

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.

In the Matter of

**CERTAIN MACHINE VISION SYSTEMS,
PARTS AND COMPONENTS THEREOF
AND PRODUCTS CONTAINING SAME**

Inv. No. 337-TA-484

NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION

AGENCY: U.S. International Trade Commission

ACTION: Institution of investigation pursuant to 19 U.S.C. §1337

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a complaint was filed with the U.S. International Trade Commission on December 12, 2002, under section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. §1337, on behalf of Cognex Corporation of Natick, Massachusetts. Letters supplementing the complaint were filed on December 20, 2002, December 23, 2002, and December 31, 2002. The complaint, as supplemented, alleges violations of section 337 in the importation into the United States and the sale within the United States after importation of certain machine vision systems, parts and components thereof and products containing same by reason of infringement of claims 1 and 10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,301,396, claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,960,125, claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,521, or claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,080. The complaint further alleges that an industry in the United States exists as required by subsection (a)(2) of section 337.

The complainant requests that the Commission institute an investigation and, at the conclusion of the investigation, issue a permanent exclusion order and a permanent cease and desist order.

ADDRESSES: The complaint and supplements, except for any confidential information contained therein, are available for inspection during official business hours (8:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.) in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, S.W., Room 112, Washington, D.C. 20436, telephone 202-205-2000. Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained 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 concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server at <http://www.usitc.gov>.

The public record for this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS-ON-LINE) at <http://dockets.usitc.gov/eol/public>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Juan Cockburn, Esq., Office of Unfair Import Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, telephone 202-205-2572.

AUTHORITY: The authority for institution of this investigation is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, and in section 210.10 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 C.F.R. §210.10 (2002).

SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION: Having considered the complaint, the U.S. International Trade Commission, on January 7, 2003, ORDERED THAT –

(1) Pursuant to subsection (b) of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, an investigation be instituted to determine whether there is a violation of subsection (a)(1)(B) of section 337 in the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or the sale within the United States after importation of certain machine vision systems, parts or components thereof, or products containing same by reason of infringement of claims 1 or 10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,301,396, claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,960,125, claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,521, or claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,080, and whether an industry in the United States exists as required by subsection (a)(2) of section 337.

(2) For the purpose of the investigation so instituted, the following are hereby named as parties upon which this notice of investigation shall be served:

(a) The complainant is–

Cognex Corporation
One Vision Drive
Natick, Massachusetts 01760

(b) The respondents are the following companies alleged to be in violation of section 337, and are the parties upon which the complaint is to be served:

Nikon Corporation
Fuji Building, 2-3
Marunouchi 3-chome
Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-831, Japan

Nikon Precision, Inc.
1399 Shoreway Road
Belmont, CA 94002-4107

Aval Data Corporation
25-10, Asahi-Machi 1-chome
Machida City
Tokyo 194-0023, Japan

(c) Juan Cockburn, Esq., Office of Unfair Import Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, S.W., Suite 401, Washington, D.C. 20436, who shall be the Commission investigative attorney, party to this investigation; and

(3) For the investigation so instituted, the Honorable Delbert R. Terrill, Jr. is designated as the presiding administrative law judge.

Responses to the complaint and the notice of investigation must be submitted by the named respondents in accordance with section 210.13 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 C.F.R. §210.13. Pursuant to 19 C.F.R. §§201.16(d) and 210.13(a), such responses will be considered by the Commission if received no later than 20 days after the date of service by the Commission of the complaint and the notice of investigation. Extensions of time for submitting responses to the complaint will not be granted unless good cause therefor is shown.

Failure of a respondent to file a timely response to each allegation in the complaint and in this notice may be deemed to constitute a waiver of the right to appear and contest the allegations of the complaint and to authorize the administrative law judge and the Commission, without further notice to that respondent, to find the facts to be as alleged in the complaint and this notice and to enter both an initial determination and a final determination containing such findings, and may result in the issuance of a limited exclusion order or a cease and desist order or both directed against that respondent.

By order of the Commission.

Marilyn R. Abbott
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: January 8, 2003