NOTICE OF A COMMISSION DETERMINATION NOT TO REVIEW AN INITIAL DETERMINATION TERMINATING THE INVESTIGATION IN PART


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission has determined not to review an initial determination ("ID") of the presiding administrative law judge ("ALJ") granting the motion of complainants to terminate the investigation with respect to certain patent claims.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael K. Haldenstein, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20436, telephone (202) 205-3041. Copies of the ALJ’s ID and all other nonconfidential documents filed in connection with this investigation are or will be 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., Washington, D.C. 20436, telephone 202-205-2000.

General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server (http://www.usitc.gov). The public record for this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS-ON-LINE) at http://edis.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.


The complaint alleged violations of section 337 in the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, and the sale within the United States after importation of certain laminated floor panels by reason of infringement of one or more of claims 1, 14, 17, 19, 20, 21, 37, 52, 65, and 66 of U.S. Patent No. 6,006,486 ("the ‘486 patent"), claims 1, 2, 10, 13, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, and 27 of U.S. Patent No. 6,490,836 ("the ‘836 patent"), and claims 1-6 of U.S. Patent No. 6,874,292. The complaint further alleged that an industry in the United States exists as required by subsection (a)(2) of section 337. The complainants requested that the Commission issue a general exclusion order and cease and desist orders. The Commission named as respondents 30 companies located in Canada, China, Malaysia, and the United States. Id.

On September 19, 2005, the ALJ issued an ID (Order No. 8) granting the motion of complainants
to add two respondents, Jiangsu Qianfeng Decoration Materials Co. Ltd., of Jiangsu, China, and Hansol Homedeco, of Seoul, South Korea. The ID also granted complainants’ motion to add infringement of claims 1, 5, 13, 17, 27, and 28 of U.S. Patent No. 6,928,779 ("the ‘779 patent"), which issued on August 16, 2005 to their complaint. The Commission determined not to review the ID, and it thereby became the determination of the Commission.

The ALJ issued the subject ID on November 17, 2005. The ID grants the motion of complainants to terminate the investigation as to the ‘486 patent, claim 27 of the ‘836 patent, and claims 27 and 28 of the ‘779 patent. The Commission investigative attorney supported the motion in a response dated November 9, 2005. No party opposed the motion. No petitions for review of the subject ID were filed. The Commission has determined not to review this ID, thereby permitting it to become the determination of the Commission.


By order of the Commission.

Marilyn R. Abbott
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: December 20, 2005