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# MARKET INTELLIGENCE

**GRINDING BALLS  
AND SIMILAR ARTICLES  
OF IRON OR STEEL,  
FOR MILLS**

Pub. No.: 89017-IP

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**REFERENCE SOURCES**

Industry, Science and Technology Canada  
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Revenue Canada, Tel.: (613) 954-6928  
U.S. Department of Commerce,  
Bureau of the Census  
Tel.: (301) 763-7754

**TARIFFS**

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Customs and Excise  
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K1A 0L5  
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Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0G2  
Tel.: (613) 993-6435 OR  
1-800-267-8376

**EXPLANATORY NOTES**

**Commodity Classification**

Canadian Trade statistics are classified and published according to the  
International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity and Description Coding  
System (H.S.), as defined by the Canadian Customs Tariff and Statistical  
Nomenclature.

**Valuation**

Dollar values shown in this report are based on selling price F.O.B. plant, in  
Canadian dollars. This selling price represents the value paid by the importer,  
excluding all freight, packing and insurance costs when specified. All trade  
discounts, when applicable, are also deducted from the selling price.

**Rounding**

Figures may not add due to rounding.

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## GRINDING BALLS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES FOR MILLS

### INTRODUCTION

This report is part of a continuing series designed to increase business awareness of the potential existing for production in Canada. It is important, however, to emphasize that this report does not attempt any assessment as to the feasibility of competing in a particular market.

This profile is based on data from several sources, including some which are not generally available, for the following Harmonized System (H.S.) import commodity codes:

### CANADIAN IMPORTS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Commodity Code</u>	1988		1989	
		<u>Quantity</u> (kg 000)	<u>Value</u> (\$000)	<u>Quantity</u> (kg 000)	<u>Value</u> (\$000)
Other Cast Articles of Iron or Steel	73.25				
◦Grinding Balls and Similar Articles for Mills	7325.91				
◦Of Steel, of a Diameter Not Exceeding 9.5 mm, for Burnishing	7325.91.10.00	178	190	182	219
◦Other 7325.91.90					
◦Of Cast Iron	7325.91.90.10	3 799	3 540	2 123	2 054
◦Other	7325.91.90.90	23 425	12 400	19 041	13 648
◦Other articles of iron or steel	73.26				
◦Forged or stamped, but not further worked:					
◦Grinding balls and similar articles for mills	7326.11				
◦Of steel, of a diameter not exceeding 9.5 mm for burnishing	7326.11.10.00	139	103	242	242
◦Other	7326.11.90.00	<u>21 637</u>	<u>14 725</u>	<u>27 678</u>	<u>17 550</u>
TOTAL		49 178	30 958	49 266	33 713

\* Prior to 1988, Canadian import statistics were based on the Canadian International Trade Classification. However, since January 1988, these statistics have been classified and published according to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (H.S.), developed for international use by the Customs Cooperation Council.

## GRINDING BALLS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES FOR MILLS

### CANADIAN PRODUCTION

Statistics Canada reports shipments of grinding balls for mills in 1985 and 1986 (the latest years for which information is available) as follows:

<u>1985</u>			
<u>Description</u>	<u>Establishments</u> (No.)	<u>Quantity</u> (tonne)	<u>Shipments</u> (\$000)
Grinding Balls	9	115 740	73 068

<u>1986</u>			
<u>Description</u>	<u>Establishments</u> (No.)	<u>Quantity</u> (tonne)	<u>Shipments</u> (\$000)
Grinding Balls	8	122 953	79 041

### CANADIAN EXPORTS

Statistics Canada reports domestic exports of grinding balls and similar articles of iron and steel, for mills, as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Commodity Code</u>	<u>Total Exports</u>	
		<u>1988</u> (\$000)	<u>1989</u> (\$000)
Grinding balls and similar articles of iron or steel, cast for mills	7325.91	456	*
Grinding balls and similar articles of iron or steel, forged or stamped but not further worked	7326.11	1 623	103

\* No Exports Recorded

## GRINDING BALLS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES FOR MILLS

### UNITED STATES' IMPORTS

The United States Department of Commerce indicates U.S. imports of grinding balls and similar articles for mills as follows:

#### U.S. IMPORTS - 1989

<u>Product Code</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity (kg)</u>		<u>Value (\$000)</u>	
		<u>Total</u>	<u>From Canada</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>From Canada</u>
7325.91.00.00	Grinding balls and similar articles for mills, cast of iron or steel except nonmalleable cast iron	487 275	47 308	887	56
7326.11.00.00	Grinding balls and similar articles for mills, forged or stamped, but not further worked, of iron or steel	<u>431 132</u>	<u>264 783</u>	<u>1 172</u>	<u>541</u>
	TOTAL	918 407	312 091	2 059	597

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Note: Prior to 1989, commodity coding for imports into the United States was based on the Tariff Schedule of the United States (TSUSA). Starting in January, 1989, the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (H.S.) was adopted by the United States.



## GRINDING BALLS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES FOR MILLS

### MARKET SUMMARY

Grinding balls of either steel or alloy iron are used mainly in the mining industry but also in the cement industry for the grinding of ore to a small particle size.

The Canadian grinding ball industry is composed of 4 companies. Moly-Cop Canada produces forged steel balls at Kamloops, B.C. Slater Industries Ltd. of Hamilton, Ontario produces forged steel balls in Hamilton and Sept Isles, Québec. Norcast Inc. of Toronto produces a cast iron alloy ball at Mont-Joli, Québec. Magotteaux Canada produces a cast iron alloy ball at Magog, Québec.

In 1989 the Canadian apparent consumption of grinding balls was 175,000 tonnes with 126,000 tonnes from Canadian companies and 49,000 tonnes imported (about 98 per cent from the U.S.). The main U.S. competitors are: North Star Ltd. of Duluth, Minnesota; Nucor Ltd. of Bingham City, Utah; and Capitol Casting Ltd. with 2 plants in Arizona.

In recent years Canadian exports have been negligible because of strong competition in the U.S. market from U.S. producers with surplus capacity. Also Moly-Cop and Magotteaux are subsidiaries of companies which have grinding ball plants in the U.S. and have agreements not to export to that market.

In Western Canada, Moly-Cop at Kamloops is the only producer. It has annual capacity of about 70,000 tonnes and during the last several years it has been operating at about 75 per cent of capacity. U.S. companies, such as Capitol Castings of Arizona, have been competing heavily in the B.C. market. The demand for grinding balls in the B.C. area is expected to remain fairly flat during the next 3 years due to the situation of the mining industry in B.C. Given the above it would not be an opportune time for a new grinding ball producer to begin operation in B.C.

**CANADIAN IMPORTERS**

**GRINDING BALLS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES FOR MILLS**

H.S. CODE 7325.91

The principal 10 importers of grinding balls and similar articles of iron or steel, cast for mills accounted for 85 per cent of the total import value during 1988.

<u>Principal Importers</u> (No.)	<u>Cumulative Value</u> (\$000)	<u>Per Cent of Total Value</u>
5	11 367	70
10	13 710	85
20	15 018	93
All Importers (57)	16 130	100

Importers of grinding balls and similar articles of iron or steel, cast for mills are listed below in alphabetical order. This list includes all importers except individuals and a minimal number of importers whose names were not available.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Afton Operating Corp.	Kamloops, B.C.	General Motors of Canada Ltd.	Oshawa, Ont.
BASF Inmont Canada Inc.	Windsor, Ont.	Highland Valley Copper Co.	Logan Lake, B.C.
BC Telephone Co.	Burnaby, B.C.	Holt McDermott Mine, Div. of American Barrick Res Corp.	Kirkland Lake, Ont.
Bradley & Foster Ltd.	Montréal, Qué.	Industries Amisco Ltée.	Lislet, Qué.
Brenda Mines Ltd.	Toronto, Ont.	Iron Ore Co. of Canada	Montréal, Qué.
Campbell Red Lake Mines Ltd.	Balmertown, Ont.	Kidd Creek Mines Ltd.	Timmins, Ont.
Can-Quip Engineering Sales Ltd.	Scarborough, Ont.	McMines Inc.	Amos, Qué.
Canada Cement Lafarge Ltd.	Montréal, Qué.	Minnova Inc.	Noranda, Qué.
	Woodstock, Ont.	National Refractories and Minerals Inc.	Oakville, Ont.
Canamax Resources Inc.	Vancouver, B.C.	Newmont Mines Ltd.	Vancouver, B.C.
	Porcupine, Ont.		Princeton, B.C.
	Toronto, Ont.	Noranda Minerals Inc.	Manitouwadge, Ont.
Canbro Inc., Dev. de Tiw Industries Ltd.	Valleyfield, Qué.	Nova Scotia Power Corp.	Halifax, N.S.
Curragh Resources Inc.	Etobicoke, Ont.	Ontario Hydro	Toronto, Ont.
Dome Mines Ltd.	South Porcupine, Ont.	Paccar du Canada Ltée.	Ste. Thérèse, Qué.
Dover Corporation of Canada Ltd.	Scarborough, Ont.	Patterson Industries (Canada) Ltd.	Scarborough, Ont.
Equipement de Mines Mirabel Inc.	Piedmont, Qué.	Placer Dome Inc.	Vancouver, B.C.
Equity Silver Mines Ltd.	Vancouver, B.C.	PPG Canada Inc.	Mississauga, Ont.
Ernst Leitz (Canada) Ltd.	Midland, Ont.	Procor Ltd.	Oakville, Ont.
Falconbridge Nickel Mines Ltd.	Falconbridge, Ont.	Produits Lea Inc., Les	Montréal, Qué.
Fisher Scientific Company Ltd.	Ottawa, Ont.	Produits Metal Vulcan Inc.	St-Jérôme, Qué.
Fonderie Magotteaux Canada S C C Ltd.	Magog, Qué.	Sharp Plastics Manufacturing Ltd.	Delta, B.C.
General Kinetics Engineering Corp.	Bramalea, Ont.		

**CANADIAN IMPORTERS (Cont'd)**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Sherritt Gordon Mines Ltd.	Fort Saskatchewan, Alta.	Utah Mines Ltd.	Port Hardy, B.C. San Fransisco, CA U.S.A.*
Source Canadian Dist. Inc., The St. Lawrence Cement Co. Inc.	North York, Ont. Mississauga, Ont.	Wabco, Division of Wabco-Standard Inc. Xerox Canada Inc.	Hamilton, Ont. North York, Ont.

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\* Non resident importer

**CANADIAN IMPORTERS (Cont'd)**

**GRINDING BALLS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES FOR MILLS**

**H.S. CODE 7326.11**

The principal 10 importers of grinding balls and similar articles of iron or steel for mills, forged or stamped, not further worked accounted for 82 per cent of the total import value during 1988.

<u>Principal Importers</u> (No.)	<u>Cumulative Value</u> (\$000)	<u>Per Cent of Total Value</u>
5	9 730	66
10	12 113	82
20	13 591	92
All Importers (78)	14 828	100

The principal twenty-five importers of grinding balls and similar articles of iron or steel, forged or stamped, but not further worked are listed below in alphabetical order. These accounted for 94 per cent of the total dollar value of imports.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Babcock Wilcox Canada Ltd.	Galt, Ont.	Newmont Mines Ltd.	Princeton, B.C.
Bell Canada	Montréal, Qué.	Noranda Minerals Inc.	Hamitouwadge, Ont.
Brenda Mines Ltd.	Toronto, Ont.	Placer Dome Inc.	Vancouver, B.C.
Cominco Ltd.	Trail, B.C.	PPG Canada Inc.	Mississauga, Ont.
Compagnie Minière I O C	Sept-Iles, Qué.	Similco Mines Ltd.	Princeton, B.C.
Curragh Resources Inc.	Faro, Yukon	St. Lawrence Cement Co.	Mississauga, Ont.
DG Trim Products Ltd.	Etobicoke, Ont.	St. Lawrence Fluorspar Ltd.	St. Lawrence, Nfld.
Equity Silver Mines Ltd.	Petrolia, Ont.	Teck Corporation Ltd.	Vancouver, B.C.
Gibraltar Mines Ltd.	Vancouver, B.C.	Utah Mines Ltd.	Port Hardy, B.C.
Highland Valley Copper	Vancouver, B.C.		San Fransisco, CA,
Iron Ore Co. of Canada	Logan Lake, B.C.		USA*
Lac Minerals Ltd.	Montréal, Qué.	Vibra Finish Limited	Mississauga, Ont.
Macmetal Inc.	Marathon, Ont.	Vittforge Canada Inc.	Laval, Qué.
Minova Inc., Winston Lake Div.	Montréal, Qué.	Waterloo Metal Stampings Ltd.	Kitchener, Ont.
	Schreiber, Ont.		

\* Non resident importer

**FOREIGN EXPORTERS TO CANADA**  
**GRINDING BALLS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES FOR MILLS**

H.S. CODE 7325.91

Major exporters to Canada of grinding balls and similar articles of iron or steel, cast for mills, are listed below in descending order of dollar value. These exporters accounted for 96 per cent of the total value of imports for the period January to September 1989.

<u>Country Of Origin</u>	<u>Exporter Name</u>	<u>Value of Exports to Canada (\$000)</u>
United States United States	M E International ) Capital Castings Inc. )	7 975*
United States	North Star Steel Co.	734
United States Brazil	American Magotteaux Corp. ) Metalurgica Samag Ltd. )	1 349*
Mexico United States	GIA Siderrurgica De ) Nucor Grinding Balls )	569*
United States United States	Babcock & Wilcox Co. Ltd. ) The Abbott Ball Co. )	199*

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\* Aggregated to preserve confidentiality of Canadian importers

**FOREIGN EXPORTERS TO CANADA (Cont'd)**  
**GRINDING BALLS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES FOR MILLS**

H.S. CODE 7326.11

Major exporters to Canada of grinding balls and similar articles of iron steel forged or stamped, not further worked for mills, are listed below in descending order of dollar value. These exporters accounted for 96 per cent of the total value of imports for the period January to September 1989.

<u>Country Of Origin</u>	<u>Exporter Name</u>	<u>Value of Exports to Canada (\$000)</u>
United States	Nucor Corp., Grinding Balls Div.	7 168
United States	North Star Steel Co.	3 028
United States	Armco Steel Inc.	1 750
United States United States	Frantz Mfg. Co. ME International	869*

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\* Aggregated to preserve confidentiality of Canadian importers

