U. S. Steel Košice, s.r.o.
A Subsidiary of United States Steel

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CUSTOMERS
Care of hot rolled and cold rolled sheets when transporting, storing and inspecting

It is recommended to store the sheets in clean and ventilated areas with the highest allowed relative humidity of 70 %. When storing, it is recommended to maintain constant temperature so that the sheet shall not be influenced by condensation. Based on above mentioned, the following recommendations were developed which are given by the package type with the aim to minimize the effects of possible negative conditions.

1. When storing the sheet bundles located on wooden blocks, the sheet bundles may be located in a stack above each other, which are of the same dimensions. Recommended stack height is maximum 1,5 multiples of its width. When storing the sheet bundle on longitudinal squares or squares and blocks, the stack height depends on wood (soft, hard) used.

2. Storing the coils with horizontal axis in a line without offsetting is recommended to prevent against potential surface damage or coil ovality.

3. Coils stored on wooden skids with horizontal axis are not to be stacked - layered.

4. Material damage as a consequence of water influences and corrosion caused by internal condensation is possible, when a product is stored in an environment, where temperature ambient is different from the packed steel. Validity of this effect depends on local climatic conditions.

Based on above recommendations and the conditions of the received packaging the following guidlines were prepared.

Non-damaged packages - Store the completely packed unit in an area with new climatic conditions for a period sufficiently long so that the material inside the package might be adapted to the ambient temperature (approx. 24 up to 48 hours). Then, it is possible to remove the package and expose the sheet to the new conditions to be processed.

Slightly damaged packages - open package surfaces should be sealed or pasted together so that the atmospheric air penetration into package shall be prevented. After equalizing the temperatures, it is possible to unpack the material and transfer it for further processes.

Extremely damaged packages - It is necessary to remove the damaged packaging immediately and store the material near a warm airflow. If any leakage occurred, it is recommended to put the material on suitable incline so that the water residue shall flow out and any excessive water may be wiped out. By correct material storage the metal coils and sheet will reach the ambient temperature more rapidly and the consequences of leakage and condensation are minimized.

General recommendations:

1. It is not recommended to unpack the material and expose it to the ambient temperature for more than 24 hours. The material with the possibility of condensation because of different temperatures should be processed as soon as possible.

2. When unloading and handling the material with respect to storage and packing methods, it is recommended to use suitable lifting devices (C-hook, pliers, high-lift truck) and storing tools on the designed handling points so that no material damage shall occure. It is not allowed to unload and transport 2 coils together. When unloading sheet bundles, it is recommended to transport 2 bundles together.

3. Claimed material which is returned back to the producer must be marked by material unit ID number, taped and wrapped in the same condition as delivered to the customer.

During unloading of coils by use of mechanical devices it is forbidden to use the special seat equipment for material transportation (the holes can be used only for transportation of seat equipment).

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CUSTOMERS
Inspection and claims

Railroad transport

Inspect the following after unsealing the covered railway carriages:

- condition of material deposition in transporting and securing devices
- excessive material displacement
- impact against the frontal or side wall of the railway carriage, completeness of packages and material condition
- leakage of materials during transport

In the case of open railway carriage transport, inspect the settlement of backed packaged or material bags. When occurring any damage, loss or theft of protection packages, it is necessary to perform a detailed survey of the materials.

The following must be recorded in the shipping documents:

- information on railway carriage
- identification of damaged materials
- damage features

Inform forwarding company agent about the damage of material to assure that the incident or damage may be verified.

Road transport by trucks

After the truck is stationed on the unloading ramp, inspect the condition and settlement of materials in the transporting and securing equipment. The material packagers with evidence of water is unacceptable.
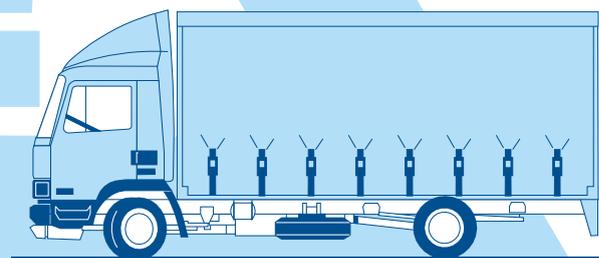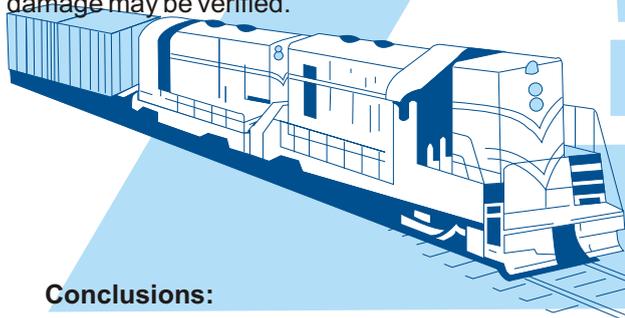
Initiate the commercial or damage record when any of the following cases occures.

- material leaking-in
- wet or snowy packages
- visible package damage

The following shall be recorded in the shipping documents:

- name of the truck driver
- name of the company (forwarder)
- damage features

This protocol shall be confirmed by the truck driver.

Conclusions:

The photo documentation in the case of damage is required as visible evidence of the material condition when assuming ownership and it is an important communication instrument, which allows understanding of complaint of a customer. The photo documentation must be produced before material unloading from the means of transportation. In the case of disclosure of mechanical damage, corrosion, leakage of materials, it is necessary to produce the record about this disclosure and accurate description of damages. Also, it is necessary to preserve the damaged packages as evidence for the investigation of this damage case.

Depending on the delivery condition (INCOTERMS), please, deliver this information to a responsible person of the Customer Technical Service (CTS) section of the company U.S.STEEL Košice, s.r.o. together with the list of materials or address the insurance institute directly.