



STATISTICAL GUIDELINES

Code of practice for the collection and use of quarterly statistical information

As modified by the ICDA Market
Research Committee
in November 2022

icda^{cr}

INTERNATIONAL CHROMIUM
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

STATISTICAL GUIDELINES

(as modified by the Market Research Committee in November 2022)

The present Guidelines, originally prepared in October 2008, have been modified by the Market Research Committee of ICDA in November 2022 and represent a code of practice for the collection and use of quarterly statistical information. They may be modified as and when deemed necessary by the Market Research Committee. It is the responsibility of the ICDA Management team to ensure that this Code of Practice is sent to all members and scrupulously complied with and enforced. The role of the Market Research Committee is to formulate and review the methodology proposed by the Guidelines but not to be involved in any way in the collection, collation and treatment of data obtained pursuant thereto.

PRINCIPLES AND METHODOLOGY

In conformity with the ICDA Antitrust Policy Statement which binds all Members, the governing principles applied to the collection of any statistical data under these Guidelines are that they shall be aggregated and anonymous, relate only to historical records and that the individual returns and data provided by Members shall under no circumstances be divulged to third parties, which, for the avoidance of doubt, includes Members themselves. No written or oral commentary will be provided by the ICDA secretariat on any such data.

To ensure confidentiality, the contributions are anonymous and therefore do not indicate any company's or individual's name. They are identified by way of a company code to which only the ICDA Secretariat has access.

All data returns will be held in electronic form on a dedicated ICDA cloud folder which will be accessible only to accredited staff members of the ICDA secretariat. The data will only be handled on ICDA computers by ICDA staff members. One back-up copy of such data will be made and retained in a safe place. No copies of the information in any electronic or any form whatsoever will be passed to any third party.

The ICDA secretariat will not answer any questions or enquiries from Members concerning the data submitted by any Member other than questions raised by a specific Member concerning its own return and only with a view to rectifying errors or correcting omissions on data return forms.

I. QUARTERLY PRODUCTION AND SALES STATISTICS

The ICDA maintains a database of producers worldwide of the following products:

CHROMITE ORE

- Metallurgical
- Chemical
- Refractory
- Foundry Sands
- UG2

FERROALLOYS

- HC Ferrochromium - > 4 % C
- MC Ferrochromium - 0.5 - 4 % C
- LC Ferrochromium - < 0.5 % C
- Ferrosilicochromium

The methodology applicable to the maintenance and operation of this database (but not the contents) is permanently reviewed and updated by the Market Research Committee.

Quarterly collecting forms are accessible via a secured online data collection platform, each company having a private and confidential access or via a confidential form sent by email to all companies included in the database.

The notifications to provide data are sent out to producers at the end of the first month of a given quarter and contributors must return to the ICDA by the middle of the following month. Reminders may have to be sent.

Sales figures are understood to include internal consumption and intermediate products. Stocks are understood to be the total level of stocks at the end of a given period.

When a producer is not able to submit figures, a national industry association or government agency can be considered as the best alternative source of information.

In the rare cases when neither producers nor industry associations are in a position to submit figures, the ICDA may use figures from independent market research companies.

The information thus compiled by ICDA is then processed into Quarterly Statistical Reports which ensure confidentiality of data notably by aggregating individual producers' figures into regional numbers. For the purpose of these Quarterly Statistical Reports, the regions are the following:

CHROMITE ORE

- South Africa
- Rest of Africa, Americas
- India
- Rest of Asia and Australasia
- Eastern Europe/CIS/Middle East
- Western Europe (including Albania and Turkey)

HC FECR

- China
- India
- Southern Africa
- Americas, rest of Asia, Australasia
- Eastern Europe/CIS/Middle East
- Western Europe (including Albania and Turkey)

LC FECR

- China
- Rest of the World

These regions have been defined in such a way that they each have more than three producers of a given product grade as per above. These regions can be reviewed when deemed necessary to ensure the rule of more than three producers is applied.

A separate «Rest of the World» category includes production from regions with less than three producers of a given product grade as per above.

The aim is that Quarterly Statistical Reports be sent to Members by the 15th of the second month following a given quarter i.e. 15th May for Q1, 15th August for Q2, 15th November for Q3 and 15th February for Q4.

The Statistical Reports are regularly updated based on new information and they also include a Cumulative Update.

Although access to the Quarterly Statistical Reports is restricted to Ordinary and Associate Members, Affiliate Members can access the reports by paying a similar amount as Associate members and on conditions to be defined from time to time by the ICDA Council.

II. TRADE STATISTICS

Quarterly trade statistics are collected through subscriptions to import statistics of national customs authorities for the following products:

- Chromite ore and concentrate)
- Ferrochromium (various grades)
- Ferrosilicochromium
- Chromium metal

The list of countries to be included in the tables is regularly reviewed by the Market Research Committee.

The Import Matrix Tables are sent to ICDA Members quarterly and annual data are included in the Statistical Bulletin. They should never be used as export statistics. All tables should include a footnote stipulating this very clearly.

3. ANNUAL STATISTICAL BULLETIN

Once the fourth quarter figures have been collected, the total annual figure is then submitted to each producer or participant for confirmation or review and for inclusion in the ICDA Annual Statistical Bulletin, bearing in mind that the Bulletin includes production tables by «country» and not by «producer». Contributors may choose not to have their data published on a country basis.

Crude stainless steel production as well as stainless steel scrap availability as obtained from other industry sources are also included in the Statistical Bulletin.

The Statistical Bulletin is made available to all ICDA Ordinary and Associate Members in good standing.

IV. OTHER CHROMIUM STATISTICS

The Market Research Committee recognizes that the situation of chromium chemicals and chromium metal is very different from the other chromium products in the sense that there are fewer producers and that data may be considered as sensitive. The situation may evolve however and it is the responsibility of the Market Research Committee to regularly review the situation.

V. ICDA WEBSITE

All data published by ICDA pursuant to sections 2 3 and 4 above are available to ICDA Members from the Members Resources section of the Association website.

VI. COPYRIGHT

All data produced by ICDA pursuant to sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 above are protected by the law of copyright.



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