

**UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C.**

**In the Matter of**

**CERTAIN LAPAROSCOPIC SURGICAL  
STAPLERS, RELOAD CARTRIDGES,  
AND COMPONENTS THEREOF**

**Investigation No. 337-TA-1167**

**NOTICE OF A COMMISSION DETERMINATION NOT TO REVIEW  
AN INITIAL DETERMINATION EXTENDING THE TARGET DATE**

**AGENCY:** U.S. International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission has determined not to review an initial determination (“ID”) (Order No. 62) extending the target date for completion of the investigation by eight months to October 8, 2021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Benjamin S. Richards, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW., Washington, D.C. 20436, telephone (202) 708-5453. Copies of non-confidential documents filed in connection with this investigation may be viewed on the Commission’s electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>. For help accessing EDIS, please email [EDIS3Help@usitc.gov](mailto:EDIS3Help@usitc.gov). General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server at <https://www.usitc.gov>. Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission’s TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Commission instituted this investigation on July 5, 2019, based on a complaint filed by Ethicon LLC of Guaynabo, PR; Ethicon Endo-surgery, Inc. of Cincinnati, Ohio; and Ethicon US, LLC of Cincinnati, Ohio. 84 FR 32220 (July 5, 2019). The complaint alleges violations of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337, based on the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, and the sale within the United States after importation of certain reload cartridges for laparoscopic surgical staplers by reason of infringement of one or more claims of U.S. Patent Nos. 9,844,379; 9,844,369; 7,490,749; 8,479,969; and 9,113,874. *Id.* The Commission’s notice of investigation names the following as respondents: Intuitive Surgical Inc., of Sunnyvale, CA; Intuitive Surgical Operations, Inc., of Sunnyvale, CA; Intuitive Surgical Holdings, LLC, of Sunnyvale, CA; and Intuitive Surgical S. De R.L. De C.V. of Mexicali, Mexico. *Id.* The Office of Unfair Import Investigations is not participating in this investigation. *Id.*

On October 6, 2020, the presiding administrative law judge (“ALJ”) issued the subject ID (Order No. 62), extending the target date by eight months to October 8, 2021, and the deadline for the final initial determination on violation to June 8, 2021, as necessitated by rescheduling of the procedural schedule, including the hearing, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. No petitions for review were filed.

The Commission has determined not to review the subject ID. The target date is hereby extended to October 8, 2021.

The Commission vote for this determination took place on October 20, 2020.

The authority for the Commission’s determination is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1337), and in part 210 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 210).

By order of the Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa R. Barton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lisa R. Barton  
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: October 20, 2020