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Mexican Steel Output Up 10.6% In 1990 (s/s)

by Steven Ranieri

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According to a report by the Latin American Steel and Iron Institute released Feb. 12 in Santiago, the region's steel output in 1990 totaled 38.4 million metric tons, down 9.4% from 1989. Exports last year dropped 9.2% relative to 1989, and imports were down 18.2%. At present, the steel industry employs 230,000 persons throughout the region. In 1990, employment declined 11%. New investment in the steel industry last year came to \$1.3 billion. Regional steel consumption (28.3 million tons) was down for the third consecutive year. Latin America's output accounts for 4.9% of world production, and 43% of output by Third World nations. Steel output growth rates, 1990 Argentina - 7.6% Brazil -17.0 Chile - 3.6 Colombia + 3.0 Ecuador -13.0 Mexico +10.6 Peru -22.0 Uruguay - 8.1 Venezuela - 0.6 Central America & +25.8 Trinidad and Tobago (Basic data from Notimex, 02/13/91)

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