

EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY

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PRESS RELEASE

ECSC ORDERS FOR ROLLED STEEL - APRIL

High Level of Demand Continues

Luxembourg, May 13: Demand for steel continues strong: orders received for rolled products in the European Coal and Steel Community in April reached 4,630,000 metric tons. This was slightly below the near-record total of March (4,743,000 tons) but more than the 4,433,000 tons booked in April 1959.

The main feature of the April figures was an increase of 150,000 tons in orders from non-member countries of the Community, while demand from within the Community, which has for many months now provided the main support of the current boom, declined slightly.

The rise in order-books which has been going on since early 1959 levelled off in February - the latest month for which statistics are available. At the end of the month they stood at 13,499,000 tons, against 13,494,000 at the end of January and 8,871,000 at the end of February 1959. Significantly, for the first time in many months, deliveries in February were able to keep pace with the large volume of new orders.

Orders received from

| | <u>National Markets</u> | <u>Other Community Countries</u> | <u>Non-member Countries</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| April 1960 | 3,137 | 650 | 843 | 4,630 |
| March 1960 | 3,274 | 752 | 637 | 4,743 |
| April 1959 | 2,648 | 747 | 1,038 | 4,433 |

| | <u>Orders</u> | <u>Deliveries</u> | <u>Order-books</u> |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| February 1960 | 4,377 | 4,393 | 13,499 |
| January 1960 | 4,311 | 4,110 | 13,494 |
| February 1960 | 3,607 | 3,253 | 8,871 |