This notice constitutes the countervailing duty order with respect to wind towers from the PRC pursuant to section 706(a) of the Act. This order is published in accordance with section 706 (a) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.211(b).

Paul Piquado,
Assistant Secretary
for Import Administration.

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BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration
[C–580–869]

Large Residential Washers From the Republic of Korea: Countervailing Duty Order

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: Based on affirmative final determinations by the Department of Commerce (the Department) and the International Trade Commission (the ITC), the Department is issuing a countervailing duty order on large residential washers (washers) from the Republic of Korea (Korea).

DATES: Effective Date: February 15, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Justin M. Neuman, AD/CVD Operations, Office 6, Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 7866, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–0486.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Case History

In accordance with section 705(d) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), on December 26, 2012, the Department published its final determination in the countervailing duty investigation of washers from Korea. On February 8, 2013, the ITC notified the Department of its affirmative determination that an industry in the United States is materially injured within the meaning of section 705(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Act by reason of subsidized imports of washers from Korea.2

Scope of the Order

The products covered by this order are all large residential washers and certain subassemblies thereof from Korea.

For purposes of this order, the term “large residential washers” denotes all automatic clothes washing machines, regardless of the orientation of the rotational axis, except as noted below, with a cabinet width (measured from its widest point) of at least 24.5 inches (62.23 cm) and no more than 32.0 inches (81.28 cm).

Also covered are certain subassemblies used in large residential washers, namely: (1) all assembled cabinets designed for use in large residential washers which incorporate, at a minimum: (a) at least three of the six cabinet surfaces; and (b) a bracket; (2) all assembled tubs3 designed for use in large residential washers which incorporate, at a minimum: (a) a tub; and (b) a seal; (3) all assembled baskets4 designed for use in large residential washers which incorporate, at a minimum: (a) a side wrapper;5 (b) a base; and (c) a drive hub;6 and (4) any combination of the foregoing subassemblies.

Excluded from the scope are stacked washer-dryers and commercial washers. The term “stacked washer-dryers” denotes distinct washing and drying machines that are built on a unitary frame and share a common console that controls both the washer and the dryer. The term “commercial washer” denotes an automatic clothes washing machine designed for the “pay per use” market meeting either of the following two definitions:

(1)[a] It contains payment system electronics;7 (b) it is configured with an externally mounted steel frame at least six inches high that is designed to house a coin/token operated payment system (whether or not the actual coin/token operated payment system is installed at the time of importation); (c) it contains a push button user interface with a maximum of six manually selectable wash cycle settings, with no ability of the end user to otherwise modify water temperature, water level, or spin speed for a selected wash cycle setting; and (d) the console containing the user interface is made of steel and is assembled with security fasteners;8 or

(2)[a] It contains payment system electronics; (b) the payment system electronics are enabled (whether or not the payment acceptance device has been installed at the time of importation) such that, in normal operation,9 the unit cannot begin a wash cycle without first receiving a signal from a bona fide payment acceptance device such as an electronic credit card reader; (c) it contains a push button user interface with a maximum of six manually selectable wash cycle settings, with no ability of the end user to otherwise modify water temperature, water level, or spin speed for a selected wash cycle setting; and (d) the console containing the user interface is made of steel and is assembled with security fasteners.

Also excluded from the scope are automatic clothes washing machines with a vertical rotational axis and a rated capacity of less than 3.70 cubic feet.

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1 See Large Residential Washers from the Republic of Korea: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, 77 FR 75975 (December 26, 2012) (Final Determination).
3 A “tub” is the part of the washer designed to hold water.
4 A “basket” (sometimes referred to as a “drum”) is the part of the washer designed to hold clothing or other fabrics.
5 A “side wrapper” is the cylindrical part of the basket that actually holds the clothing or other fabrics.
6 A “drive hub” is the hub at the center of the base that bears the load from the motor.
7 “Payment system electronics” denotes a circuit board designed to receive signals from a payment acceptance device and to display payment amount, selected settings, and cycle status. Such electronics also capture cycles and payment history and provide for transmission to a reader.
8 A “security fastener” is a screw with a non-standard head that requires a non-standard driver. Examples include those with a pin in the center of the head as a “center pin reject” feature to prevent standard Allen wrenches or Torx drivers from working.
9 “Normal operation” refers to the operating mode(s) available to end users (i.e., not a mode designed for testing or repair by a technician).
foot, as certified to the U.S. Department of Energy pursuant to 10 CFR 429.12 and 10 CFR 429.20, and in accordance with the test procedures established in 10 CFR part 430.

The products subject to this order are currently classifiable under subheading 8450.20.0090 of the Harmonized Tariff System of the United States (HTSUS). Products subject to this order may also enter under HTSUS subheadings 8450.11.0040, 8450.11.0080, 8450.90.2000, and 8450.90.6000. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise subject to this scope is dispositive.

Countervailing Duty Order

As stated above, on February 8, 2013, in accordance with section 705(b)(1)(A)(ii) of the Act, the ITC notified the Department of its final determination in this investigation, in which it found material injury with respect to washers from Korea. Therefore, in accordance with section 706(a) of the Act, the Department will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to assess, upon further instruction by the Department, countervailing duties equal to the amounts listed below for all relevant entries of washers from Korea. These countervailing duties will be assessed on unliquidated entries of washers from Korea entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after June 5, 2012, the date of publication of the preliminary determination, and before October 3, 2012, the date on which the Department instructed CBP to discontinue the suspension of liquidation in accordance with section 703(d) of the Act. Section 703(d) of the Act states that the suspension of liquidation pursuant to a preliminary determination may not remain in effect for more than four months. Entries of washing machines from Korea made on or after October 3, 2012, and prior to the date of publication of the ITC’s final determination in the Federal Register are not liable for the assessment of countervailing duties, due to the Department’s discontinuation, effective October 3, 2012, of the suspension of liquidation.

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 706 of the Act, we will direct CBP to reinstate the suspension of liquidation on all relevant entries of washers from Korea. We will also instruct CBP to require cash deposits equal to the amounts indicated below. These instructions suspending liquidation will remain in effect until further notice. Accordingly, effectively the date of publication of the ITC’s final affirmative injury determination, CBP will require, at the same time as importers would normally deposit estimated duties on this subject merchandise, cash deposits equal to the amounts indicated below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Subsidy rate (percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daewoo Electronics Corporation</td>
<td>72.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-Others Rate</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This notice constitutes the countervailing duty order with respect to washers from Korea pursuant to section 706(a) of the Act. Interested parties can find an updated list of countervailing duty orders currently in effect at http://ia.ita.doc.gov/stats/iastats1.html.

This countervailing duty order is issued and published in accordance with sections 705(c)(2) and 706 of the Act, and section 351.211 of the Department’s regulations.

Dated: February 8, 2013.

Paul Piquado,
Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Advisory Committee on Supply Chain Competitiveness: Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed topics of discussion for a public meeting of the Advisory Committee on Supply Chain Competitiveness (Committee).

DATES: The meeting will be held on March 12, 2013, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time (EST).

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Ave NW, Room 6029, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Boll, Office of Service Industries, International Trade Administration. (Phone: (202) 482–1135 or Email: richard.boll@trade.gov)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The Committee was established under the discretionary authority of the Secretary of Commerce and in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2). It provides advice to the Secretary of Commerce on the necessary elements of a comprehensive, holistic national freight infrastructure and a national freight policy designed to support U.S. export and growth competitiveness, foster national economic competitiveness, and improve U.S. supply chain competitiveness in the domestic and global economy. For more information about the Committee visit: http://ita.doc.gov/td/sif/DSCT/ACSCC/.

Matters to Be Considered: Committee members are expected to discuss the major competitiveness-related topics raised at the previous Committee meeting, including trade and competitiveness; freight movement and policy; information technology and data requirements; regulatory issues; and finance and infrastructure. The Committee’s subcommittees will report on the status of their work regarding these topics. The agenda may change to accommodate Committee business. The Office of Service Industries will post the final detailed agenda on its web site, http://ita.doc.gov/td/sif/DSCT/ACSCC/, at least one week prior to the meeting.

The meeting will be open to the public and press on a first-come, first-served basis. Space is limited. The public meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals requiring accommodations, such as sign language interpretation or other ancillary aids, are asked to notify Mr. Richard Boll, at (202) 482–1135 or richard.boll@trade.gov five (5) business days before the meeting.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the Committee at any time before and after the meeting. Parties wishing to submit written comments for consideration by the Committee in advance of this meeting must send them to the Office of Service Industries (OSI), 1401 Constitution Ave NW., Room 11014,