

Backgrounder

CANADA-UNITED STATES STEEL TRADE

Government Action

INTRODUCTION

- The government has given the steel issue the highest priority. The Prime Minister raised the issue with President Bush, and Minister Wilson raised it with United States Trade Representative, Carla Hills. More recently, Minister Wilson raised the steel issue with the new Commerce Secretary, Ron Brown, and the new United States Trade Representative, Mickey Kantor.
- The government will ensure that the steel issue remains at the top of the agenda with the new Clinton administration. The government will use every opportunity to emphasize the importance of the steel issue in this regard.

CHANGES TO UNITED STATES TRADE REMEDY LAW

- Changes to United States trade remedy law, whether in the context of the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement, the Multilateral Trade Negotiations or the North American Free Trade Agreement, have been a high priority for the government.

CANADIAN TRADE INVESTIGATIONS

- Revenue Canada is conducting anti-dumping duty investigations against imports of three flat-rolled products from a number of countries, including the United States.

ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

- A government/industry/labour advocacy campaign is being conducted in the United States with the objective of seeking support among potential allies of the Canadian steel industry for the resolution of these investigations through the negotiation of a Canada-United States steel accord.
- The Canadian consulates in the United States have been active in contacting suppliers and customers of the Canadian steel industry, as well as United States steel producers and exporters caught in the Canadian cases, to state the