



March 2025

What's New

Information and updates on our people, products, and applications.

ncestainlessplate.com



New Castle Stainless Plate is a leading provider of:

- Wide stainless steel plate, up to and in some cases even wider than 128"
- Thick stainless plate, up to 6"
- Heat-resisting and special grades including 309, 310, 321, 347, 904L, and 410
- Duplex stainless grades including 2205, 2101, 2304, and 2507

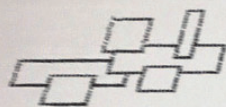
Making Lemonade Out of Tariff Actions

News headlines are filled these days with pending, enacted, promised, postponed, or canceled tariffs, including tariffs on steel articles and steel derivative articles. The situation is very fluid, with changes being announced almost daily. Despite the dynamic tariff climate, in this issue of What's New we try to clarify the steel tariffs, while also highlighting some opportunities.

"Some U.S.-based companies are ramping up production—and even expanding their product offering—of steel-intensive equipment (steel derivative articles), anticipating a market opportunity after what many predict will be an increase in the price of imported goods made from stainless steel and other types of steel. Although the tariffs are a disruption to many, some manufacturers are making lemonade of the situation," reported Tony Palermo, VP Commercial at New Castle Stainless Plate.

"Many American companies that make steel-intensive products are now considering more investments in their facilities and workforce as they see a future that would enable them to realize these opportunities and grow their business," Palermo added.

Suffice it to say, having a domestic supplier for your stainless steel needs is now more important than ever. And New Castle Stainless Plate is at the ready to provide you with the spectrum of grades and sizes of stainless steel plate that are our hallmark. Our team in the heartland of the U.S., New Castle, Indiana, stands ready to produce and provide your stainless steel plate needs.



New Castle
Stainless Plate

SPEC ASTM A240-16 ASME SA240-15ED
TYPE 316L HEAT 863074-2B
SIZE 0.437 X 090.250 X 348.750
CUST SER 781216

President Trump Reshapes 232 Tariffs

On February 10, U.S. President, Donald Trump, signed proclamations to impose a 25% tariff on steel imports, regardless of country of origin. The proclamation—which went into effect on March 12, 2025—calls for the elimination of all favored nations exclusions, ending alternative agreements (applied to “melted and poured” standards), and expansion of the tariff to include downstream products. Exclusions had been granted to several countries under the 2018 Section 232 action.

The March 2018 Section 232 tariffs, which were established during Trump’s first Administration, came with exemptions for Canada and Mexico and included provisions for tariff exclusions on steel articles not produced in the United States. Parties seeking relief had to file a request for exclusion. These exclusions granted under the 2018 232 tariffs were revoked on March 12, 2025 and the exemption process has been terminated.

The proclamation that went into effect on March 12, also applies an additional 25% ad valorem duty on all imports of derivative steel articles (i.e. manufactured downstream products that are steel intensive). The derivative steel products that are currently included in this tariff action were listed in Annex I in the Federal Register on February 14, 2025. Most of these products are coded in Chapter 73 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS).



[Learn more at the White House website.](#)

Clarifying the Steel Tariffs

In this question and answer piece, Tony Palermo, VP Commercial for New Castle Stainless Plate, helps explain the recent steel tariff actions that took effect on March 12, 2025 and contrast them to the trade actions that were enacted in 2018 during the first Trump Administration. Here’s what Tony had to say about the opportunities for stainless steel in these very dynamic times.

Q: How would you summarize the recent steel tariff actions?

A: Starting March 12, 25% tariffs are imposed on ALL steel products (“steel articles”) from ALL countries under S-232 provisions. All tariff-free volume quotas and exclusion provisions are no longer in effect.

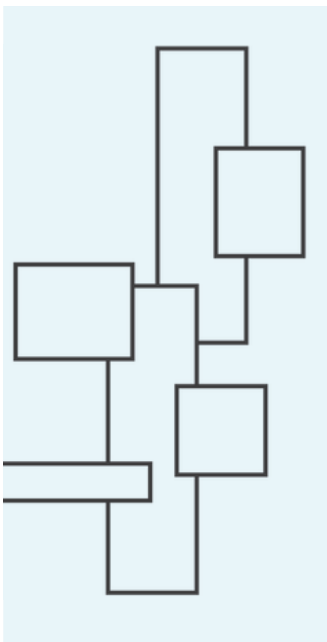
Q: How do these new tariffs relate to other tariffs?

A: The Trump Administration trade actions replace the 2018 steel tariff actions. The new tariffs are, for now, “stacked” on the other statutory items (e.g. countervailing duties, anti-dumping duties, and other legislated trade measures). These tariffs are additive to the section 301 tariffs on Chinese steel.

Q. Are there any exemptions or exclusions to the March 12 steel tariffs?

A. At this point, there is no talk of a process to allow tariff exclusions due to steel articles not being available from domestic mills. However, the USA-melted and made steel content of imported derivative steel articles (e.g. steel tanks imported from Canada) will be exempted from the 25% tariff on those goods. This will encourage foreign manufacturers to use American-made steel in their goods.

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Q. How do the March 12 tariffs impact imported items made from steel?

A. As part of this latest S-232 action, certain imports of “derivative steel articles” will also be subject to a 25% tariff. The initial list of these derivative steel products subject to tariff was released by the government on February 14. We have a [link to the list](#) of the Harmonized Trade Schedule (“HTS”) codes that are subject to tariffs.

Q. Will the HTS list for derivative steel articles included in this tariff action be revised in the future?

A. This is by no means an exhaustive or final version of the derivative steel articles that are or may be covered eventually under the tariff action. For example, steel tanks are included in the current list, but items such as pressure vessels, heat exchangers, and distillation columns are not. It is likely that there will be requests by the manufacturers of these items, largely identified by HTS codes in Chapters 73 and 84, to add them to the list.

Q. Is there a process to petition for additions to the HTS list?

A. The Trump Administration has said that a process to petition for the addition of more types of steel-intensive derivative steel products will be announced sometime after April 1. The steel industry, steel industry trade associations, and downstream manufacturing companies will then be able to petition for more steel-related items to be included in this tariff action. Individual companies can also reach out to their congressional representatives to make their cases for inclusion known.

Q. Do you foresee other potential impacts of the steel tariffs?

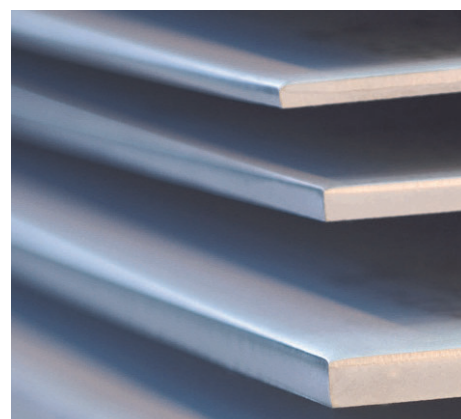
A. The actions being taken are two-fold. First, to raise tariff revenues that will help reduce the U.S. budget deficit. Second, to create an environment where investments in American manufacturing become more attractive, and thus lead to the generation of more well-paying, skilled jobs for Americans while helping to make a more secure supply chain for the U.S. economy.

Q. Are there any actions being taken by the U.S. Congress?

A. In addition to the trade measures initiated by the Executive branch of the U.S. Federal government, a bipartisan bill has been introduced into the U.S. Congress—both the House and Senate. The bill, named Level the Playing Field Act 2.0, is aimed at providing more protections against China and other countries that try to avoid tariffs by investing in manufacturing in, or transshipping goods to, other countries (e.g. Mexico) before exporting to the U.S.

Q: How can NCSP customers tap into these market dynamics?

A: Some U.S.-based customers are ramping up production—and even expanding their product offering—of end-use (steel derivative) products, anticipating a market opportunity after what many predict will be an increase in the price of imported goods made from stainless steel and other types of steel. This provides domestic opportunities for our stainless plate. With the exemption of imported derivative steel articles that are made from steel melted in America, we anticipate foreign customers will be buying more of our plate for eventual import of end-use products to the U.S.



[Review the HTS list of codes subject to tariffs.](#)

Meet Larry Bledsoe

For 32 years, machine operator Larry Bledsoe has been focused on filling customer orders at the facility in New Castle Stainless Plate. For the past 18 months, he has also held the position of local union (UAW 729) president.

As union president, Larry helps keep our employees up-to-date on the latest benefits that are available through New Castle Stainless Plate. "I also encourage employees to be conscientious about the equipment we are using and the quality of our plate products," he added.

Supporting employees and the greater community has been a life-mission for Larry. He served in the United States Air Force for four years and he has been a reserve deputy for his county's sheriff department. Larry's also been involved in his local community as an elected county commissioner, city councilman, and planning commission board member.



Birthplace: Muncie, Indiana

Education: I attended Ball State University before joining the Air Force.

Personal Motto: I am passionate about everything that I do, and always with a sense of humor.

Hobbies: I am starting to wind down my volunteer activities so I can spend more time with my family, two grandsons, and four dogs.

Favorite Stainless Application: That's easy— the Air Force Memorial in Arlington, VA, of course!



Questions with Larry Bledsoe

Mill Improvements at New Castle Stainless Plate

The site of operations for New Castle Stainless Plate has been in existence since 1917—and even then, that was a rebuild of a previous facility. So, continual improvement is a well-honed practice at the location. Honoring that legacy—and supporting our commitments to the environment, our employees, and customers—several upgrades have been made to our facility in the past few years.

Updates to the physical plant include roof repairs and a new training room. Operationally, we purchased a new mill roll set, replaced the rinse spray chamber on the 120" line, and reconfigured the eductor pumps. Mill improvements for 2025 include new plasma torches. The lab is also getting some new equipment including a new tensile machine (already installed), a new polisher, and a new spectrometer. These upgrades are examples of our focus on continually improving product quality and limiting downtime to best support our customers' requirements.



What's New is published by New Castle Stainless Plate, LLC. Please tell us how we are doing and share your comments and suggestion for future articles. Send your feedback to :

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