

December 13, 2013

News Release 13-125

Inv. Nos. 701-TA-509 and 731-TA-1244 (P)

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USITC VOTES TO CONTINUE CASES ON 1,1,1,2-TETRAFLUOROETHANE FROM CHINA

The United States International Trade Commission (USITC) today determined that there is a reasonable indication that a U.S. industry is materially injured by reason of imports of 1,1,1,2- Tetrafluoroethane from China that are allegedly subsidized and sold in the United States at less than fair value.

All six Commissioners voted in the affirmative.

As a result of the Commission's affirmative determinations, the U.S. Department of Commerce will continue to conduct its investigations on imports of these products, with its preliminary countervailing duty order due on or about January 15, 2014, and its preliminary antidumping duty order due on or about March 31, 2014.

The Commission's public report *1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane from China* (Inv. Nos. 701-TA-509 and 731-TA-1244 (Preliminary), USITC Publication 4444, December 2013) will contain the views of the Commission and information developed during the investigations.

Copies of the report are expected to be available after January 3, 2014, by emailing pubrequest@usitc.gov, calling 202-205-2000, or writing to the Office of the Secretary, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Requests may also be faxed to 202-205-2104.

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Office of Industries
Washington, DC 20436

FACTUAL HIGHLIGHTS

1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane from China
Investigation Nos. 701-TA-509 and 731-TA-1244 (Preliminary)

Product Description: 1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane (R-134a or HFC-134a), regardless of its form, type, or purity level, is a chemical compound uniquely identified by its Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Registry Number: CAS 811-97-2. Its chemical formula is CF₃CH₂F. R-134a, a clear, colorless liquid or gas, is gaseous at normal atmospheric conditions. It has a low boiling point (-15°F) and is relatively nontoxic and nonflammable. These physical properties make R-134a suitable for use as a refrigerant, its primary application, and as a blowing agent. Refrigerant uses are dominated by automotive air conditioners but also include domestic appliances, small stationary equipment, medium-temperature supermarket cases, and industrial and commercial chillers. Blowing agent applications include aerosol cans, building insulation, and medical inhalers.

Status of Proceedings:

1. Types of investigations: Preliminary antidumping and countervailing duty.

2. Petitioner: Mexichem Fluor, Inc., St. Gabriel, LA.
3. Preliminary investigations instituted by the USITC: October 22, 2013.
4. Commission's conference: November 12, 2013.
5. USITC vote: December 13, 2013.
6. USITC determinations to the U.S. Department of Commerce: December 13, 2013.
7. USITC views to the U.S. Department of Commerce: December 20, 2013.

U.S. Industry:

1. Number of producers in 2012: Three.
2. Location of producers' plants: Delaware, Louisiana, and Pennsylvania.
3. Employment of production and related workers in 2012: (1)
4. Apparent U.S. consumption in 2012: (1)
5. Ratio of the value of total U.S. imports to total U.S. consumption in 2012: (1)

U.S. Imports:

1. From the subject country during 2012: \$57.6 million.
2. From other countries during 2012: \$7.3 million.
3. Leading sources during 2012: China, United Kingdom, Germany, and Mexico (in terms of total value).

(1) Withheld to avoid disclosure of business proprietary information.

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