



1/10/85

IP(85)6

**PRESSE-MEDELELSE • MITTEILUNG AN DIE PRESSE • PRESS-RELEASE • INFORMATION A LA PRESSE
ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΗ ΓΙΑ ΤΟΝ ΤΥΠΟ • INFORMAZIONE ALLA STAMPA • MEDEDELING AAN DE PERS**

Brussels, 10 January 1985

EC and USA reach an agreement on pipes and tubes exports

441.2(103)
+ 443.2

Under a formal arrangement finalized with an exchange of letters, the European Community will limit its exports of steel pipes and tubes to the United States to 7,6% of the American market for two years.

The 7,6% ceiling will apply to calendar years 1985 and 1986, and will be implemented with export licenses for pipes and tubes. Within the overall ceiling the EC exports of so called oil country tubular goods (O.C.T.G.) will be restricted to 10% of the American O.C.T.G. market.

The U.S. will accept additional exports of pipes and tubes under "short supply" conditions, that is, when the U.S. domestic industry is unable to meet U.S. demand for a particular product.

Projections indicate that the 7,6% figure will allow the EC to ship 729,925 net tons (i.e. 662,188 metric tons) of pipes and tubes to the U.S. in 1985, including 337,400 net tons for O.C.T.G. (i.e. 306,100 metric tons).

In addition the U.S. will permit entry to 60,000 net tons of the volume of E.C. pipes and tubes shipped between November 29 and December 31, 1984, when those products were under embargo by the U.S. Administration. Within that total, no more than 28,000 net tons of oil country tubular goods will be allowed to enter.

The Commission is delighted that the Community and its most important trading partner have started the new year by resolving a source of tension between them.

USA IMPORTS OF PIPES AND TUBES FROM EC

1979 - 1984 in NET TONS (1 net ton = ± 900 kg)

	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	9 months 1984	forecast 1985 (1)
EC	208.874	311.102	1.781.396	1.422.000	474.694	1.062.000	729.925 *
D	49.142	122.365	838.766	591.000	133.579	466.000	
F	3.736	8.120	152.078	171.000	79.677	107.000	
I	50.081	100.445	543.581	402.000	162.119	301.000	
NL	3.609	2.600	16.449	21.000	21.158	24.000	
UBL	15.842	11.132	80.003	48.000	31.153	39.000	
UK	35.716	18.426	80.979	113.000	29.330	39.000	
GR	50.680	47.992	69.513	77.000	17.613	86.000	

(1) based on proposed burden sharing and estimated US consumption of
9.604.277 net tons (8.713.000 metric tons)

(* i.e. 662.188 metric tons .