

the investigations need not enter a separate appearance for the final phase of the investigations. Industrial users, and, if the merchandise under investigation is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations have the right to appear as parties in Commission antidumping and countervailing duty investigations. The Secretary will prepare a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the investigations.

Background

The Commission instituted these investigations effective December 28, 2000, following receipt of a petition filed with the Commission and the Department of Commerce by Carpenter Technology Corp. (Wyomissing, PA); Crucible Specialty Metals (Syracuse, NY); Electralloy Corp. (Oil City, PA); Empire Specialty Steel, Inc. (Dunkirk, NY); Slater Steels Corp., Specialty Alloys Division (Fort Wayne, IN); and the United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO/CLC (Pittsburgh, PA), alleging that an industry in the United States is materially injured and threatened with material injury by reason of imports of stainless steel bar from France, Germany, Italy, Korea, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom, that are alleged to be sold in the United States at LTFV, and by reason of imports of stainless steel bar from Italy that are alleged to be subsidized by the Government of Italy. Accordingly, effective December 28, 2000, the Commission instituted countervailing duty investigation No. 701-TA-413 (Preliminary) and antidumping investigations Nos. 731-TA-913-918 (Preliminary).

Notice of the institution of the Commission's investigations and of a public conference 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 January 4, 2001 (66 FR 807). The conference was held in Washington, DC, on January 18, 2001, 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 February 12, 2001. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 3395 (February 2001), entitled *Stainless Steel Bar From France, Germany, Italy, Korea, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom: Investigations Nos. 701-TA-413 and 731-TA-913-918* (Preliminary).

Issued: February 13, 2001.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 332-427]

U.S. Market Conditions for Certain Wool Articles

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of investigation, scheduling of public hearing, and request for public comments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 12, 2001.

SUMMARY: Following receipt of a request from the United States Trade Representative (USTR) on January 22, 2001, the Commission instituted Investigation No. 332-427, U.S. Market Conditions for Certain Wool Articles, under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)) to monitor U.S. market conditions for certain wool articles.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information, contact Kim Freund (202-708-5402; freund@usitc.gov) of the Office of Industries; for information on legal aspects, contact William Gearhart (202-205-3091; wgearhart@usitc.gov) of the Office of the General Counsel. The media should contact Margaret O'Laughlin, Public Affairs Officer (202-205-1819). Hearing impaired individuals may obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-205-1810. 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. General information about the Commission may be obtained by accessing its Internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>).

Background

As requested by the USTR, the Commission will provide information on U.S. market conditions, including domestic demand, domestic supply, and domestic production for men's and boys' worsted wool suits, suit-type jackets, and trousers; worsted wool fabric and yarn used in the manufacture of such clothing; and wool fibers used in the manufacture of such fabrics and yarn. Also as requested by the USTR,

the Commission will provide, to the extent possible, data on:

(1) Increases or decreases in sales and production of the subject domestically-produced worsted wool fabrics;

(2) Increases or decreases in domestic production and consumption of the subject apparel items;

(3) The ability of domestic producers of the subject worsted wool fabrics to meet the needs of domestic manufacturers of the subject apparel items in terms of quantity and ability to meet market demands for the apparel items;

(4) Sales of the subject worsted wool fabrics lost by domestic manufacturers to imports benefiting from the temporary duty reductions on certain worsted wool fabrics under the tariff-rate quotas (TRQs) provided for in headings 9902.51.11 and 9902.51.12 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS);

(5) Loss of sales by domestic manufacturers of the subject apparel items related to the inability to purchase adequate supplies of the subject worsted wool fabrics on a cost competitive basis; and

(6) The price per square meter of imports and domestic sales of the subject worsted wool fabrics.

The USTR requested that the Commission submit two "annual reports" and an "interim letter" under this investigation. The first annual report, providing data for 1999, 2000, and year-to-date 2000-01, was requested by September 17, 2001, and the second annual report, providing data for 2001 and year-to-date 2001-02, was requested by September 16, 2002. In the interim, the USTR requested that the Commission provide by letter (interim letter) the most comprehensive information available on the factors described above for the period from January 1, 1999, to the present. The Commission was requested to submit this interim letter to USTR within 45 days after the U.S. Department of Commerce publishes a notice in the **Federal Register** soliciting requests from U.S. manufacturers of men's and boys' worsted wool suits, suit-type jackets, and trousers to modify the limitations on the quantity of imports of worsted wool fabrics under the TRQs provided for in HTS headings 9902.51.11 and 9902.51.12. USTR requested that the Commission issue public versions of the interim letter and the two annual reports, as soon as possible thereafter, with any business confidential information deleted.

In the request letter, the USTR referred to Title V of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (the Act),

which was enacted on May 18, 2000, and implemented by Presidential Proclamation 7383 of December 1, 2000. Title V of the Act temporarily reduces tariffs and establishes TRQs on imports of certain worsted wool fabrics. The fabrics concerned are described in HTS headings 9902.51.11 and 9902.51.12—namely, worsted wool fabrics certified by the importer as suitable for use in men's or boys' suits, suit-type jackets, and trousers. The Act authorizes the President to modify the TRQ limits provided for in HTS headings 9902.51.11 and 9902.51.12, which will be in effect for 3 years beginning on January 1, 2001, subject to his consideration of certain U.S. market conditions. In the request letter, the USTR noted that, under section 504 of the Act, the President is required to monitor U.S. market conditions, including domestic demand, domestic supply, and increases in domestic production for men's and boys' worsted wool suits, suit-type jackets, and trousers; worsted wool fabric and yarn used in the manufacture of such clothing; and wool fibers used in the manufacture of such fabrics and yarn. In Proclamation 7383, the President delegated the authority to modify the TRQ limits to the Secretary of Commerce, and delegated to USTR the authority to monitor these market conditions.

Public Hearing

A public hearing in connection with preparation of the first annual report, as identified above, will be held at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on May 31, 2001. The Commission has not scheduled any other public hearing in connection with this investigation at this time. All persons shall have the right to appear, by counsel or in person, to present information and to be heard. Requests to appear at the public hearing should be filed with the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, no later than 5:15 p.m., May 17, 2001. Any prehearing briefs (original and 14 copies) should be filed not later than 5:15 p.m., May 21, 2001. The deadline for filing post-hearing briefs or statements is 5:15 p.m., June 7, 2001. In the event that, as of the close of business on May 17, 2001, no witnesses are scheduled to appear at the hearing, the hearing will be canceled. Any person interested in attending the hearing as an observer or non-participant may call the Secretary of the Commission (202-205-

1806) after May 17, 2001, to determine whether the hearing will be held.

Written Submissions

In connection with preparation of the interim letter for USTR, interested parties are invited to submit written statements (original and 14 copies) concerning the matters to be addressed by the Commission. To be assured of consideration by the Commission, written statements in connection with the interim letter should be submitted to the Commission at the earliest practical date and should be received no later than the close of business on March 7, 2001. Regarding the first annual report, in lieu of or in addition to participating in the above-referenced hearing, interested parties are invited to submit written statements (original and 14 copies) concerning the matters to be addressed by the Commission by no later than the close of business on June 7, 2001.

Commercial or financial information that a person desires the Commission to treat as confidential must be submitted on separate sheets of paper, each marked "Confidential Business Information" at the top. All submissions requesting confidential treatment must conform with the requirements of section 201.6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 201.6). The Commission's Rules do not authorize filing of submissions with the Secretary by facsimile or electronic means. All written submissions, except for confidential business information, will be made available in the Office of the Secretary of the Commission for inspection by interested parties. The Commission may include confidential business information submitted in the course of this investigation in its reports to the USTR. In the public version of these reports, however, the Commission will not publish confidential business information in a manner that would reveal the individual operations of the firm supplying the information. All submissions should be addressed to the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

List of Subjects

Tariffs, imports, wool, fabric, and suits.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: February 13, 2001.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Under the Clean Air Act

Notice is hereby given that on February 8, 2001, a proposed consent decree in *United States v. Forsch Polymer Corporation*, Civil Action No. 00-N-919, was lodged with the United States District Court for the District of Colorado.

In this action, the United States sought injunctive relief and the payment of civil penalties for Forsch Polymer's alleged violations of the Stratospheric Ozone Protection Requirements set forth at Subchapter VI of the Clean Air Act, and EPA's implementing regulations. Under the proposed decree, the defendant Forsch Polymer Corporation will pay the sum of \$32,000 over a one year period. The settlement sum is based upon the financial inability of Forsch Polymer Corporation to pay more. The proposed decree does not require that Forsch Polymer Corporation take any injunctive measures because Forsch Polymer Corporation has certified that it no longer uses the ozone depleting substance that formed the basis of the United States' action.

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 of the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530, and should refer to *United States v. Forsch Polymer Corporation*, D.J. Ref. 90-5-2-1-06428.

The proposed consent decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney, 1225 17th Street, Suite 700, Denver, CO 80202; and at U.S. EPA Region VIII, 999 18th Street, Denver, Colorado 80202. A copy of the proposed consent decree may be obtained by mail from the Consent Decree Library, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044. In requesting a copy, please enclose a check in the amount of \$3.25 (25 cents per page reproduction cost) payable to the Consent Decree Library.

Robert D. Brook,

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

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