

order on the Domestic Industry in general and/or your firm/entity specifically. In your response, please discuss the various factors specified in section 752(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675a(a)) including the likely volume of subject imports, likely price effects of subject imports, and likely impact of imports of Subject Merchandise on the Domestic Industry.

(5) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. producers of the Domestic Like Product. Identify any known related parties and the nature of the relationship as defined in section 771(4)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677(4)(B)).

(6) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. importers of the Subject Merchandise and producers of the Subject Merchandise in the Subject Country that currently export or have exported Subject Merchandise to the United States or other countries since 1994.

(7) If you are a U.S. producer of the Domestic Like Product, provide the following information on your firm's operations on that product during calendar year 1999 (report quantity data in thousands of pounds and value data in thousands of U.S. dollars, f.o.b. plant). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms in which your workers are employed/which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. production of the Domestic Like Product accounted for by your firm's(s'') production;

(b) the quantity and value of U.S. commercial shipments of the Domestic Like Product produced in your U.S. plant(s); and

(c) the quantity and value of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of the Domestic Like Product produced in your U.S. plant(s).

(8) If you are a U.S. importer or a trade/business association of U.S. importers of the Subject Merchandise from the Subject Country, provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 1999 (report quantity data in thousands of pounds and value data in thousands of U.S. dollars). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) The quantity and value (landed, duty-paid but not including antidumping or countervailing duties) of U.S. imports and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S.

imports of Subject Merchandise from the Subject Country accounted for by your firm's(s'') imports;

(b) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping and/or countervailing duties) of U.S. commercial shipments of Subject Merchandise imported from the Subject Country; and

(c) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping and/or countervailing duties) of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of Subject Merchandise imported from the Subject Country.

(9) If you are a producer, an exporter, or a trade/business association of producers or exporters of the Subject Merchandise in the Subject Country, provide the following information on your firm's(s'') operations on that product during calendar year 1999 (report quantity data in thousands of pounds and value data in thousands of U.S. dollars, landed and duty-paid at the U.S. port but not including antidumping or countervailing duties). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total production of Subject Merchandise in the Subject Country accounted for by your firm's(s'') production; and

(b) the quantity and value of your firm's(s'') exports to the United States of Subject Merchandise and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total exports to the United States of Subject Merchandise from the Subject Country accounted for by your firm's(s'') exports.

(10) Identify significant changes, if any, in the supply and demand conditions or business cycle for the Domestic Like Product that have occurred in the United States or in the market for the Subject Merchandise in the Subject Country since the Order Date, and significant changes, if any, that are likely to occur within a reasonably foreseeable time. Supply conditions to consider include technology; production methods; development efforts; ability to increase production (including the shift of production facilities used for other products and the use, cost, or availability of major inputs into production); and factors related to the ability to shift supply among different national markets (including barriers to importation in foreign markets or changes in market demand abroad). Demand conditions to consider include end uses and applications; the existence and availability of substitute products; and the level of competition among the

Domestic Like Product produced in the United States, Subject Merchandise produced in the Subject Country, and such merchandise from other countries.

(11) (OPTIONAL) A statement of whether you agree with the above definitions of the Domestic Like Product and Domestic Industry; if you disagree with either or both of these definitions, please explain why and provide alternative definitions.

**Authority:** This review is being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to section 207.61 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: January 24, 2000.

**Donna R. Koehnke,**

*Secretary.*

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## INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation 332-237]

### Production Sharing: Use of U.S. Components in Foreign Assembly Operations, 1995-98

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

**ACTION:** Termination of the report series and extended informal reporting of developments through existing publications.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 14, 2000.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission is changing the method of providing continued reporting on production sharing and related topics, and has published the last in a formal series of annual reports on production sharing under Inv. No. 332-237, covering the period 1995-98, in December 1999. The report series has been discontinued because official U.S. statistics increasingly understate the magnitude of production-sharing activity. As a growing share of global trade becomes duty free, incentives are reduced for entering U.S. imports under the production-sharing tariff provisions. The Commission will continue to report informally on cross-border integration of manufacturing and related topics in other publications, as appropriate, and plans to report annual statistics on trade under the production-sharing provisions in its quarterly publication *Industry Trade and Technology Review (ITTR)*, as well as provide expanded coverage for these data on the Commission's "Interactive Tariff and Trade DataWeb" (<http://dataweb.usitc.gov>).

**BACKGROUND:** The Commission has prepared and published annual reports on production-sharing operations since 1986 under this series; notice of initial institution was published in the **Federal Register** of September 4, 1986 (51 FR 31729). In this report series, the Commission has used data on imports under Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) provisions 9802.00.60-.90 as a tool to assess the use of foreign assembly plants as a strategy by U.S. companies to reduce production costs and improve global competitiveness. Because tariffs on many of the products entered under these provisions have been either significantly reduced or eliminated under trade agreements and trade preference programs, many importers no longer enter goods assembled from U.S.-made components under the duty-reducing provisions of HTS chapter 98. Consequently, data on imports entered under these provisions now significantly understate the use of U.S. components in foreign assembly operations. These reporting limitations will become more pronounced for 1999 data since most apparel from Mexico became duty and quota free under NAFTA on January 1, 1999, and the customs user fee applicable to imports from Mexico under NAFTA was eliminated on July 1, 1999. These developments have led the Commission to discontinue the report series in subsequent years, while maintaining continued informal monitoring and reporting through other publications as appropriate.

Data reported under HTS provision 9802.00.60-.90 will continue to provide a meaningful measure of the use of U.S.-made components in imported articles that remain dutiable. For example, such data are an important tool in monitoring the use of U.S.-formed-and-cut fabric in Caribbean garment factories. The Commission plans to report annual data on imports under these production-sharing tariff provisions in its quarterly ITTR publication. Articles assessing developments in the cross-border integration of manufacturing and related topics will be published separately as staff issue papers or as articles for the ITTR report. Parties that are currently on the Commission's mailing list for the Production Sharing report will receive copies of ITTR publications and staff issue papers that cover production-sharing topics, such as cross-border integration of manufacturing, international manufacturing networks, the use of foreign assembly plants and foreign trade zones, and foreign direct investment in manufacturing sectors.

Information on imports under production-sharing provisions (HTS

9802.00.60-.90) is accessible to the public on the Commission's "Interactive Tariff and Trade DataWeb" (<http://dataweb.usitc.gov>). The "DataWeb" currently enables parties to access U.S. imports under these tariff provisions, providing total imports by country of origin and the top 20 products from each supplier. The DataWeb will be expanded by late spring to include more timely access for annual production-sharing data by HS Chapter, country, and region, as well as by commodity groups which correspond to appendix B statistical tables contained in the former annual report. Parties also can access a table (updated monthly) from the Commission's Web site (<http://www.usitc.gov/miscell.htm>) showing U.S.-Mexico trade from 1994 to year-to-date, including imports under NAFTA and HTS 9802.00.60-.90.

The final report in the Production Sharing series assesses (1) the use of foreign assembly operations as a means that companies use to reduce costs and gain improved access to foreign markets; (2) the integration of such operations in North America into international manufacturing networks in the apparel, motor vehicles and parts, and television receiver sectors; and (3) the implications of these developments for the competitiveness of these U.S. industries. The latest report covering 1998 data (USITC Publication 3265, December 1999) may be obtained at the ITC Web site (<http://www.usitc.gov/332s/332index.htm>). A printed report may be requested by contacting the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000 or by fax at 202-205-2104.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Ralph Watkins (202) 205-3492; Minerals, Metals, Machinery, and Miscellaneous Manufactures Division; Office of Industries; U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

Hearing-impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting our TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>).

Issued: January 28, 2000.

By order of the Commission.

**Donna R. Koehnke,**

*Secretary.*

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**INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION**

[Inv. No. 337-TA-414]

**Certain Semiconductor Memory Devices and Products Containing Same; Notice of Decision To Extend the Deadline for Determining Whether To Review an Initial Determination Finding No Violation of Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930**

**AGENCY:** U.S. International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission has determined to extend by three (3) business days, or until February 1, 2000, the deadline for determining whether to review an initial determination (ID) finding no violation of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended in the above-captioned investigation.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Clara Kuehn, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20436, telephone (202) 205-3012. Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-205-1810. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

The Commission ordered the institution of this investigation on September 18, 1998, based on a complaint filed on behalf of Micron Technology, Inc., 8000 South Federal Way, Boise, Idaho 83707-0006 ("complainant"). The notice of investigation was published in the **Federal Register** on September 25, 1998, 63 FR 51372 (1998).

The presiding administrative law judge (ALJ) issued his final ID on November 29, 1999, concluding that there was no violation of section 337. He found that: (a) Complainant failed to establish the requisite domestic industry showing for any of the three patents at issue; (b) all asserted claims of the patents are invalid; (c) none of the asserted claims of the patents are infringed; and (d) all of the patents are unenforceable for inequitable conduct.

The authority for the Commission's determination is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. § 1337), and in section 210.42(h)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 C.F.R. 210.42(h)(2)).