



Copper and Brass Sales Division

2/27/09

Re: India steel products contaminated with cobalt-60

To Copper and Brass Sales Customers:

Copper and Brass Sales has become aware of the cobalt 60 radioactive contamination in Stainless Steel material of a melt originating in India. To address any concerns regarding the potential contamination of steel, CBS has performed an investigation and determined the following:

1. The India mill in question is not a direct, or indirect, supplier to Copper and Brass Sales.
2. All major suppliers of Stainless Steel to Copper and Brass Sales have submitted certificates of control that confirm the absence of radioactive contamination of their products.
3. U.S. Customs Border Protection (CBP), Container Examination Service (CES dept.) has stated that:

CBP Officers use radiation portal monitors (RPMs) to scan cargo containers for radioactive materials as they pass through vehicle-processing lanes at the land border ports, or as they are off-loaded from ships at the seaports. Officers also use personal radiation detectors to scan for signs of radioactive materials as they perform inspections on smaller vehicles and shipments. Special high-tech tools such as densitometers and fiber-optic scopes allow officers to peer inside suspicious containers. Finally, if necessary, containers are opened and unloaded for a more thorough carton-by-carton inspection by CBP Officers.

4. We have not been made aware of any reports by U.S. Government sources or industry trade associations of any contaminated stainless steel having entered the United States.

Accordingly, Copper and Brass Sales has taken, and will continue to take, precautions as necessary to assure its products remain contaminant free.

Rush D. Williams  
Director – Quality Assurance  
Copper and Brass Sales