

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janis Kalnins or Mino Hatten, AD/CVD Operations, Office 5, Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-1392, or (202) 482-1690, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On November 1, 2005, we published the final determination of sales at less than fair value of superalloy degassed chromium from Japan. See *Notice of Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Superalloy Degassed Chromium from Japan*, 70 FR 65886 (November 1, 2005). On December 16, 2005, the International Trade Commission (ITC) notified the Department of Commerce (the Department) of its final determination pursuant to section 735(d) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), that an industry in the United States is materially injured within the meaning of section 735(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Act by reason of less-than-fair-value imports of superalloy degassed chromium from Japan. See letter from the ITC to the Secretary of Commerce, Notification of Final Affirmative Determination of Superalloy Degassed Chromium from Japan (Investigation No. 731-TA-1090 (Final)), dated December 16, 2005. Pursuant to section 736(a) of the Act, the Department is publishing an antidumping duty order on the subject merchandise.

Scope of Order

The product covered by this order is all forms, sizes, and grades of superalloy degassed chromium from Japan. Superalloy degassed chromium is a high-purity form of chrome metal that generally contains at least 99.5 percent, but less than 99.95 percent, chromium. Superalloy degassed chromium contains very low levels of certain gaseous elements and other impurities (typically no more than 0.005 percent nitrogen, 0.005 percent sulphur, 0.05 percent oxygen, 0.01 percent aluminum, 0.05 percent silicon, and 0.35 percent iron). Superalloy degassed chromium is generally sold in briquetted form, as "pellets" or "compacts," which typically are 1½ inches x 1 inch x 1 inch or smaller in size and have a smooth surface. Superalloy degassed chromium is currently classifiable under subheading 8112.21.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). This order covers all chromium meeting the above specifications for superalloy degassed

chromium regardless of tariff classification.

Certain higher-purity and lower-purity chromium products are excluded from the scope of this order. Specifically, the order does not cover electronics-grade chromium, which contains a higher percentage of chromium (typically not less than 99.95 percent), a much lower level of iron (less than 0.05 percent), and lower levels of other impurities than superalloy degassed chromium. The order also does not cover "vacuum melt grade" (VMG) chromium, which normally contains at least 99.4 percent chromium and contains a higher level of one or more impurities (nitrogen, sulphur, oxygen, aluminum and/or silicon) than specified above for superalloy degassed chromium.

Although the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of this order is dispositive.

Antidumping Duty Order

In accordance with section 736(a)(1) of the Act, the Department will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to assess, upon further instruction by the Department, antidumping duties equal to the amount by which the normal value of the merchandise exceeds the export price (or the constructed export price) of the merchandise for all relevant entries of superalloy degassed chromium from Japan. These antidumping duties will be assessed on (1) all entries of superalloy degassed chromium from Japan entered, or withdrawn from the warehouse, for consumption on or after August 18, 2005, the date on which the Department published its *Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Superalloy Degassed Chromium from Japan*, 70 FR 48538 (August 18, 2005), and before December 16, 2005, the date on which the Department is required, pursuant to section 733(d) of the Act, to terminate the suspension of liquidation, and (2) on all subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of the ITC's notice of final determination in the **Federal Register**. Entries of superalloy degassed chromium from Japan made between December 16, 2005, and the day preceding the date of publication of the ITC's notice of final determination in the **Federal Register** are not liable for the assessment of antidumping duties.

On and after the date of publication of the ITC's notice of final determination in the **Federal Register**, CBP will require, at the same time as

importers would normally deposit estimated duties on this merchandise, cash deposits for the subject merchandise equal to the estimated weighted-average antidumping margins listed below. The all-others rate applies to all entries of the subject merchandise except for entries from the company that is identified below.

| Manufacturer or exporter | Weighted-average margin (percent) |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| JFE Material Co., Ltd. .. | 129.32 |
| All Others | 129.32 |

This notice constitutes the antidumping duty order with respect to superalloy degassed chromium from Japan, pursuant to section 736(a) of the Act. Interested parties may contact the Department's Central Records Unit, Room B-099 of the main Commerce building, for copies of an updated list of antidumping duty orders currently in effect.

This order is issued and published in accordance with section 736(a) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.211(b).

Dated: December 16, 2005.

Stephen J. Claeys,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. E5-7700 Filed 12-21-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120505C]

Large Coastal Shark 2005/2006 Stock Assessment Workshop

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; public workshop.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the time and location for the large coastal shark (LCS) stock assessment workshop, the second of three workshops for the LCS stock assessment to be conducted in 2005/2006.

DATES: The Assessment workshop will start at 1 p.m. on Monday, February 6, 2006, and will conclude at 1 p.m. on Friday, February 10, 2006.

ADDRESSES: The Assessment workshop will be held at the Doubletree Hotel Coconut Grove, 2649 South Bayshore Drive, Miami, FL 33133.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie Neer at (850) 234-6541; or Karyl

Brewster-Geisz at (301) 713-2347, fax (301) 713-1917.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Atlantic shark fisheries are managed under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS FMP) is implemented by regulations at 50 CFR part 635.

Stock assessments are periodically conducted to determine stock status relative to current management criteria. Collection of the best available scientific data and conducting stock assessments are critical to determine appropriate management measures for rebuilding stocks. Based on the last LCS stock assessment in 2002, NMFS determined that the LCS complex is overfished and overfishing is occurring. LCS are currently under a 26-year rebuilding plan. Potential changes to existing management measures will be based, in large part, on the results of this 2005/2006 stock assessment.

This assessment will be conducted in a manner similar to the Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR) process. SEDAR is a cooperative process initiated in 2002 to improve the quality and reliability of fishery stock assessments in the South Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and U.S. Caribbean. SEDAR emphasizes constituent and stakeholder participation in assessment development, transparency in the assessment process, and a rigorous and independent scientific review of completed stock assessments. SEDAR is organized around three workshops. The first is a Data workshop where datasets are documented, analyzed, reviewed, and compiled for conducting assessment analyses. This workshop was held from October 31 through November 4, 2005, in Panama City, Florida. The second is an Assessment workshop where quantitative population analyses are developed and refined and population parameters are estimated. The third and final is a Review workshop where a panel of independent experts reviews the data and assessment and recommends the most appropriate values of critical population and management quantities. All workshops are open to the public. More information on the SEDAR process can be found at <http://www.sefsc.noaa.gov/sedar/>.

NMFS announces the Assessment workshop, the second of three workshops for the LCS 2005/2006 stock assessment, which will be held from February 6 - February 10, 2006, at the Doubletree Hotel Coconut Grove,

Miami, FL (see **DATES** and **ADDRESSES**). Prospective participants and observers will be contacted with the Assessment workshop details. This workshop is open to the public. Persons interested in participating or observing the Assessment workshop should contact Julie Neer (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**). The final workshop, the Review workshop, will be announced at a later date in the **Federal Register**.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Julie Neer at (850) 234-6541 by January 30, 2006.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*

Dated: December 16, 2005.

Emily Menashes,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E5-7697 Filed 12-21-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Rules for Patent Maintenance Fees

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the revision of a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 21, 2006.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *E-mail:* Susan.Brown@uspto.gov.

Include "0651-0016 comment" in the subject line of the message.

- *Fax:* 571-273-0112, marked to the attention of Susan Brown.

- *Mail:* Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Office of Data Architecture and Services, Data Administration Division, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Robert J. Spar, Director, Office of Patent Legal

Administration, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by telephone at 571-272-7700; or by e-mail at Bob.Spar@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Under 35 U.S.C. 41 and 37 CFR 1.20(e)-(i) and 1.362-1.378, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) charges fees for maintaining in force all utility patents based on applications filed on or after December 12, 1980. Payment of these maintenance fees is due at 3½, 7½, and 11½ years after the date the patent was granted. If the USPTO does not receive payment of the appropriate maintenance fee and any applicable surcharge within a grace period of six months following each of the above due dates (at 4, 8, or 12 years after the date of grant), the patent will expire at that time as set forth in 37 CFR 1.362(g). After a patent expires, it is no longer enforceable. Maintenance fees are not required for design or plant patents, or for reissue patents if the patent being reissued did not require maintenance fees.

Payments of maintenance fees that are submitted during the six-month grace period must include the appropriate surcharge as indicated by 37 CFR 1.20(h). Submissions of maintenance fee payments and surcharges must include the relevant patent number and the corresponding United States application number in order to identify the correct patent and ensure proper crediting of the fee being paid.

If the USPTO refuses to accept and record a maintenance fee payment that was submitted prior to the expiration of a patent, the patentee may petition the Director under 37 CFR 1.377 to accept and record the maintenance fee. This petition must be accompanied by the fee indicated in 37 CFR 1.17(g), which may be refunded if it is determined that the refusal to accept the maintenance fee was due to an error by the USPTO.

If a patent has expired due to nonpayment of a maintenance fee, the patentee may petition the Director to accept a delayed payment of the maintenance fee under 35 U.S.C. 41(c) and 37 CFR 1.378. The Director may accept the payment of a maintenance fee after the expiration of the patent if the petitioner shows to the satisfaction of the Director that the delay in payment was unavoidable or unintentional. Petitions to accept unavoidably or unintentionally delayed payment must also be accompanied by the required maintenance fee and appropriate surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(i). If the Director accepts the maintenance fee