the steel industry. Substances identified as Priority Hazardous Substances (PHS) will be subjected to cessation of discharges.

The proposal allows Member States to designate transitional areas of exceedance (TAE) adjacent to the points of discharge where the concentrations of one or more pollutants may exceed the EQS as far as they do not affect the compliance of the rest of the surface water body with those standards. However, Member States are required to carry out the review of the IPPC permits with

the view of progressively reducing the extent of the transitional areas of exceedance.

Soil

The Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection sets the frame. It explains why further action is needed to ensure a high level of soil protection, sets the overall objective of the Strategy and explains what kind of measures must be taken. It establishes a ten-year work program for the European Commission.

The proposal for a framework Directive sets out common principles, objectives and actions for protecting soils across the EU. Member States are required to limit or mitigate the effects of sealing and to identify areas where there is risk of erosion, organic matter decline, compaction, salinisation and landslides. The proposal also includes some provisions with regard to soil contamination in terms of prevention as well as of remediation. EUROFER will monitor closely the ongoing works and come up with its opinion and proposals where appropriate.

The EU Chemicals Policy

REACH

The REACH proposal entered its second reading in the European Parliament (EP) and underwent a detailed examination by the European Council Competitiveness and Environment Committees. A comprise text, agreed between the Commission, Council and EP, was adopted by the Presidents of the Council and the European Parliament, which culminated in the publication of EU Regulation 1907/2006 in the Official Journal on 30th December 2006.

Classification and Labelling - Risk Assessment

EUROFER, in conjunction with BBL Consultants, Eurometaux and the International Council for Mining and Metals (ICMM), undertook a study of the proposals for the implementation of the United Nations Global Harmonised System (GHS) for the classification and labeling of chemicals and mixtures. Although voluntary, a number of jurisdictions around the globe (including Australia, Japan, EU and USA) plan its introduction by 2008. This study aims to identify differences in these implementation proposals, to respond on behalf of the global mining and metals industry and to provide a report of the outcome of the implementation measures taken in the various jurisdictions.

Zinc

Risk Reduction Strategy

The EU member states adopted on 12 December 2006 the EU Risk Reduction Strategy (RRS) for zinc and zinc compounds as proposed by the NL Rapporteur. The proposal recommends a stepwise approach consisting of: (1) General control of industrial point source zinc emissions to water by implementation of the IPPC directive 96/61/EC and (2) Further monitoring of zinc concentrations in EU waters and identification of the sources relevant to elevated (risk) levels of zinc in water before deciding on possible further risk reduction measures.

The legislative framework for these activities is provided by the Water Framework Directive. This approach was supported by industry because it took account of recently generated information and sets a realistic path forward for addressing identified risks.

Nickel

Risk Assessment

The Danish rapporteur, developed a read-across proposal to classify more than 150 Nickel compounds before publication of the last CI&L list. The rapporteur has also proposed the introduction of this methodology into the REACH implementation projects.

Risk Reduction Strategy

During November 2006, the Danish Rapporteur issued a draft human health risk reduction strategy report that proposed: (1) a Community binding OEL under the Carcinogens Directive for soluble nickel compounds; (2) an evaluation of welding as a process (including the possibility of an OEL), taking into account the risk assessment reports for nickel, chromium(VI) compounds and zinc; (3) a review of the validity of derogations for the use of nickel sulphate and nickel chloride under the Food Supplements Directive; (4) an exchange of information organized by the Commission to ensure proper guidance to severely nickel sensitized individuals throughout the Community.

Metallic and Trivalent Chromium

Health Risk Assessment

The International Chromium Development Association (ICDA) published the results of a voluntary assessment of the health effects of metallic chromium and trivalent chromium compounds, which had been conducted on their behalf by the Finnish Institute for Occupational Health to conduct. This report contained no recommendations for health-related hazard classifications for the use of chromium in steel products.

Environmental Risk Assessment

On behalf of the ICDA, Euras and Ecolas are conducting a voluntary assessment of the environmental effects of metallic chromium and trivalent chromium compounds. During 2006, a draft risk assessment report was issued and it concluded that, except for a few industrials sites, metallic chromium and trivalent chromium compounds represent no risk to the water compartment. However, a risk to the sediment compartment, based on the most conservative approach for water, was identified and a critical review of the key aquatic ecotoxicological study was identified as a priority. The process for soil did not work, as the toxicological reference value was just above or below the background levels. The key issues were identified and this could lead to a specific soil project.

Stainless Steel Producers Group (SSPG)

Construction Products in Contact with Drinking Water (CPDW)

DG Enterprise confirmed that there is no legal basis for the European Acceptance Scheme (EAS) for CPDW as currently proposed. As neither DG Environment nor DG Sanco are prepared to develop a legal basis for the drinking water quality aspects, DG Enterprise has outlined an alternative CPD-EAS limited to the requirements of Construction Products Directive. Although the CPD-EAS would provide harmonized standards for testing CPDW, composition lists and CE Marking of the products, Member States would be free to set their own national acceptance criteria (i.e. no EU-wide acceptance criteria) that may lead to potential barriers to trade. During 2007, DG Enterprise will circulate detailed proposals for discussion.

Toxicity Potential of Stainless Steels

Potential changes in the EU carcinogenicity classification of metallic nickel have prompted the International Stainless Steel Forum to conduct an investigation of the inhalation toxicity potential of nickel-containing stainless steels. So far, in vitro toxicological studies on stainless steel powders using lung tissue indicate little, if any, cell response and it is planned to validate these results via a 28-day inhalation study in animals.

Life Cycle Inventory (LCI) on Stainless Steel

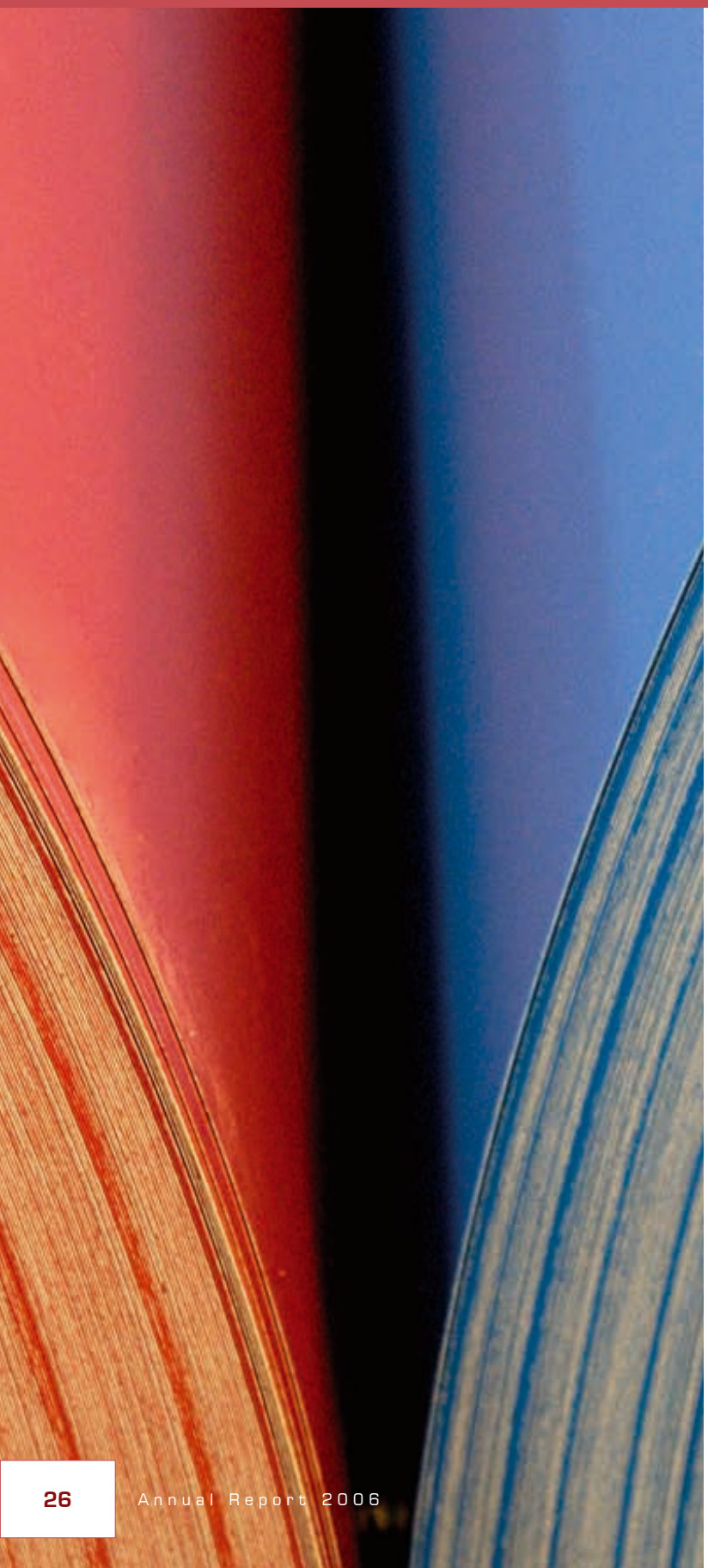
In response to an increasing EU interest in "life cycle" data for regulatory purposes and to improved environmental performance (due to both structural changes and process developments

within the industry), a formal project proposal to update the existing stainless steel LCI data was presented to, and approved by, the SSPG Presidents in late 2006. It is envisaged that data collection would commence in 2007.

EIMAG (European Industry Metallic Alloys Group)

EIMAG organized a workshop to develop a suitable methodology for the assessment of substances in preparations and special preparations. As an agreed outcome, EIMAG continued development of flowcharts, proposals for grouping of, and exposure scenarios for, special preparations. It is planned that the result of this work will included in the Technical Guide Document for REACH.

Statistics



In 2006, the collection of official steel statistics performed by Member states administrations in connection with Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities, covered the following items in the range of business statistics:

- annual statistics on scrap consumption, fuel and energy consumption, investments and capacities in the steel industry (EU Commission Regulation 84/2004);
- annual production of steel products (PRODCOM Regulation).

Since the publication of these official statistics is largely hampered by the legislation on statistical confidentiality at national level, the requirements of the steel industry in terms of quality, exhaustiveness and timeliness of feed-back information are, by far, not satisfied by these official sources.

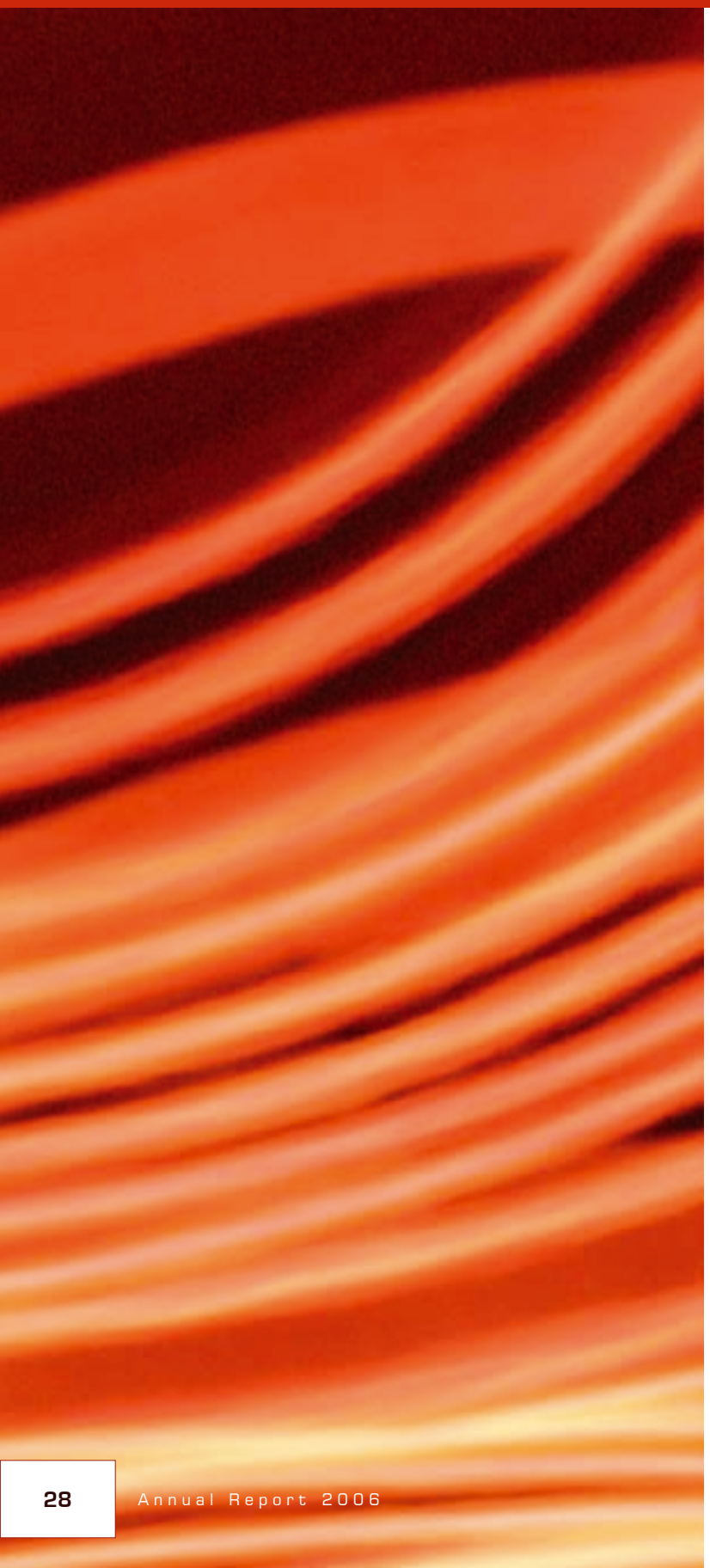
Therefore, EUROFER devoted further efforts in 2006 to the proper running of its voluntary system of monthly production and commercial surveys and to the extension of the said system to member companies and associations in the new EU Member states.

Contrary to the official business statistics mentioned above, external trade statistics (Intrastat on intra-EU cross-border flows and Extrastat for imports/ exports with third countries) remain an important source of information for the steel industry. EUROFER is committed to the preservation and, wherever possible, improvement of this useful tool.

In this field, the activity of EUROFER focused on the following issues:

- In order to bring this international classification closer to industrial concepts, in July 2006 EUROFER lodged a catalogue of proposals with the EU Commission DG Tax UD regarding the revision of the steel products chapter in the Harmonised System, the nomenclature of goods used in external trade on a world-wide basis.It is expected that the EUROFER file be discussed by the European Commission and Member states as from the 2nd quarter 2007, prior to submission of the European proposal to the World Customs Union later in the year.
- In view of the acceleration and deepness of simplification measures in Intrastat that are being contemplated by the authorities, EUROFER has joined forces with several other European branch organisations to call for consultations and a careful weighing of the consequences of the envisaged changes, in order to avoid a deterioration in statistics quality that would limit the future use of Intrastat data.

EDIFER



EDIFER is the programme within EUROFER which aims at providing a next generation standard for electronic information exchange between the European Steel Industry and their trading partners using current and emerging technology solutions such as EDI, Internet and Web Services, in an interoperable, secure and consistent manner for all parties involved.

The EDIFER committee define the business processes for the ordering, shipping and invoicing cycles. For each of the processes a set of transactions (business documents) were defined in a syntax neutral content and as XML messages. This has let to the official publication in 2005 of the complete set of the European Steel Industry Exchange Language (ESIDEL) standard version 1.1, including change requests against the version 1,0 received from the user community.

Taking into account that UN/CEFACT is the recognized platform, providing a global solution for semantic inter-operability leading global standards that have the buy-in of the business community, the EDIFER Committee decided end of 2005 to upgrade the ESIDEL standard to UN/CEFACT business standard. Therefore the following main actions have been prioritised during 2006:

- To be involved in the development of the world-wide UN/CEFACT standard for E-commerce, through active participation in CEN workshops and in the UN/CEFACT Forum,
- To cooperate with other sectors like steel stockholders, automotive, chemical, electronic, white goods, in order to create a common set of XML cross industry transactions for trade purposes,
- To produce the ESIDEL version 2,0 based on the UN/CEFACT framework that encompasses Modelling Methodology, Core Components Technical Specifications, Business Requirements Specifications and Naming and Design Rules. The first set of ESIDEL messages covering ordering, scheduling, direct delivery and invoicing were presented to UN/CEFACT in order to receive the status of UN/CEFACT Business Standard.
- To cooperate with the Australian steel industry in the migration of the ESIDEL standard to a UN/CEFACT Business Standard for the worldwide steel industry.

All the publications, as well as information regarding the ongoing work on the ESIDEL standard, are available on the EUROFER website at http://www.eurofer.org/edifer/index.htm.

Transport

Security of the rail freight-oriented network against terrorist attacks:

EUROFER has negatively reacted to the proposals made by the EU Commission in a letter sent to Mr. Jacques Barrot, Vice-President of the EU Commission in charge of Transport. This position is in accordance with the arguments defended by the Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie (BDI) and BusinessEurope (formerly UNICE).

The protection envisaged was inappropriate and would have involved an additional unjustified burden of work to companies.

The Commissionaire has invited EUROFER to participate to the improvement of a new project.

EUROFER has actively participated in the debate promoting the single wagon:

Meeting on Single Wagons organised by ERFCP (European Rail Freight Customer Platform) with traditional rail operators and Newcomers. EUROFER supports the conclusions:

- Compliance with the full terms of the First Railway Package so that customers and aggregators were free to use any operator for the whole or part of their service requirements,
- Strong support for all train operators, new and incumbent to commit to working together to find optimum solutions as well as competing as circumstances dictate,

- No operator should be excluded from terminals, marshalling yards or branch lines or discriminated against in pricing or service provided,
- IM's should be encouraged to operate common user marshalling yards including provision of addition services as demand arises,
- Customers and aggregators should explore in more detail the possibilities of creating viable trunk hauls between centre of trade along feeder services, and seek competitive bids for rail haulage,
- Single wagon traffic should be a commercial business, where success should depend on efficiency, cost reductions and customer services, including the provision of IT, track and trace etc. This only works if the other conditions above apply.

Since this date, some information collected show that the treatment of the single wagons at several marshalling yards largely depends on the quality of the rail operator. Rail newcomers would be sometimes disadvantaged. EUROFER has informed the EU Commission on such possible practices.

EUROFER is in favour of the generalisation of the 44 tonnes weight truck in Europe:

Steel companies are more and more confronted by the low performance of rail companies such as SNCF, DB or Treinitalia.

An alternative is necessary: the 44 tonne truck is an appropriate answer to this challenge and is also, in some specific cases, a substitute to the single wagon concept.

2007 Challenges:

Port Policy: European steel companies are more and more confronted by their congestion in their relationship with their hinterland.

Level of the transport costs in the future: to what extent it is possible to go?

- It will certainly depend on the available transport capacities faced with the increasing traffic flows and the influence of the new EU Regulations (tachograph, driving time, etc) on the general transport offer.
- EUROFER should made some concrete proposals: schedule of conditions, register of grievances, concrete examples.

Deepen reflections on the topic" Transport and Environment".

Annexes

Directory

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Badische Stahlwerke	http://www.bsw-kehl.de
Böhler Uddeholm	http://www.bohler-uddeholm.com
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Halyvourgia Thessalias	http://www.halyvourgia.gr
Halyvourgiki	http://www.halyvourgiki.com/english/
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Mittal Steel Europe	http://www.ispat.com
Mittal Steel Ostrava	http://www.novahut.cz
Mittal Steel Poland	http://www.ipssa.pl
JSC Liepâjas Metalurgs	http://www.metalurgs.lv
Lech-Stalhwerke	http://www.lech-stahlwerke.de
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Salzgitter	http://www.salzgitter-ag.de
Sidenor	http://www.sidenor.gr
Siderurgia Nacional - Empresa de Produtos Longos SA	
SIJ - Slovenian Steel Group	http://www.sij.si
Štore Steel	http://www.store-steel.si
ThyssenKrupp	http://www.thyssenkrupp.com
Trinecké Železárny	http://www.trz.cz
U.S. Steel Kosice	http://www.usske.sk
Vitkovice Steel	http://www.vitkovice.cz
voestalpine	http://www.voestalpine.com
ŽDB, Bohumin	http://www.zdb.cz

National Associations

AUSTRIA	**Fachverband der Bergwerke und Eisen erzeugenden Industrie**
	http://www.wk.or.at/bergbau-stahl
BELGIUM	**Groupement de la Sidérurgie - GSV**
	http://www.steelbel.be

CZECH REPUBLIC	**Hutnictvi Železa**
	http://www.hz.cz
FINLAND	**Metallinjalostajat**
	http://www.teknologiateollisuus.fi/english
FRANCE	**Fédération Française de l'Acier**
	http://www.ffa.fr
	Chambre Syndicale des Producteurs d'Aciers Fins et Spéciaux
	http://www.spas.fr
GERMANY	**Wirtschaftsvereinigung Stahl**
	http://www.wvstahl.de
	Edelstahl - Vereinigung
	http://www.stahl-online.de/stahl_zentrum/edelstahl_vereinigung_e_v.htm
GREECE	**Hellenic Steelmakers' Union - ENXE**
HUNGARY	**Magyar Vas-és Acélipari Egyesülés**
	http://www.mvae.hu
ITALY	**Federacciai**
	http://www.federacciai.it
POLAND	**Hutnicza Izba Przemysłowo-Handlowa**
	http://www.hiph.com.pl
SPAIN	**Unión de Empresas Siderúrgicas - UNESID**
	http://www.unesid.org
SWEDEN	**Jernkontoret**
	http://www.jernkontoret.se
UNITED KINGDOM	**UK Steel**
	http://www.uksteel.org.uk

Associate Members

Companies

Çolakoglu Metalurji	http://www.colakoglu.com.tr
Diler Demir Çelik Endüstrisi ve Ticaret	http://www.dilerhld.com/diler_demircelik/index.html
Erdemir - Ereğli Demir ve Çelik Fabrikalari	http://www.erdemir.com.tr
HABAŞ - Sinai ve Tibbi Gazlar Istihsal Endüstrisi	http://www.habas.com.tr
Içdas Çelik Enerji - Tersane ve Ulasim Sanayi	http://www.icdas.com.tr
IDÇ - Izmir Demir Çelik Sanayi	http://www.idcsteel.com
Isdemir - Iskenderun Demir ve Çelik Fabrikalari	http://www.isdemir.com.tr
Mittal Steel Galati	http://www.sidex.ro
Kremikovtzi	http://www.kremikovtzi.com
Swiss Steel	http://www.swiss-steel.com

National Associations

BULGARIA	**Branch Chamber of Ferrous and Non-Ferrous Metallurgy**
ROMANIA	**Uniunea Producatorilor de Otel din Romania – UniRomSider**
TURKEY	**Demir Çelik Üreticileri Dernegi – DÇÜ**
	http://www.dcud.org.tr

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