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**Imports of Brass Mill Products Increased While Exports Decreased in December 2018**

U.S. imports of brass mill products increased in December 2018 compared with the corresponding 2017 period; U.S. exports of brass mill products continue to decrease.

Imports of brass mill products in December 2018 totaled 42,672,165 pounds compared to 36,940,106 in December 2017, an increase of 15.5 percent. Exports totaled 14,776,069 pounds in December 2018, down from 18,899,990 in December 2017, a decrease of 22 percent.

For YTD 2018 through December, imports of brass mill products totaled 528,476,375 pounds compared to 489,657,604 pounds through December 2017 YTD, an increase of 7.9 percent. Exports YTD 2018 totaled 246,711,323 pounds compared to 262,682,969 pounds in the same 2017 period, a decrease of 6.1 percent.

Mexico was the leading destination for U.S. exports of brass mill products in December at 5,303,489 pounds followed by Canada at 4,489,851 pounds, China at 704,085 pounds, South Korea at 650,397 pounds, and Germany at 447,516 pounds.

Imports from Germany in December 2018 totaled 10,632,014 pounds, followed by South Korea at 4,826,562 pounds, China at 3,489,048 pounds, Mexico at 3,040,573 pounds, and Japan at 2,382,540 pounds.

Imports of all sheet, strip, plate and foil products totaled 15,612,979 pounds while exports of those products totaled 5,875,720 pounds.

Imports of all pipe and tube products totaled 12,619,375 pounds while pipe and tube exports totaled 2,156,899 pounds.

Imports of all profiles, rods and bars totaled 10,580,751 pounds while exports totaled 5,733,501 pounds.

Imports of copper alloy wire totaled 3,859,060 pounds while exports totaled 1,009,949 pounds.

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

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