

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS FOR COMMISSION QUESTIONNAIRES

Certain Lined Paper School Supplies from China, India, and Indonesia Investigation Nos. 701-TA-442-443 and 731-TA-1905-1907 (Preliminary)

<u>Further information</u>.--If you have any questions concerning the enclosed questionnaire(s) or other matters related to these investigations, you may contact the following members of the Commission's staff (Fax 202-205-3205):

Jai Motwane, investigator (202-205-3176; E-mail JAI.MOTWANE@USITC.GOV) regarding general questions and trade and related information;

Mary Pedersen, auditor (202-205-3247; E-mail MARY.PEDERSEN@USITC.GOV) regarding financial information; and

Nancy Bryan, economist (202-205-3277; E-mail NANCY.BRYAN@USITC.GOV) regarding pricing, market, and related information.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.—These investigations were instituted in response to a petition filed on September 9, 2005 by MeadWestvaco Corp. of Dayton, OH; Norcom, Inc., of Norcross, GA; and Top Flight, Inc., of Chattanooga, TN (collectively, the Association of American School Paper Suppliers). Countervailing and antidumping duties may be assessed on the subject imports as a result of these investigations if the Commission makes affirmative determinations of injury, threat, or material retardation, and if the U.S. Department of Commerce makes affirmative determinations of subsidization and/or dumping.

Additional questionnaires will be supplied promptly upon request, or photocopies of the enclosed questionnaire(s) may be used. Address all correspondence to the United States International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired individuals can obtain information regarding this investigation via the Commission's TDD terminal (202-205-1810).

<u>Due date of questionnaire(s)</u>.--Return the completed questionnaire(s) to the United States International Trade Commission by no later than September 23, 2005. Although the enclosed postpaid envelope may be used to return the completed questionnaire, use of an overnight mail service may be necessary to ensure that your response actually reaches the Commission by September 23. If you do not use the enclosed envelope, please make sure the completed questionnaire is sent to the attention of Jai Motwane. Return <u>only one</u> copy of the completed questionnaire(s), but please keep a copy for your records so that you can refer to it if the Commission staff contacts you with any questions during the course of the investigations.

<u>Service of questionnaire response(s)</u>.--In the event that your firm is a party to these investigations, you are required to serve a copy of the questionnaire(s), once completed, on parties to the proceeding that are subject to administrative protective order (<u>see</u> 19 CFR § 207.7). A list of such parties is maintained by the Commission's Secretary and may be obtained by calling 202-205-1803. A certificate of service must accompany the copy of the completed questionnaire(s) you submit (<u>see</u> 19 CFR § 207.7).

<u>Confidentiality</u>.--The commercial and financial data furnished in response to the enclosed questionnaire(s) that reveal the individual operations of your firm will be treated as confidential by the Commission to the extent that such data are not otherwise available to the public and will not be disclosed except as may be required by law (see 19 U.S.C. § 1677f). Such confidential information will not be published in a manner that will reveal the individual operations of your firm; however, nonnumerical characterizations of numerical business proprietary information (such as discussion of trends) will be treated as confidential business information only at the request of the submitter for good cause shown.

<u>Verification</u>.--The information submitted in the enclosed questionnaire(s) is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. To facilitate possible verification of data, please keep all your workpapers and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire response(s).

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

Release of information.--The information provided by your firm in response to the questionnaire(s), as well as any other business proprietary information submitted by your firm to the Commission in connection with the investigations, may become subject to, and released under, the administrative protective order provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1677f) and section 207.7 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.7). This means that certain lawyers and other authorized individuals may temporarily be given access to the information for use in connection with these investigations or other importinjury investigations conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise; those individuals would be subject to severe penalties if the information were divulged to unauthorized individuals. In addition, if your firm is a U.S. producer, the information you provide on your production and imports of certain lined paper school supplies and your responses to the questions in Part I of the producer questionnaire will be provided to the U.S. Department of Commerce, upon its request, for use in connection with (and only in connection with) its requirement pursuant to sections 702(c)(4) and 732(c)(4) of the Act (19 U.S.C. § 1671a(c)(4) and 1673a(c)(4)) to make a determination concerning the extent of industry support for the petition requesting this investigation. Any information provided to Commerce will be transmitted under the confidentiality and release guidelines set forth above. Your response to these questions constitutes your consent that such information be provided to Commerce under the conditions described above.

INSTRUCTIONS

<u>Answer all questions</u>.--Do not leave any question or section blank unless a questionnaire expressly directs you to skip over certain questions or sections. If the answer to any question is "none," write "none." **If information is not readily available from your records in exactly the form requested, furnish carefully prepared estimates--designated as such by the letter "E"--and explain the basis of your estimates.** Answers to questions and any necessary comments or explanations should be supplied in the space provided or on separate sheets attached to the appropriate page of the questionnaire(s). If your firm is completing more than one questionnaire in connection with this investigation (i.e., a producer, importer, and/or purchaser questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions in the questionnaires.

<u>Consolidate all U.S. establishments</u>.--Report the requested data for your establishment(s) located in the United States. **Firms operating more than one establishment should combine the data for all establishments into a single report.**

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS -- Continued

DEFINITIONS

<u>Certain lined paper school supplies</u>.--The scope of the petition defines certain lined paper school supplies as products composed of or including paper that incorporates one or more printed lines on one or more pages, with a width measuring between 6 and 15 inches, and a length measuring between 8-3/4 and 15 inches. Products within this definition are covered by statistical reporting numbers 4810.22.5044, 4811.90.9000, and 4820.10.2050 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS). These products may be bound on one or more sides using one or more binding methods, and may have no front cover or backing, or have both a front cover and a backing.

Included in the subject products are:

- Products containing hole-punched, drilled, and/or perforated paper.
- Products containing accessories or informational items such as pockets, tabs, dividers, closure devices, writing and/or drawing instruments, index cards, reference materials, or printed items, provided such items are physically incorporated into, included with, or attached to the subject product and/or its cover or backing.

Specifically **excluded** from the subject products are:

- Unlined copy machine paper.
- Stapled writing pads that do not have a cover.
- Ring binders or notebook organizers incorporating ring binders, provided they do not include subject lined paper.
- Exercise books (e.g., blue books) that are bound using only staple binding.
- Index cards.
- Books that are case bound with binder's board, a spine strip, and a cover wrap.
- Newspapers, pictures, and other products of the printing industry.
- Calendars, telephone logs, and address books.

Also **excluded** are products utilizing infrared reflective ink technology and bearing a validly licensed and used trademark of FlyTM, as well as products defined by claims stated in the following U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) applications:

<u>10/803,729</u>--products with a wire and a synthetic or natural fabric binding, provided that this patent is issued or the product bears the validly licensed and used trademark Five Star® AdvanceTM:

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS -- Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

<u>10/828,073</u>--products with a writable surface, whether or not used in combination with a pen, as defined in this patent application, provided that this patent is issued or the product bears the validly licensed and used trademark ZwipesTM;

<u>60/654,412</u>--notebook and binder organizer products, provided that this patent is issued or the product bears the validly licensed and used trademark Five Star® FlexTM.

<u>Other lined paper products.</u>--Any lined paper or lined paper products with dimensions between 5 x 7 and 15 x 15 inches which are not included in the above scope definition.

<u>Firm</u>.--An individual proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, association, corporation (including any subsidiary corporation), business trust, cooperative, trustee in bankruptcy, or receiver under decree of any court.

Related firm.--A firm that your firm solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled; a firm that solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled your firm; and/or a firm that was solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled by a firm that also solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled your firm.

Establishment.--Each facility of a firm in the United States involved in the production, importation, and/or purchase of (1) certain lined paper school supplies (as defined above) or (2) other lined paper products (as defined above), including auxiliary facilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate from) such facilities.

<u>United States</u>.--For purposes of these investigations, the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia.

<u>Importer</u>.--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing (1) certain lined paper school supplies (as defined above) or (2) other lined paper products (as defined above) into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

<u>Imports</u>.--Those products identified for Customs purposes as <u>imports for consumption</u> for which your firm was the importer of record (i.e., was responsible for paying any import duty) or consignee (i.e., to which the merchandise was first delivered).

Import quantities.--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

<u>Import values</u>.--Values reported should be landed, duty-paid values at the U.S. port of entry, including ocean freight and insurance costs, brokerage charges, and import duties (i.e., all charges except inland freight in the United States).

<u>Purchaser</u>.--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in purchasing (1) certain lined paper school supplies (as defined above) or (2) other lined paper products (as defined above) from another firm that produces, imports, or otherwise distributes such products. A retail firm that is the importer of record may be considered a purchaser.

<u>Purchases</u>.--Purchases from all sources, NOT including direct imports from foreign producers (which should be reported in an importer questionnaire).

<u>Purchase quantities.</u>.--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

<u>Purchase values</u>.--Values reported should be net values (i.e., gross purchase values less all discounts, allowances, rebates, and the value of returned goods), delivered to your U.S. receiving point.

Shipments.--Shipments of products produced in or imported by your U.S. establishment(s). Include shipments to the contracting firm of product produced by your firm under a toll agreement.

Shipment quantities.--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

<u>Shipment values</u>.--Values reported should be net values (i.e., gross sales values less all discounts, allowances, rebates, prepaid freight, and the value of returned goods), f.o.b. your U.S. point of shipment. The value of domestic shipments to the contracting firm under a toll agreement is the conversion fee (including profit).

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Types of shipments:

<u>U.S. shipments</u>.--Commercial shipments, internal consumption, and transfers to related firms within the United States.

<u>Commercial shipments</u>.--Shipments, other than internal consumption and transfers to related firms, within the United States.

<u>Internal consumption</u>.--Product consumed internally by your firm.

<u>Transfers to related firms</u>.--Shipments made to related domestic firms.

Export shipments.--Shipments to destinations outside the United States, including shipments to related firms.

Inventories.--Finished goods inventory, not raw materials or work-in-progress.

The following definitions apply only to the PRODUCER QUESTIONNAIRE.

Average production capacity.--The level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the specified periods. Assume normal operating conditions (i.e., using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate; normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year) and time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup; and a typical or representative product mix).

<u>Toll agreement</u>.--Agreement between two firms whereby the first firm furnishes the raw materials and the second firm uses the raw materials to produce a product that it then returns to the first firm with a charge for processing costs, overhead, etc.

<u>Production</u>.--All production in your U.S. establishment(s), including production consumed internally within your firm and production for another firm under a toll agreement.

<u>PRWs.</u>--Production and related workers, including working supervisors and all nonsupervisory workers (including group leaders and trainees) engaged in fabricating, processing, assembling, inspecting, receiving, storage, handling, packing, warehousing, shipping, trucking, hauling, maintenance, repair, janitorial and guard services, product development, auxiliary production for plant's own use (e.g., power plant), recordkeeping, and other services closely associated with the above production operations.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS -- Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

<u>Average number employed</u>.--Add the number of employees, both full-time and part-time, for the 12 pay periods ending closest to the 15th of the month and divide that total by 12. For the January-June periods, calculate similarly and divide by 6.

Hours worked.--Include time paid for sick leave, holidays, and vacation time. Include overtime hours actually worked; do not convert overtime pay to its equivalent in straight-time hours.

<u>Wages paid</u>.--Total wages paid before deductions of any kind (e.g., withholding taxes, old-age and unemployment insurance, group insurance, union dues, bonds, etc.). Include wages paid directly by your firm for overtime, holidays, vacations, and sick leave.

Fiscal year.--The 12-month period between settlement of your firm's financial accounts.

<u>Purchases other than direct imports</u>.--Purchases from U.S. producers, U.S. importers, and other U.S. sources.