

Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov> or <ftp://ftp.usitc.gov>).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background.**—These investigations are being instituted in response to a petition filed on November 26, 1996, by the Paslode Division of Illinois Tool Works Inc., Vernon Hills, Illinois.

**Participation in the investigations and public service list.**—Persons (other than petitioners) wishing to participate in the investigations as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in sections 201.11 and 207.10 of the Commission's rules, not later than seven days after publication of this notice in the Federal Register. Industrial users and representative consumer organizations have the right to appear as parties in Commission antidumping investigations. The Secretary will prepare a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to these investigations upon the expiration of the period for filing entries of appearance.

**Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and BPI service list.**—Pursuant to section 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI gathered in these investigations available to authorized applicants representing interested parties (as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9)) who are parties to these investigations under the APO issued in the investigations, provided that the application is made not later than seven days after the publication of this notice in the Federal Register. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

**Conference.**—The Commission's Director of Operations has scheduled a conference in connection with these investigations for 9:30 a.m. on December 17, 1996, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC. Parties wishing to participate in the conference should contact Larry Reavis (202-205-3185) not later than noon, December 16, to arrange for their appearance. Parties in support of the imposition of antidumping duties in these investigations and parties in opposition to the imposition of such duties will each be collectively allocated one hour within which to make an oral presentation at the conference. A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may

request permission to present a short statement at the conference.

**Written submissions.**—As provided in sections 201.8 and 207.15 of the Commission's rules, any person may submit to the Commission on or before December 20, 1996, a written brief containing information and arguments pertinent to the subject matter of the investigations. Parties may file written testimony in connection with their presentation at the conference no later than three days before the conference. If briefs or written testimony contain BPI, they must conform with the requirements of sections 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules.

In accordance with sections 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the rules, each document filed by a party to the investigations must be served on all other parties to the investigations (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

Authority: These investigations are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to section 207.12 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: November 27, 1996.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-30823 Filed 12-03-96; 8:45 am]

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**[Investigation 332-372]**

**The Economic Implications of Liberalizing APEC Tariff and Nontariff Barriers to Trade**

**AGENCY:** United States International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Institution of investigation, scheduling of public symposium, and call for papers.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** November 25, 1996.

**SUMMARY:** Following receipt on November 1, 1996 of a request from the U.S. Trade Representative, the Commission instituted Investigation No. 332-372, The Economic Implications of Liberalizing APEC Tariff and Nontariff Barriers To Trade, under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)). As requested, the investigation will seek to provide an objective, critical report, based on a symposium to be held by the Commission, on the identification and assessment of the impact of nontariff barriers (NTBs) to trade and investment in APEC and on the general equilibrium modeling of

APEC trade liberalization. The Commission will confine the investigation to studies that are already underway or have been recently completed. The Commission will offer the opportunity for all economic researchers selected for participation in the symposium to present their findings on the evaluation of NTBs to trade and investment in the APEC region and the general equilibrium modeling of APEC trade liberalization at the symposium. To promote an objective, critical assessment of this body of inquiry, economic researchers recognized as experts in their fields will also be designated to provide a critical assessment of the merits and limitations of the methods and data employed in the research. The final report will be submitted to USTR approximately six months after the symposium. The final report will consist of four parts: (1) an assessment of the principal results presented at the symposium, both with respect to identified trade barriers and distortions in the APEC area and with respect to modeling of APEC liberalization, (2) a compilation of the technical papers submitted in the symposium, together with any revisions or comments the authors may make in response to the critiques received in the symposium, (3) a compilation of the written critiques of those papers, and (4) an objective summary and critical evaluation by the Commission of the analytical frameworks and of the main findings of these papers.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Nancy Benjamin, Office of Economics, at (202-205-3125). The media should contact Margaret O'Laughlin, Office of External Relations (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).

**Call for Papers**

The Commission encourages all parties currently engaged in the evaluation of NTBs to trade and investment among APEC members or the general equilibrium modeling of APEC trade liberalization to present their work at the symposium. The purpose of the symposium is to examine critically, through peer review by recognized experts, studies recently completed or currently being developed that meet recognized academic standards. Research within the scope of this investigation include the following:

- Papers identifying and assessing the impact of barriers to trade and investment in the APEC region other than tariff barriers and quantitative

restrictions. This category includes any other non-tariff barriers as well as policies and practices with respect to regulation, intellectual property rights, standards and conformance, customs procedures, investment, oligopolistic behavior, services, and/or government procurement which materially limit trade and investment but for which there has hitherto been relatively little quantitative assessment.

- Papers emphasizing modeling of APEC trade liberalization with economy-wide perspectives.
- Papers which bridge and synthesize the above two areas of interest would be particularly welcome.

Papers presented at the symposium must meet the following criteria:

(1) All papers must describe any technical assumptions and methods employed to obtain the results presented and provide full details about the data and scenarios evaluated. This requirement is critical because the purpose of the symposium is to provide an objective critical assessment of this research.

(2) The research described in papers emphasizing modeling of APEC trade liberalization must be economy-wide in scope, whether they are multi-country models or single-country models. Economy-wide models include all sectors of the economies represented, though with varying degrees of disaggregation, and allow for explicit analysis of the complex interactions inherent in comprehensive economic policy changes, such as free trade agreements, even when the focus of such analysis is on a particular sector. Research within the scope of this investigation include both (i) computable general equilibrium (CGE) trade policy modeling; and (ii) economy-wide, multi-sector macroeconomic models. The research should take into account the effects of APEC trade liberalization on production, income, trade, employment, and prices. Because scheduling will be tight, persons interested in presenting papers or participating as discussants should submit a curriculum vitae and description of the relevant research to Nancy Benjamin (202-205-3125) or William Donnelly (202-205-3223), Research Division, Office of Economics, U.S. International Trade Commission, by May 30, 1997.

Discussants will be designated to provide detailed written critiques of the papers reviewed. All papers to be presented must meet recognized academic standards. It is also required that all papers be technically transparent and provide technical details about the methods and data

employed to obtain results. The final scheduling of papers and discussants will be made by Commission staff and will be published in a subsequent Federal Register notice by July 15, 1997. All papers must be provided to the Commission in a form ready for distribution 30 days prior to the symposium, and must meet the criteria outlined above.

**SYMPOSIUM:** The symposium will be held on September 11 and 12, 1997 at the U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW., Washington DC. Members of the public may attend the symposium and there will be an opportunity for brief technical comments on the papers from the audience. Those who would like to attend the symposium are requested to indicate their intention by sending a letter or fax to the Office of Economics, U.S. International Trade Commission (fax no. 202-205-2340) by September 2, 1997.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: November 27, 1996.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-30896 Filed 12-03-96; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 as Amended

In accordance with Department of Justice policy, 28 CFR 50.7 notice is hereby given that a proposed consent decree in *United States v. Farber, et al.*, Civil No. 86-3736, was lodged on November 19, 1996, with the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. The decree resolves claims against Benjamin Farber in the above-referenced action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act ("CERCLA") for contamination at the Syncon Resins Site in South Kearny, New Jersey (the "Site"). In the proposed consent decree, Mr. Farber agrees to a judgment against him in the amount of \$19 million, agrees to reimburse the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") for \$750,000 in past response costs incurred by EPA at the Site, pay the net proceeds of the sale of the Site and pay a percentage of any insurance recovery relating to the Site. This settlement was reached based on an assessment of Mr. Farber's ability to pay.

The Department of Justice will receive, for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication, comments relating to the proposed consent decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530, and should refer to *United States v. Farber, et al.*, DOJ Ref. Number 90-11-3-116.

The proposed consent decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney, 970 Broad St., Room 502, Newark, New Jersey, 07102; the Region II Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 290 Broadway, New York, NY 10278; and the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, N.W., 4th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 624-0892. A copy of the proposed consent decree may be obtained in person or by mail from the Consent Decree Library. In requesting a copy, please refer to the referenced case and enclose a check in the amount of \$8.00 for the Consent Decree (25 cents per page reproduction costs), payable to the Consent Decree Library.

Bruce S. Gelber,

Deputy Section Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 96-30891 Filed 12-3-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-15-M

### Notice of Lodging of Settlement Agreements Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

Notice is hereby given that proposed Settlement Agreements in *United States v. H. K. Porter Company, Inc., et al.*, Civil Action No. 96C-579 and *In Re H. K. Porter Company, Inc.*, Bankruptcy No. 91-00468WWB were lodged with the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania on November 4, 1996 and filed with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania on November 6, 1996. The proposed Settlement Agreements resolve the claims of the plaintiff, the United States of America, filed against defendant, H. K. Porter, Inc. ("Porter") in district court and bankruptcy court pursuant to Sections 106 and 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*

The Settlement Agreements pertain to the Bollinger Steel Superfund Site ("Site"), located in the Borough of Ambridge, Beaver County, Pennsylvania. They require Porter, a