

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

**In the Matter of**

**CERTAIN PHOTOVOLTAIC  
CONNECTORS AND COMPONENTS  
THEREOF**

**Investigation No. 337-TA-1365**

**NOTICE OF A COMMISSION DETERMINATION TO EXTEND THE DATE FOR  
DETERMINING WHETHER TO REVIEW AN INITIAL DETERMINATION  
GRANTING SUMMARY DETERMINATION THAT COMPLAINANT HAS NOT  
SATISFIED THE TECHNICAL PRONG OF THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY  
REQUIREMENT AS TO U.S. PATENT NO. 10,553,739**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission has determined to extend to April 19, 2024, the date for the Commission's decision on whether to review an initial determination ("ID") (Order No. 20) issued by the presiding administrative law judge ("ALJ") granting summary determination that complainant has not satisfied the technical prong of the domestic industry requirement with respect to U.S. Patent No. 10,553,739 ("the '739 Patent").

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul Lall, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20436, telephone (202) 205-2043. 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, telephone (202) 205-1810.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 9, 2023, the Commission instituted this investigation based on a complaint filed by Shoals Technologies Group, LLC ("Shoals Technologies") of Portland Tennessee. 88 FR 37905-06 (June 9, 2023). The complaint alleges violations of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337 based upon the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or sale within the United States after importation of certain photovoltaic connectors and components thereof by reason of infringement of certain claims of the '739 Patent and U.S. Patent No. 10,992,254 ("the '254 Patent").

The Commission’s notice of investigation (“NOI”) named the following eight respondents: 1) Hikam America, Inc. of Chula Vista, California; 2) Hikam Electrónica de México, S.A. de C.V. of Mexicali, Mexico; 3) Hikam Tecnología de Sinaloa of Guasave, Mexico; 4) Hewtech Philippines Corp. of Laguna, Philippines; 5) Hewtech Philippines Electronics Corp. of Pampanga, Philippines; 6) Hewtech (Shenzhen) Electronics Co., Ltd. of Shenzhen, China; 7) Voltage, LLC (“Voltage”) of Chapel Hill, North Carolina; and 8) Ningbo Voltage Smart Production Co. (“Ningbo Voltage”) of Ningbo, China (collectively “Respondents”). *Id.* The Office of Unfair Import Investigations was also named as a party in this investigation. *Id.*

On August 15, 2023, the Commission amended the complaint and NOI to add allegations of infringement against respondents Voltage and Ningbo Voltage related to certain claims of U.S. Patent No. 11,689,153. *See* Order No. 5 (Jul. 18, 2023), *unreviewed by* Comm’n Notice (Aug. 15, 2023).

On March 11, 2024, the Commission terminated a number of claims from this investigation based on Shoals Technologies’ withdrawal of the complaint as to those claims. *See* Order No. 15 (Feb. 9, 2024), *unreviewed by* Comm’n Notice (March 11, 2024). On March 26, 2024, the Commission terminated the ‘254 patent from this investigation based on Shoals Technologies’ withdrawal of the complaint as to that patent. *See* Order No. 19 (Feb. 28, 2024), *unreviewed by* Comm’n Notice (March 26, 2024).

On January 19, 2024, Respondents filed a motion (“Motion”) seeking summary determination that Shoals Technologies does not satisfy the technical prong of the domestic industry requirement with respect to the ‘739 patent. *Id.* at 1. On January 29, 2024, Shoals Technologies filed an opposition to the motion. *Id.*

On March 6, 2024, the presiding ALJ issued the subject ID (Order No. 20) granting Respondents’ Motion pursuant to Commission Rule 210.18(b) (19 CFR 210.18(b)).

On March 13, 2024, Shoals Technologies filed a petition for review of the ID. Also on March 13, 2024, Respondents filed an unopposed request for a six-day extension, until March 26, 2024, of the deadline to respond to Shoals Technologies’ petition for review.

The Commission has determined to extend the deadline for determining whether to review the subject ID (Order No. 20) to April 19, 2024.

The Commission vote for this determination took place on April 4, 2024.

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 Part 210).

By order of the Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa R. Barton', enclosed within a large, stylized oval flourish.

Lisa R. Barton  
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: April 5, 2024