

earliest practical date and should be received no later than the close of business on August 1, 1996. All submissions should be addressed to the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20436.

Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: May 7, 1996.

Donna R. Koehnke,
Secretary.

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[Investigations Nos. 731-TA-726, 727, and 729 (Final)]

Polyvinyl Alcohol from China, Japan, and Taiwan

Determinations

On the basis of the record¹ developed in the subject investigations, the Commission determines,² pursuant to section 735(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1673d(b)) (the Act), that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury by reason of imports from China, Japan, and Taiwan of polyvinyl alcohol (PVA),³ provided for in subheading 3905.30.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States,⁴ that have been found by the Department of Commerce to be sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV).⁵

¹ The record is defined in sec. 207.2(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.2(f)).

² Chairman Watson, Vice Chairman Nuzum, and Commissioner Rohr dissenting.

³ The imported product subject to these investigations is PVA, which is a dry, white to cream-colored, water-soluble synthetic polymer. This product consists of PVA hydrolyzed in excess of 85 percent, whether or not mixed or diluted with defoamer or boric acid. Excluded from the scope of the investigations is PVA covalently bonded with acetoacrylate, carboxylic acid, or sulfonic acid uniformly present on all polymer chains in a concentration equal to or greater than two mole percent, and PVA covalently bonded with silane uniformly present on all polymer chains in a concentration equal to or greater than one-tenth of one mole percent. PVA in fiber form is not included in the scope of these investigations.

⁴ Prior to Jan. 1996, PVA was provided for in subheading 3905.20.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

⁵ Commissioner Newquist and Commissioner Bragg, who find that an industry in the United States is threatened with material injury, further determine pursuant to 19 U.S.C. § 1673d(b)(4)(B), that they would not have found material injury but for the suspension of liquidation of entries of the merchandise under investigation.

Background

The Commission instituted these investigations effective October 5, 1995, following preliminary determinations by the Department of Commerce that imports of PVA from China, Japan, and Taiwan were being sold at LTFV within the meaning of section 733(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. § 1673b(b)). Notice of the institution of the Commission's investigations and of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the Federal Register of November 9, 1995 (60 FR 56614). The hearing was held in Washington, DC, on March 26, 1996, and all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

The Commission transmitted its determinations in these investigations to the Secretary of Commerce on May 6, 1996. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 2960 (May 1996), entitled "Polyvinyl Alcohol from China, Japan, and Taiwan: Investigations Nos. 731-TA-726, 727, and 729 (Final)."

By order of the Commission.

Issued: May 9, 1996.

Donna R. Koehnke,
Secretary.

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[Investigation 332-237]

Production Sharing: Use of U.S. Components and Materials in Foreign Assembly, 1992-95 (U.S. Imports Under Production Sharing Provisions of Harmonized Tariff Schedule Heading 9802)

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Opportunity to submit written statements in connection with the 1996 report, and retitling of investigation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 6, 1996.

SUMMARY: The Commission has prepared and published annual reports on production sharing under this series since 1986. The Commission plans to publish the next report in December 1996, which will cover U.S. import data on production sharing for the years 1992-95.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the production sharing report may be directed to the project leader, Adam Topolansky, Office of

Industries (202-205-3394) or the assistant project leader, Ms. Jennifer Rorke, Office of Industries (202-205-3489). For information on legal aspects, please contact Mr. William Gearhart, Office of General Counsel (202-205-3091). The media should contact Ms. Margaret O'Laughlin, Office of Public Affairs (202-205-1819). Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the TDD terminal on (202-205-1810).

Background

The initial notice of institution of this investigation was published in the Federal Register of September 4, 1986 (51 FR 31729). The report has been published in the current series under investigation No. 332-237 annually since December 1986. The report, originally entitled "Imports Under Items 806.30 and 807.00 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States, 1982-85," has undergone a number of changes in the title to reflect adoption of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) and modification to the provisions in heading 9802 of that schedule. HTS provision 9802.00.60 involves tariff treatment for metal of U.S. origin processed in a foreign location and returned to the United States for further processing; provision 9802.00.80 involves tariff treatment for imported goods that contain U.S.-made components.

As in past years, the report will provide an analysis of developments in U.S. imports under the production sharing provisions of tariff heading 9802 focusing on shifts in trade and product mix, and trends by principal country sources and industry groups. The report will also assess U.S. production generated as a result of foreign assembly, the use of production sharing by foreign manufacturers, the effect of the North American Free-Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on U.S. parts producers, and developments in the global integration of specific industries. The report will also provide information on how companies involved in production sharing in Mexico have changed their operations in response to NAFTA.

Written Submissions

No public hearing is planned. However, interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning the 1996 report. Commercial or financial information which a submitter desires the Commission to treat as confidential must be provided on separate sheets of paper, each clearly marked "Confidential Business Information" at