

For Immediate Release
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Reinstatement of Aluminum Tariffs Harm Manufacturing in America

Washington, D.C. – The Precision Machined Products Association (PMPA) today urged the U.S. Government to reverse course and not reimpose tariffs on imported aluminum from Canada. The August 6, 2020, presidential proclamation announcing the U.S. would reinstate the 10 percent tariffs comes after the Trump administration in May 2019 suspended tariffs on certain imported aluminum from Canada, originally imposed under Section 232 of the trade law in 2018. The announcement came one day after the U.S. Census Bureau released data showing a 5 percent decline of primary aluminum imports from Canada in the first six months of 2020.

“Our members manufacture precision parts for medical supplies, components for the defense and auto industries and other essential businesses and tariffs on aluminum from Canada creates a disruption in the supply chain our country can ill-afford right now,” said Miles Free, Director of Industry Affairs at the PMPA. “When the U.S. Aluminum Association, most of the domestic aluminum industry, their customers, and their customers all oppose these tariffs, we think it merits another look,” added Mr. Free.

The presidential proclamation directs the U.S. Government to publish in the Federal Register the guidelines for reinstating the tariffs that will take effect again at 12:01AM Eastern on August 16, 2020. PMPA has lobbied the U.S. Government to lift the 10 percent tariffs on aluminum and 25 percent on steel imported from overseas and applauded President Trump in 2019 for lifting the tariffs on Canada and Mexico.

“At a time when our members were adding more aluminum work and creating jobs these tariffs were wrong for U.S. manufacturers when imposed in 2018, lifted in 2019, and they are still harmful to American industry today,” stated Mr. Free. “This administration has done so much to support manufacturing in America, but tariffs are taxes, plain and simple,” he continued.

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PMPA is a national trade association representing over 440 member companies involved in the production of highly engineered, precision machined components used in advanced automotive, aerospace, electrical, construction, and medical technologies. PMPA’s members include metal producers, machining and manufacturing companies, machine tool builders, and producers of tooling, software and accessories, and metalworking fluids. The precision machining industry is best described by NAICS code 332721 and accounts for over 103,200 jobs with payrolls of \$5 billion and shipments of over \$16.9 billion. PMPA members typically average 35-50 employees per shop with annual sales of \$12 million. The mission of the PMPA is to provide the information, resources and networking opportunities to advance and sustain its members while advocating for manufacturing throughout the United States.