

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2017

**PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP STANDS UP FOR AMERICAN-MADE ALUMINUM**

**AMERICA'S ALUMINUM INDUSTRY IN TROUBLE: While American manufacturing of aluminum suffers and shuts down, foreign imports continue to pour into our country.**

- In 2016, aluminum imports into the United States increased by 18 percent while American production fell by 47 percent.
- Of the eight aluminum smelters based in the United States at the beginning of 2016, seven have either shutdown, reduced production, or are idled.
- From 2012 to 2015, imports of semi-fabricated aluminum from China grew by 183 percent.
- Imports of aluminum foil from China have grown from zero percent of the United States market in 2004 to 22 percent today.
- Employment in the aluminum industry fell by nearly 13 percent from 2015 to 2016.

**NEEDED STEPS TO PUT AMERICA'S ALUMINUM INDUSTRY FIRST: President Trump is acting to make sure America's aluminum industry comes first by prioritizing an investigation into whether aluminum imports impair the national security.**

- Today, President Trump signed a Presidential Memorandum prioritizing an investigation previously initiated by the Secretary of Commerce into whether aluminum imports threaten the economic and national security of the United States.
  - Aluminum is critical for U.S. national defense, from Army ground vehicles and Air Force jets to Navy warships.
  - The investigation is being conducted under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962.
- By law the investigation must be concluded and a report submitted within 270 days.
- The Secretary of Commerce's investigation into aluminum imports will determine what effect they have on economic and national security, including by investigating:
  - Whether aluminum imports impair the ability of the domestic aluminum industry to meet our national defense needs.
  - Whether aluminum imports have any substantial effects on employment or government revenue.
  - Whether aluminum imports weaken our internal economy, recognizing the close relationship between economic welfare and national security.
- If aluminum imports are found to impair the national security of the United States, President Trump will have 90 days to determine what action should be taken to remedy that harm.

**KEEPING HIS PROMISE: President Trump promised the American people he would examine aluminum imports into the United States and revitalize the aluminum industry.**

- Then-Candidate Trump promised that "we are going to put American steel and aluminum back into the backbone of our country."

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

SUBJECT: Aluminum Imports and Threats to National Security

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, it is hereby directed as follows:

Section 1. Policy. Core industries such as steel, aluminum, vehicles, aircraft, shipbuilding, and semiconductors are critical elements of our manufacturing and defense industrial bases, which we must defend against unfair trade practices and other abuses. In the case of aluminum, both the United States and global markets for aluminum products are distorted by large volumes of excess capacity -- much of which results from foreign government subsidies and other unfair practices. Efforts to work with other countries to reduce excess global overcapacity have not succeeded.

The artificially low prices caused by excess capacity and unfairly traded imports suppress profits in the American aluminum industry, which discourages long-term investment in the industry and hinders efforts by American aluminum producers to research and develop new and better grades of aluminum. If the present situation continues, it may place the American aluminum industry at risk by undermining the ability of American aluminum producers to continue investment, research, and development, and by reducing or eliminating the jobs needed to maintain a pool of skilled workers essential for the continued development of advanced aluminum manufacturing.

Sec. 2. Investigation. The Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) has initiated an investigation under section 232(b)(1)(A) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (the "Act") (19 U.S.C. 1862(b)(1)(A)) to determine the effects on national security of aluminum imports. In conducting this investigation, and in accordance with section 232(d) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1862(d)), the Secretary shall, as appropriate and consistent with law:

(a) consider the domestic production of aluminum needed for projected national defense requirements; the capacity of domestic industries to meet such requirements; the existing and anticipated availabilities of the human resources, products, raw materials, and other supplies and services essential to the national defense; the requirements of growth of such industries and such supplies and services, including the investment, exploration, and development necessary to assure such growth; and the importation of goods in terms of their quantities, availabilities, character, and use as those

affect such industries and the capacity of the United States to meet national security requirements;

(b) recognize the close relation of the Nation's economic welfare to our national security, and consider the effect of foreign competition in the aluminum industry on the economic welfare of domestic industries;

(c) consider any substantial unemployment, decrease in government revenues, loss of skills or investment, or other serious effects resulting from the displacement of any domestic products by excessive aluminum imports; and

(d) consider the status and likely effectiveness of efforts of the United States to negotiate a reduction in the levels of excess aluminum capacity worldwide.

Sec. 3. Submit Report and Provide Recommendations. (a) The Secretary shall, consistent with applicable law, proceed expeditiously in conducting the investigation described in section 2 of this memorandum and shall submit to the President a report on the findings.

(b) Pursuant to section 232(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1862(b)), if the Secretary finds that aluminum is being imported into the United States in such quantities or under such circumstances as to threaten to impair the national security, the Secretary shall, in the report submitted under subsection (a) of this section, recommend actions and steps that should be taken to adjust aluminum imports so that they will not threaten to impair the national security.

Sec. 4. General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this memorandum shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This memorandum shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This memorandum is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

DONALD J. TRUMP