

## Frozen Warmwater Shrimp from Brazil, China, India, Thailand, and Vietnam

Testimony in Support of the Antidumping Orders

March 16, 2017



## **Overview**

## 1) Cumulation

- 2) Conditions of Competition
- 3) Volume
- 4) Price
- 5) Injury



## 1) Cumulation

## Discernible Adverse Impact

### Reasonable Overlap

- Fungible
- Same Channels
- Same Regions
- Same Periods

## Other Conditions of Competition



## 1) Cumulation

- Imports from Brazil will have more than a discernible adverse impact if the order is revoked
  - Imports from Brazil more than doubled from 2001 to 2003, and have retreated from the U.S. market since the order was imposed
  - In 2015, Brazil had more than 100 million pounds of excess capacity, enough to more than double 2003 imports of 48 million pounds
  - Brazil's aquaculture production is projected to rise by more than 20 million pounds from 2016 to 2018
  - The Brazilian home market is plagued by the worst recession in more than 20 years

## 1) Cumulation

### Imports from Brazil will have more than a discernible adverse impact if the order is revoked

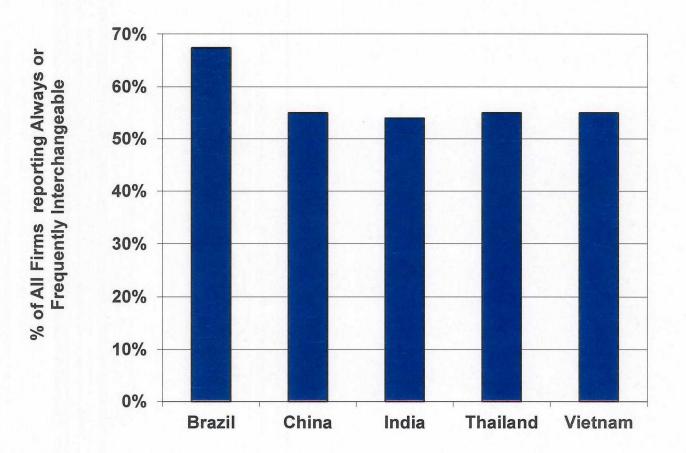
- 2013: Shrimp producers in Rio Grande de Norte to export 50% of production in coming year
- 2013 & 2014: Brazilian shrimp producers start to test international markets
- 2014: Brazil loses its EU Generalized Scheme of Preferences status, resulting in less favorable export conditions in that market.
- Interim 2016: Responding Brazilian producers report reducing home market shipments and increasing exports by similar amounts
- Nov. 2016: Agriculture minister says Brazil needs to increase its shrimp exports
- Mar. 2017 Boston Seafood Expo: 15 Brazilian seafood producers listed as exhibitors, at least 6 of which produce shrimp



- Consumption rose 15.4% from 2013 to 2015 and is projected to continue increasing
- Supply is plentiful, and projected to increase
- Landings have increased after the 2010 Gulf Oil Spill and rose from 2013 to 2015
- Subject imports and the domestic like product are substitutable
- Price is an important factor in the marketplace

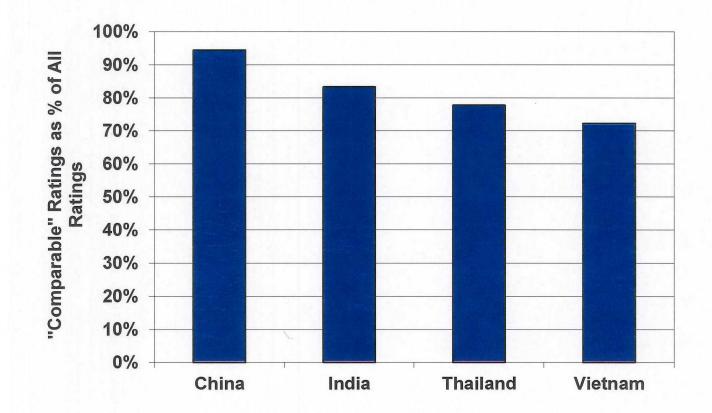


### **Domestic and subject product are interchangeable**



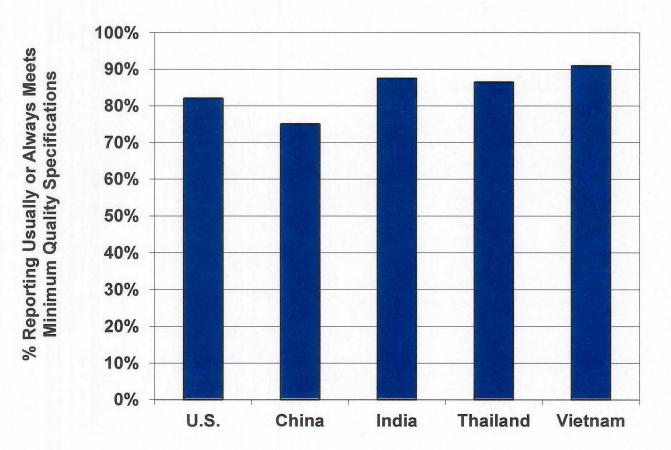


Domestic and subject product are comparable across 18 purchasing factors





# Domestic and subject product usually or always meet minimum quality specifications



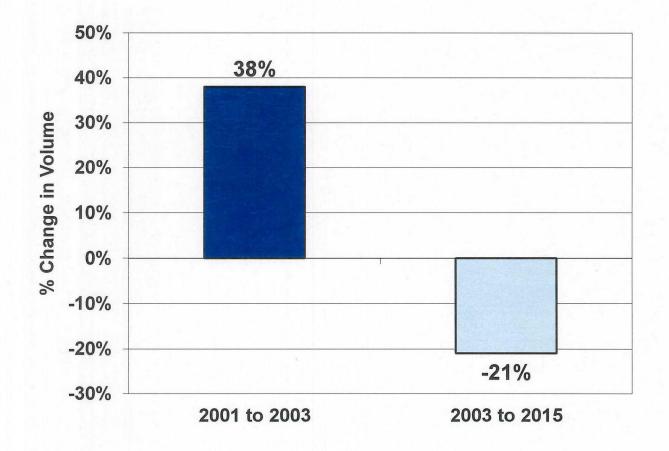




- Competition Is Based on Price
  - Majority spot & short-term contract sales
  - Frequent purchases
  - Purchasers contact multiple suppliers
  - More than 70% of purchasers buy both farmed and wild-caught shrimp
  - Price is the second most frequently cited top purchasing factor
  - 81% of purchasers report that price is a "very important" purchasing factor



### The orders have disciplined the volume of subject imports

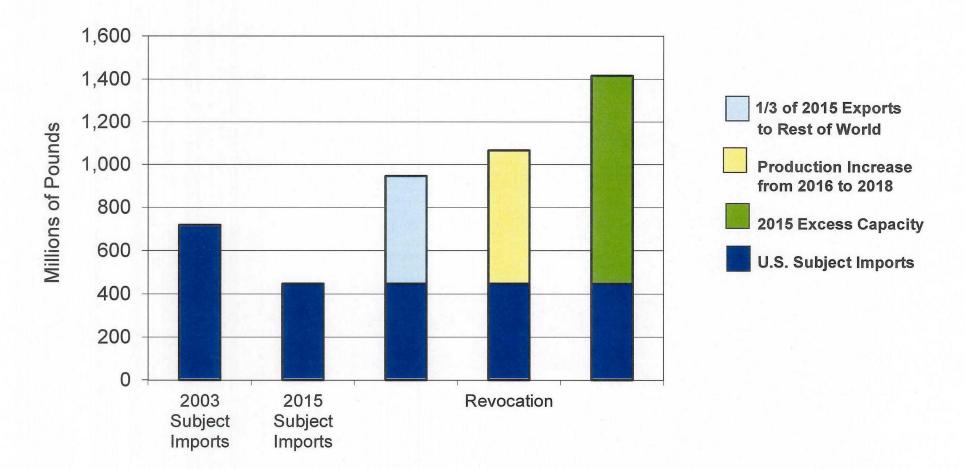


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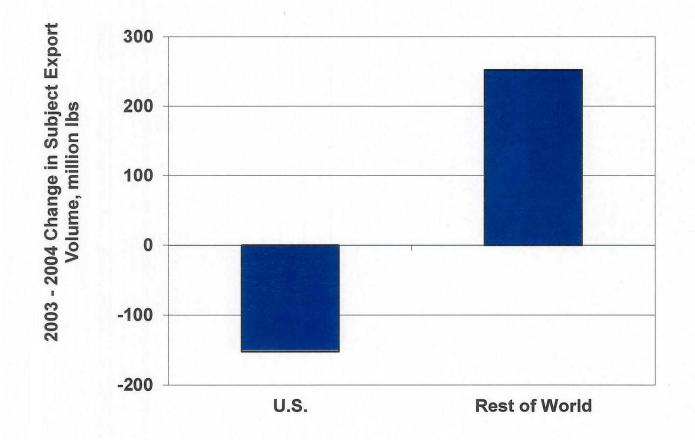
## Production Is Increasing in the Subject Countries

- Subject countries have the ability to utilize their substantial excess processing capacity to increase production
- Subject countries have invested in technological or biological methods to increase the efficiency of farmed production, often aided by government support
  - Subject countries have transferred production from black tiger shrimp to the more efficient whiteleg (vannamei) shrimp
  - Thai shrimp producers are reclaiming abandoned mangroves for shrimp production
  - Overall farmed shrimp production in the five countries more than doubled from 2003 to 2015
- Production is projected to increase by 619 million pounds from 2016 to 2018

### Excess Capacity, Production Growth, and Diversion Will Fuel Rising Import Volumes



Subject Producers Have Demonstrated their Ability to Shift Export Volumes

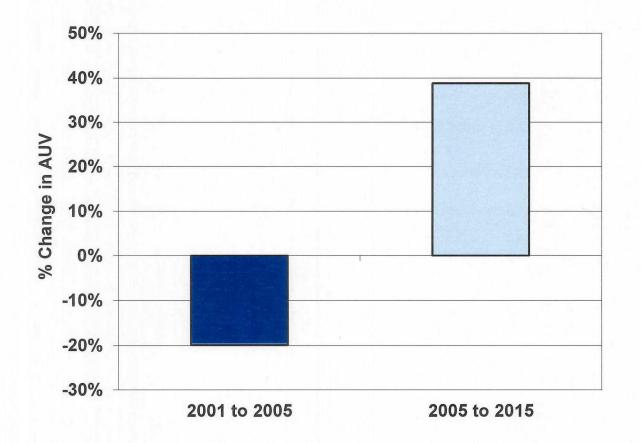


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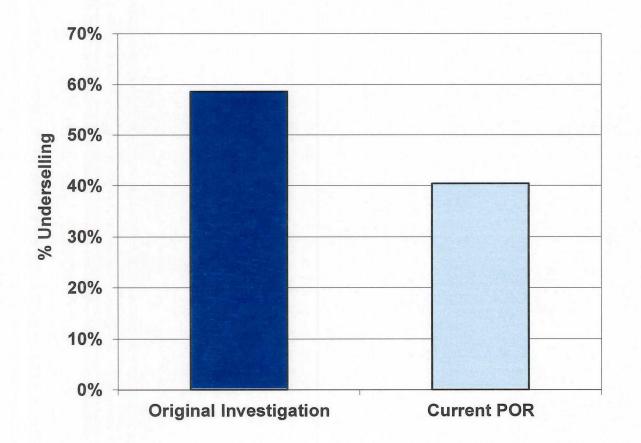
## The U.S. Is a Highly Attractive Market

- Subject imports have maintained a significant presence despite the orders
- Demand in the U.S. is projected to increase more rapidly than in other major markets
  - U.S.: In 2017, shrimp is projected to be "prime for growth," as Americans are eating more seafood per capita
  - E.U.: In general, shrimp demand in the EU was "dormant" in 2015, and private consumption growth in the EU is expected to slow in 2017 and 2018
  - Japan: Import demand for raw shrimp has been on a long-term downward trend
- U.S. health and safety standards for imported shrimp are more lax than those of other major markets
- Prices in the U.S. market are generally higher than in other countries
  - A strong dollar will continue to make the U.S. market attractive in the imminent future

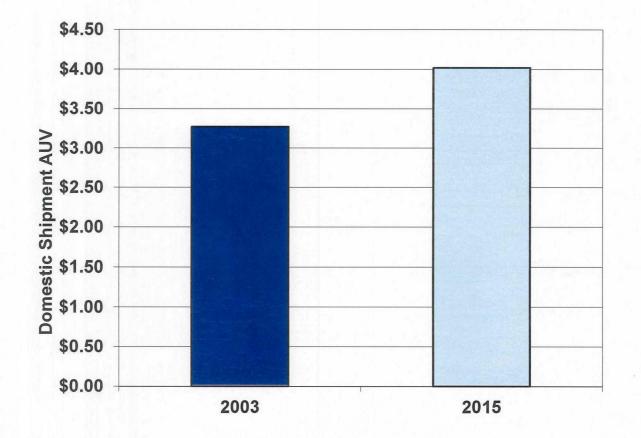
### Import AUVs Rose



### **Underselling Declined**



### **Domestic Prices Improved**

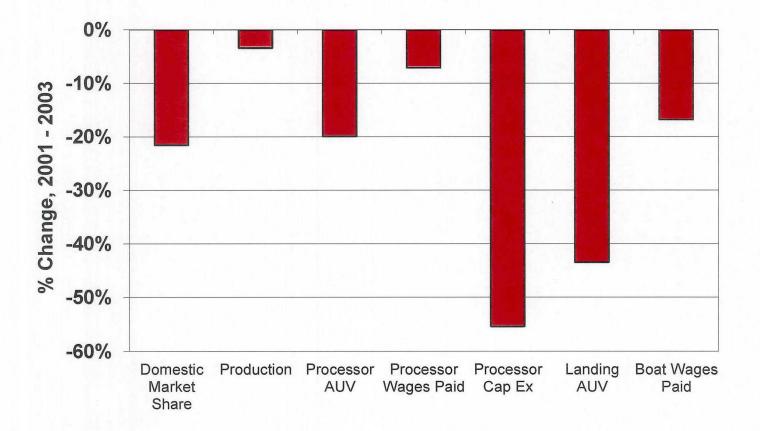


- If the Orders Are Revoked, Imports Will Have Adverse Price Effects
  - Underselling will increase in frequency and intensity, allowing subject imports to gain market share at the expense of the domestic industry
  - There will be no floor on import prices, allowing imports to once again depress domestic prices
  - Imports are also likely to suppress domestic prices, as fishermen and processors will be unable to pass along fuel costs that are projected to increase in 2017 and 2018



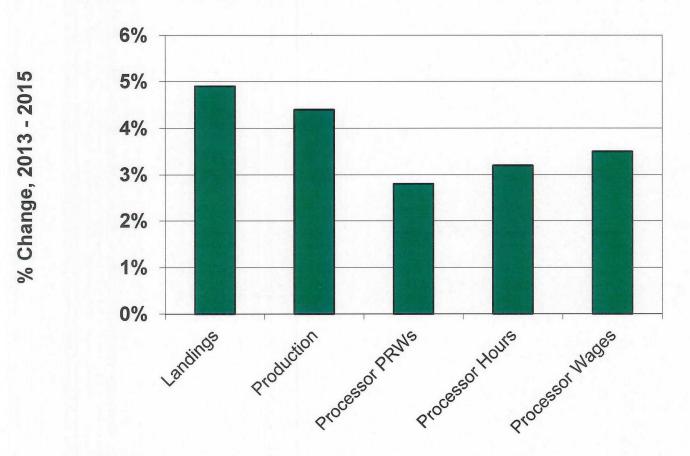
## 5) Injury

### **Domestic Industry Saw Major Declines in Original Investigation**



## 5) Injury

### **Domestic Industry Indicators Improved in Period of Review**



## 5) Injury

- The Industry Is Vulnerable to Continued or Renewed Injury if the Orders Are Revoked
  - Processors' operating income margins, while higher than in most of the original investigation period, remain extremely low
  - While fishermen's operating income margins have improved, they have benefitted from a period of extremely low fuel costs that has already ended
  - The processing industry continues to have large amounts of unused capacity
  - If imports increase and prices fall, the domestic industry will suffer the same injury seen in the original investigation

