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HCPA Calls on President to Stop Unnecessary Steel and Aluminum Tariffs

WASHINGTON, DC – In response to the Trump administration’s announcement that the U.S. will enforce heavy tariffs on aluminum and steel imported from Canada, Mexico and the European Union, the Household & Commercial Products Association (HCPA) released the following statement from HCPA President and CEO, Steve Caldeira.

“Imported aluminum and steel used to make aerosol and consumer product components are clearly not a threat to national security. Therefore, we respectfully urge the Administration to end these tariffs that will unnecessarily increase costs to American aerosol and consumer product manufacturers. We truly respect and support President Trump’s efforts to protect American jobs, however, it is critical that any tariffs that are implemented be tied directly to protecting national security. Taxing the materials product manufacturers use to deliver integral, everyday products for consumers and workers does nothing to advance America’s national security interest, and instead it puts companies at a competitive disadvantage.”

In March, HCPA sent a letter to President Trump, condemning the proposed tariffs on imported aluminum and steel, and urging the administration to avoid raising costs of consumer aerosol products. [Read the full letter here.](#)

“Unfortunately, the administration is moving forward with what is essentially a tax on the consumer product manufacturers that use aluminum and steel to make and package their products. Combined across industries, this tax will potentially cost American manufacturers billions of dollars, lead to the loss of jobs and raise the prices of the integral products millions of consumers and workers rely on every day.”

“HCPA members make and sell \$180 billion annually of products used for cleaning, protecting, maintaining, and disinfecting homes and commercial environments, many of which rely on aerosol technology. Nearly all aerosol products use aluminum or steel, and last year almost 50 percent of steel and aluminum imports to the U.S. came from Canada, Europe and Mexico. Disrupting this market will significantly increase costs to consumer product manufacturers as aluminum and steel customers.

“HCPA analysis reports that in 2016, United States manufacturers produced 3.02 billion steel containers, 811 million aluminum containers and 3.72 billion valves to fill 3.75 billion aerosol products. The aerosol industry clearly relies on high-quality imported steel and aluminum to produce the containers and valves essential to the safety and performance of the finished aerosol products. This action will also decrease access to the best quality materials, slow innovation and negatively impact aerosol can and component manufacturers, and the household and commercial products industry that supports 200,000 direct jobs.”

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About the Household & Commercial Products Association

The Household & Commercial Products Association (HCPA) is the premier trade association representing companies that manufacture, and sell \$180 billion annually of products used for cleaning, protecting, maintaining, and disinfecting homes and

commercial environments. HCPA member companies employ 200,000 people in the U.S. whose work helps consumers and workers to create cleaner, healthier and more productive lives.