

accordance with the procedures described above.

Notification to Interested Parties

This notice constitutes the countervailing duty order with respect to brass rod from India pursuant to section 706(a) of the Act. Interested parties can find a list of duty orders currently in effect at <https://enforcement.trade.gov/stats/iastats1.html>.

This CVD order is published in accordance with section 706(a) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.211(b).

Dated: February 5, 2024.

Ryan Majerus

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix

Scope of the Order

The merchandise covered by this order are brass rod and bar (brass rod), which is defined as leaded, low-lead, and no-lead solid brass made from alloys such as, but not limited to the following alloys classified under the Unified Numbering System (UNS) as C27450, C27451, C27460, C34500, C35000, C35300, C35330, C36000, C36300, C37000, C37700, C48500, C67300, C67600, and C69300, and their international equivalents.

The brass rod subject to this order has an actual cross-section or outside diameter greater than 0.25 inches but less than or equal to 12 inches. Brass rod cross-sections may be round, hexagonal, square, or octagonal shapes as well as special profiles (e.g., angles, shapes), including hollow profiles.

Standard leaded brass rod covered by the scope contains, by weight, 57.0–65.0 percent copper; 0.5–3.0 percent lead; no more than 1.3 percent iron; and at least 15 percent zinc. No-lead or low-lead brass rod covered by the scope contains by weight 59.0–76.0 percent copper; 0–1.5 percent lead; no more than 0.35 percent iron; and at least 15 percent zinc. Brass rod may also include other chemical elements (e.g., nickel, phosphorous, silicon, tin, etc.).

Brass rod may be in straight lengths or coils. Brass rod covered by this order may be finished or unfinished, and may or may not be heated, extruded, pickled, or cold-drawn. Brass rod may be produced in accordance with ASTM B16, ASTM B124, ASTM B981, ASTM B371, ASTM B453, ASTM B21, ASTM B138, and ASTM B927, but such conformity to an ASTM standard is not required for the merchandise to be included within the scope.

Excluded from the scope of this order is brass ingot, which is a casting of unwrought metal unsuitable for conversion into brass rod without remelting, that contains, by weight, at least 57.0 percent copper and 15.0 percent zinc.

The merchandise covered by this order is currently classifiable under subheadings 7407.21.9000, 7407.21.7000, and 7407.21.1500 of the Harmonized Tariff

Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Products subject to the scope may also enter under HTSUS subheadings 7403.21.0000, 7407.21.3000, and 7407.21.5000. The HTSUS subheadings and UNS alloy designations are provided for convenience and customs purposes. The written description of the scope of the order is dispositive.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C–570–041]

Truck and Bus Tires From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review and Rescission of Review in Part, 2022

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that countervailable subsidies were provided to producers and exporters of truck and bus tires from the People's Republic of China (China), during the period of review (POR) from January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. In addition, Commerce is rescinding the review, in part, with respect to 15 companies. Interested parties are invited to comment on these preliminary results.

DATES: Applicable February 13, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ted Pearson, AD/CVD Operations, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–2631.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On February 15, 2019, Commerce published in the *Federal Register* the countervailing duty order on truck and bus tires from China.¹ On February 2, 2023, Commerce published in the *Federal Register* the notice of initiation of an administrative review of the *Order*.² On May 19, 2022, Commerce selected Qingdao Ge Rui Da Rubber Co., Ltd. and Bridgestone (Shenyang) Tire Co., Ltd. (Bridgestone Shenyang) for individual examination as the

¹ See *Truck and Bus Tires from the People's Republic of China: Amended Final Determination and Countervailing Duty Order*, 84 FR 4434 (February 15, 2019) (*Order*).

² See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews*, 88 FR 21609 (April 11, 2023).

mandatory respondents in this administrative review.³ On June 12, 2023, Bridgestone Corporation, Bridgestone Tire Co. Ltd. (Bridgestone Tire), and Bridgestone Shenyang (collectively, Bridgestone Companies) withdrew their request for administrative review.⁴ On June 20, 2023, we selected Jiangsu Hankook Tire Co., Ltd. (Jiangsu Hankook) for individual examination.⁵ On July 3, 2023, Jiangsu Hankook withdrew its request for review.⁶ On September 8, 2023, we selected Jiangsu General Science Technology Co., Ltd. (General Science) for individual examination and requested that the GOC forward the initial questionnaire.⁷ On September 29, 2023, Commerce extended the deadline for the preliminary results of review by 100 days, until February 8, 2024.⁸

For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this review, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.⁹ A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix I to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <http://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>.

Scope of the Order

The products covered by the *Order* are truck and bus tires. For a complete description of the scope of the *Order*, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.¹⁰

³ See Memorandum, “Respondent Selection,” dated June 2, 2023.

⁴ See Bridgestone Companies' Letter, “Withdrawal of Request for Administrative Review,” dated June 12, 2023.

⁵ See Memorandum, “Second Respondent Selection,” dated June 20, 2023.

⁶ See Jiangsu Hankook's Letter, “Withdrawal of Request for Administrative Review,” dated July 3, 2023.

⁷ See Commerce's Letter, “Second Selection of Additional Mandatory Respondent,” dated September 8, 2023.

⁸ See Memorandum, “Extension of Deadline for Preliminary Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review: 2021,” dated September 29, 2023.

⁹ See Memorandum, “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review and Rescission of Review in Part; 2022: Truck and Bus Tires from the People's Republic of China,” dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

¹⁰ See Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this administrative review in accordance with section 751(a)(1)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). For each subsidy program found countervailable, we preliminarily find that there is a subsidy, (*i.e.*, a government-provided financial contribution that gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific).¹¹ For a full description of the methodology underlying our conclusions, including our reliance, in part, on adverse facts available pursuant to sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Rescission of Administrative Review, in Part

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1), Commerce will rescind an administrative review, in whole or in part, if the parties that requested a review withdraw the request within 90 days of the date of publication of the notice of initiation. Commerce received timely-filed withdrawal requests with respect to 15 companies, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1).¹² Because the withdrawal requests were timely filed, and no other parties requested a review of these companies, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1), Commerce is rescinding this review of the *Order* with respect to these 15 companies. For a complete list of companies, *see* Appendix II to this notice.

Preliminary Results of Review

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following net countervailable subsidy rates exist for the period January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022:

Manufacturer/exporter	Subsidy rate (percent <i>ad valorem</i>)
Jiangsu General Science Technology Co., Ltd	124.00
Qingdao Ge Rui Da Rubber Co., Ltd. ¹³	10.27

¹¹ *See* sections 771(5)(B) and (D) of the Act regarding financial contribution; section 771(5)(E) of the Act regarding benefit; and section 771(5A) of the Act regarding specificity.

¹² *See* Preliminary Decision Memorandum at “Partial Rescission of Administrative Review.”

¹³ As discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, Commerce has found the following companies to be cross-owned with Qingdao Ge Rui Da Tire Company: Cooper Tire (China) Investment Co. Ltd.; Cooper Tire Asia-Pacific (Shanghai) Trading Co., Ltd.; Qingdao Yiyuan Investment Co., Ltd.; Goodyear Dalian Tire Company Limited; and Goodyear Tire Management Company (Shanghai) Ltd.

Cash Deposit Requirements

In accordance with section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act, Commerce also intends upon publication of the final results, to instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to collect cash deposits of the estimated countervailing duties in the amounts calculated in the final results of this review for the respective companies listed above with regard to shipments of subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of the final results of this review. If the rate calculated in the final results is zero or *de minimis*, no cash deposit will be required on shipments of the subject merchandise entered or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of the final results of this review.

For all non-reviewed firms, CBP will continue to collect cash deposits of estimated countervailing duties at the all-others rate or the most recent company-specific rate applicable to the company, as appropriate. These cash deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

Assessment Rates

In accordance with section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.221(b)(4)(i), we preliminarily determined subsidy rates in the amounts shown above for the producers/exporters shown above. Upon completion of the administrative review, consistent with section 751(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.212(b)(2), Commerce shall determine, and CBP shall assess, countervailing duties on all appropriate entries covered by this review.

For the companies for which this review is rescinded with these preliminary results, we will instruct CBP to assess countervailing duties on all appropriate entries at a rate equal to the cash deposit of estimated countervailing duties required at the time of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, during the period January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(c)(1)(i). For the companies remaining in the review, we intend to issue assessment instructions to CBP no earlier than 35 days after the date of publication of the final results of this review in the **Federal Register**.

If a timely summons is filed at the U.S. Court of International Trade, the assessment instructions will direct CBP not to liquidate relevant entries until the time for parties to file a request for a

statutory injunction has expired (*i.e.*, within 90 days of publication).

Verification

While we did not receive a request for verification, as provided in section 782(i)(3) of the Act, Commerce intends to verify the part of the information relied upon for its final results of review. Specifically, Commerce intends to verify usage of the export buyer’s credit program as discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.¹⁴ Commerce intends to notify parties of its verification procedures.

Disclosure and Public Comment

We will disclose to parties in this review, the calculations performed for these preliminary results within five days after the date of publication of this notice.¹⁵ Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance. Commerce will notify interested parties of the deadline for the submission of case briefs. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline date for case briefs unless otherwise modified by Commerce.¹⁶

As provided under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), in prior proceedings we have encouraged interested parties to provide an executive summary of their brief that should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In this review, we instead request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs.¹⁷ Further, we request that interested parties limit their executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final results in this administrative review. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the executive summary of each issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).¹⁸

¹⁴ *See* Preliminary Decision Memorandum at section “Application of FA and AFA: Export Buyer’s Credits.”

¹⁵ *See* 19 CFR 351.224(b).

¹⁶ *See* 19 CFR 351.309(d)(1).

¹⁷ We use the term “issue” here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

¹⁸ *See* 19 CFR 351.309(d); *see also* *Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in* Continued

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically-filed request must be received successfully, and in its entirety, by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Hearing requests should contain (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number, (2) the number of participants and whether any participant is a foreign national, and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, parties will be notified of the date and time for the hearing to be determined.

Unless extended, we intend to issue the final results of this administrative review, which will include the results of our analysis of the issues raised in the case briefs, within 120 days of publication of these preliminary results in the **Federal Register**, pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.213(h).

Notification to Interested Parties

These preliminary results and notice are issued and published in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.213 and 351.221(b)(4).

Dated: February 7, 2024.

Ryan Majerus,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the Non-exclusive Functions and Duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the Order
- IV. Partial Rescission of Administrative Review
- V. Diversification of China's Economy
- VI. Use of Faces Otherwise Available and Application of Adverse Inferences
- VII. Subsidies Valuation
- VIII. Interest Rate, Discount Rate, Input, Electricity, and Land Benchmarks
- IX. Analysis of Programs
- X. Recommendation

Appendix II—Companies Rescinded from Review

1. Bridgestone (Shenyang) Tire Co., Ltd.
2. Bridgestone Tire Co. Ltd.
3. Chongqing Hankook Tire Co., Ltd.
4. Jiangsu Hankook Tire Co., Ltd.
5. Prinx Chengshan (Shandong) Tire

Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings, 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023).

Company Ltd. and its cross-owned companies: Chengshan Group Co., Ltd.; Shanghai Chengzhan Information and Technology Center; Prinx Chengshan (Qingdao) Industrial Research & Design Co., Ltd.; Shandong Prinx Chengshan Tire Technology Research Co., Ltd.

6. Qingdao Fullrun Tyre Corp. Ltd.
7. Sailun Group (Hong Kong) Co., Limited
8. Sailun Group Co., Ltd.
9. Shandong Haohua Tire Co., Ltd.
10. Shandong Kaixuan Rubber Co., Ltd.
11. Shandong Linglong Tyre Co., Ltd.
12. Shandong Transtone Tyre Co., Ltd.
13. Sinotyre International Group Co., Ltd.
14. Triangle Tyre Co., Ltd.
15. Weifang Shunfuchang Rubber and Plastic Products Co., Ltd.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-831-804]

Aluminum Foil From the Republic of Armenia: Initiation of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) is initiating a changed circumstances review (CCR) of the antidumping duty (AD) order on aluminum foil from the Republic of Armenia (Armenia) to examine whether Armenia remains a non-market economy (NME) country for purposes of the application of the AD law.

DATES: Applicable February 13, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leah Wils-Owens or Chien-Min Yang, Office of Policy, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4203 or (202) 482-5484, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On December 21, 2023, the Government of Armenia (GOA) submitted a letter to Commerce requesting that Commerce conduct a review of Armenia's status as an NME country¹ within the context of a changed circumstances review (CCR) of the AD order on aluminum foil from

¹ See GOA's Letter, "Request for the U.S. Department of Commerce to Initiate a Changed Circumstances Review of the Antidumping Duty Order on Aluminum Foil from the Republic of Armenia," dated December 21, 2023 (CCR Request).

Armenia.² In its CCR Request, the GOA describes changes that have occurred in Armenia in recent years as they relate to each of the statutory criteria Commerce uses to evaluate a country's market economy (ME) status. Specifically, the CCR Request provides information about the convertibility of the Armenian Dram, how wage rates in Armenia are determined by free bargaining between labor and management, and the extent to which joint ventures and other investments by firms from other countries are permitted in Armenia. The CCR Request also provides information on government ownership and control over the means of production and the allocation of resources in Armenia, as well as the government's influence over enterprises' price and output decisions. Finally, the GOA provided its views on other factors that could affect its ME status, including its persistent fight against government corruption and various reforms enacted in conjunction with its accession to the World Trade Organization.

Initiation of Changed Circumstances Review

Pursuant to section 751(b)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), when Commerce receives information concerning, or a request from an interested party for a review of, a final affirmative determination that resulted in an AD or countervailing duty order, which shows changed circumstances sufficient to warrant a review of such determination, Commerce shall conduct a review of the determination after publishing notice of the review in the **Federal Register**. Commerce finds that the GOA has provided sufficient evidence to initiate a review of Armenia's NME status. Therefore, in response to this request, Commerce is initiating this CCR to examine whether Armenia is still an NME country for purposes of the application of the AD law, pursuant to sections 751(b) and 771(18)(C)(ii) of the Act. Commerce has treated Armenia as an NME country in all past AD investigations and administrative reviews.³ An NME designation remains in effect until it is revoked by Commerce.⁴

² See *Certain Aluminum Foil from the Republic of Armenia: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value*, 86 FR 52882 (September 23, 2021) (*Foil from Armenia Final Determination*).

³ See, e.g., *Foil from Armenia Final Determination*.

⁴ See section 771(18)(C)(i) of the Act.