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Imports and Exports of Copper and Brass Mill Products Increased in November 2016

U.S. imports and exports increased in November 2016 compared with the corresponding 2015 period.

Imports of copper and brass mill products in November 2016 totaled 36,221,461 pounds compared to 33,776,937 in November 2015, an increase of 7.2 percent. Exports totaled 20,078,110 pounds in November 2016, up from 18,709,750 in November 2015, a 7.3 percent increase.

For YTD 2016 through November, imports of brass mill products totaled 420,953,729 pounds compared to 451,475,537 pounds through November 2015 YTD, a decrease of 6.8 percent. Exports YTD 2016 totaled 223,614,403¹ pounds compared to 227,503,569 pounds in the same 2015 period, a decrease of 1.7 percent.

Mexico was the leading destination for U.S. exports of brass mill products in November at 7,904,997 pounds followed by Canada at 5,899,148 pounds, China at 1,552,382 pounds, South Korea at 1,013,349 pounds, and Germany at 681,327 pounds.

Imports from Germany in November 2016 totaled 8,996,642 pounds, followed by South Korea at 3,790,812 pounds, Mexico at 3,572,669 pounds, Canada at 3,214,124 pounds, and Vietnam at 2,199,443 pounds.

Imports of all sheet, strip, plate and foil products totaled 12,815,472 pounds while exports of those products totaled 8,516,734 pounds.

Imports of all pipe and tube products totaled 13,620,695 pounds while pipe and tube exports totaled 2,695,220 pounds.

Imports of all profiles, rods and bars totaled 6,827,824 pounds while exports totaled 7,101,890 pounds.

Imports of copper alloy wire totaled 2,957,469 pounds while exports totaled 1,764,266 pounds.

Brass mill products are widely used in building construction, automotive products and in electronic and electrical applications.

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¹ As reported in earlier releases, export data for February, March and April were suspected to contain a combined approximately 45 million pounds of product misclassified by exporters or brokers as copper rod and bar. After a formal inquiry by the Census Bureau, the total misclassified items is 47,644,486 pounds and will be officially corrected by Census in the summer of 2017 in an errata. Meanwhile, we have deducted this amount from the YTD 2016 exports in this release.