

Trump imposes 50% copper tariff Effective August 1, 2025



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US President Donald Trump has confirmed that a 50% tariff on copper imports will take effect on August 1, 2025, citing national security concerns.

In a statement posted on Truth Social, Trump said the decision follows a “robust national security

assessment,” emphasizing copper’s strategic role in key industries such as semiconductors, aircraft, ammunition, lithium-ion batteries, radar systems, and advanced weapons, including hypersonic missiles. “Copper is the second most widely used material by the US Department of Defense,” he noted.

Trump criticized previous administrations, saying, “Why did our foolish (and sleepy!) leaders decimate this important industry?” He framed the tariff as a corrective measure to rebuild domestic production and restore American industrial dominance. “This 50% tariff will reverse the Biden administration’s thoughtless behavior. America will, once again, build a DOMINANT copper industry,” he declared, calling this era “our golden age.”

The announcement, first made Tuesday, immediately impacted global markets, sending copper prices to record highs as traders braced for potential supply disruptions and trade tensions.

Analysts say the tariff could reshape the global copper supply chain and increase costs for US manufacturers.

This marks Trump’s latest effort to prioritize domestic industry through aggressive trade measures. It also signals growing emphasis on resource security amid geopolitical tensions and rising demand for critical raw materials vital to defense and technological infrastructure.