

FOREIGN PRODUCERS'/EXPORTERS' QUESTIONNAIRE

XANTHAN GUM FROM AUSTRIA AND CHINA

This questionnaire must be received by the Commission by no later than June 19, 2012

See page 4 of the Instruction Booklet for filing instructions.

The information called for in this questionnaire is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its antidumping investigation(s) concerning xanthan gum from Austria and China (inv. Nos. 731-TA-1202-03 (Preliminary)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII.

Name of firm _____

Address _____

World Wide Web address _____

Has your firm produced or exported xanthan gum (as defined in the instruction booklet) at any time since January 1, 2009?

NO (Sign the certification below and promptly return only this page of the questionnaire to the Commission)

YES (Read the instruction booklet carefully, complete all parts of the questionnaire, and return the entire questionnaire to the Commission so as to be received by the date indicated above)

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information herein supplied in response to this questionnaire is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and understand that the information submitted is subject to audit and verification by the Commission.

By means of this certification I also grant consent for the Commission, and its employees and contract personnel, to use the information provided in this questionnaire and throughout this proceeding in any other import-injury proceedings conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise.

I acknowledge that information submitted in this questionnaire response and throughout this proceeding may be used by the Commission, its employees, and contract personnel who are acting in the capacity of Commission employees, for developing or maintaining the records of this proceeding or related proceedings for which this information is submitted, or in internal audits and proceedings relating to the programs and operations of the Commission pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3. I understand that all contract personnel will sign non-disclosure agreements.

Name of Authorized Official

Title of Authorized Official

Date

Signature

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail address

PART I.—GENERAL INFORMATION

The questions in this questionnaire have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible. Public reporting burden for this questionnaire is estimated to average 20 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering the data needed, and completing and reviewing the questionnaire. Send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436.

I-1a. **OMB statistics**.--Please report below the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of preparing the reply to this questionnaire and completing the form.

_____ hours _____ dollars

I-1b. **OMB feedback**.--We are interested in any comments you may have for improving this questionnaire in general or the clarity of specific questions. Please attach such comments to your response or send them to the above address.

I-2. **Establishments covered**.--Provide the name and address of establishment(s) covered by this questionnaire (see page 3 of the instruction booklet for reporting guidelines). If your firm is publicly traded, please specify the stock exchange and trading symbol.

I-3. **U.S. importers**.--Please provide the names, street addresses (not P.O. boxes), contacts, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of the **FIVE** largest U.S. importers of your firm's xanthan gum in 2011.

Importer's name	Contact person	Email	Telephone	Street address (not P.O. box), city, state, and zip code	Share of your 2011 exports (%)
1				Street Address City ' State Zip Code	
2				Street Address City ' State Zip Code	
3				Street Address City ' State Zip Code	
4				Street Address City ' State Zip Code	
5				Street Address City ' State Zip Code	

PART I.--GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

I-4. **Related U.S. producers.**--Does your firm or any related firm produce, have the capability to produce, or have any plans to produce xanthan gum in the United States or other countries?

- No Yes--Please name the firm(s) and country(ies) below and, if U.S. producer(s), ensure that they complete the Commission's producer questionnaire (contact **Cynthia Trainor (202-205-3354; cynthia.trainor@usitc.gov)** for copies of that questionnaire).

I-5. **Related U.S. importers.**--Does your firm or any related firm import or have any plans to import xanthan gum into the United States?

- No Yes--Please name the firm(s) below and ensure that they complete the Commission's importer questionnaire (contact **Cynthia Trainor (202-205-3354; cynthia.trainor@usitc.gov)** for copies of that questionnaire).

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION

Further information on this part of the questionnaire can be obtained from **Cynthia Trainor (202-205-3354; cynthia.trainor@usitc.gov)**. Supply all data requested on a calendar-year basis.

II-1. **Contact information.**-- Please identify the responsible individual and the manner by which Commission staff may contact that individual regarding the confidential information submitted in part II.

Name	
Title	
Email	
Telephone	
Fax	

II-2. **Changes in operations.**--Please indicate whether your firm has experienced any of the following changes in relation to the production of xanthan gum since January 1, 2009.

(check as many as appropriate) *(please describe)*

- plant openings _____

- plant closings..... _____

- relocations _____

- expansions _____

- acquisitions..... _____

- consolidations..... _____

- prolonged shutdowns or
importation curtailments _____

- revised labor agreements..... _____

- other (*e.g.*, technology) _____

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-3. **Anticipated changes in operations.**--Does your firm anticipate any changes in the character of your operations or organization (as noted above) relating to the production of xanthan gum in the future?

- No Yes--Supply details as to the time, nature, and significance of such changes and provide underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation that address this issue. **Include in your response a specific projection of your firm's capacity to produce xanthan gum (in 1,000 pounds) for 2013 and 2014.**

II-4. **Same equipment, machinery, and workers.**--Has your firm since 2009 produced, or does your firm anticipate producing in the future, other products on the same equipment and machinery used in the production of xanthan gum?

- No Yes--List the following information and report your firm's combined production capacity and production of these products and xanthan gum in the periods indicated.

<u>Product</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Basis for allocation of capacity data</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

(Quantity in 1,000 pounds)					
Item	2009	2010	2011	January-March	
				2011	2012
Overall Production Capacity					
Production of:					
Subject merchandise					
Other product 1					
Other product 2					

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-5. **Constraints on production.**--Please describe the constraint(s) that set the limit(s) on your production capacity.

II-6. **Production shifting.**--Is your firm able to switch production between xanthan gum and other products in response to a relative change in the price of xanthan gum vis-a-vis the price of other products, using the same equipment and labor?

No Yes---Please identify the other products, the approximate time and cost involved in switching, and the minimum relative price change required for your firm to switch production to or from xanthan gum.

II-7. **Share of sales.**--What percentage of your firm's total sales in its most recent fiscal year was represented by sales of xanthan gum? _____ percent

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-8. **Inventories in the United States.**--Has your firm, since 2009, maintained any inventories of xanthan gum in the United States (not including inventories held by firms identified in question I-3)?

- No Yes--Report the quantity of such end-of-period inventories below.

(Quantity in 1,000 pounds)					
Item	2009	2010	2011	January-March	
				2011	2012
Inventory					

II-9. **Third country trade actions.**--Is the xanthan gum exported by your firm subject to **antidumping duty** findings, remedies, or proceedings?

- No Yes--List the products(s), countries affected, and the date of such findings/remedies/proceedings.

Product	Country	Date
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-10a. Report your firm's production capacity, production, shipments, and inventories related to the production of xanthan gum in your establishment(s) in Austria during the specified periods. (See definitions in the instruction booklet.)

AUSTRIA

Quantity (in 1,000 pounds)							
Item	Actual experience					Projections ¹	
				January-March		2012	2013
	2009	2010	2011	2011	2012		
Average production capacity ²							
Beginning-of-period inventories ³							
Production ⁴							
Shipments:							
Internal consumption/transfers							
Home market sales							
Exports to--							
United States ⁵							
All other export markets ⁶							
Total exports							
Total shipments							
End-of-period inventories							

¹ Please explain the basis for your projections.

² The production capacity (see definitions in instruction booklet) reported is based on operating ___ hours per week, ___ weeks per year. Please describe the methodology used to calculate production capacity, and explain any changes in reported capacity.

³ Reconciliation of data.--Please note that the **quantities** reported above should reconcile as follows: beginning-of-period inventories, plus production, less total shipments, equals end-of-period inventories. Do the data reported reconcile?

Yes No--Please explain: _____

⁴ Please estimate the **percentage of total production of xanthan gum in Austria** accounted for by your firm's production in **2011**. ____ percent

⁵ Please estimate the **percentage of total exports to the United States of xanthan gum from Austria** accounted for by your firm's exports in **2011**. ____ percent

⁶ Identify principal other export markets. _____

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-10b. **Export shipments from Austria by end use.**—Report your firm’s export shipments to the United States, by major end use.

AUSTRIA

(Quantity in 1,000 pounds, value in \$1,000)					
Calendar years				January-March	
Item	2009	2010	2011	2011	2012
FOOD & BEVERAGE:¹					
<i>Quantity</i>					
<i>Value</i>					
CONSUMER APPLICATIONS:¹					
<i>Quantity</i>					
<i>Value</i>					
OILFIELD & INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS:¹					
<i>Quantity</i>					
<i>Value</i>					
ALL OTHER:²					
<i>Quantity</i>					
<i>Value</i>					
TOTAL EXPORT SHIPMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES:³					
<i>Quantity</i>					
<i>Value</i>					
¹ Please indicate the ranges of xanthan gum characteristics for reported U.S. shipments during 2011 as follows: <div style="text-align: center;">Purity (percent)</div> Food & beverage _____ Consumer applications _____ Oilfield & industrial applications _____ Other _____					
² Please describe: _____					
³ Total export shipments to the United States data should reconcile with exports from Austria to the United States data reported in section II-10a.					
Definitions for the above-specified export shipment end use applications appear on the following page.					

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

Definitions for export shipment end use applications are as follows:

- 1. Food & Beverage**
- 2. Consumer Applications**
- 3. Oilfield & Industrial Applications**

Xanthan gum provides multiple forms of utility. Applications may benefit from xanthan gum's ability to suspend and stabilize dispersions of solids, immiscible fluids, and gases in aqueous systems. Practically speaking, this would include solids in drilling fluids, immiscible fluids such as oils in personal care products and salad dressings, and gases in fire fighting foams. Xanthan gum also provides lubricity, reducing friction in oilfield drilling applications as well as providing a particular type of skin feel in lotions and cosmetics.

Food and Beverage applications include products approved for use in food and beverage systems. Xanthan gum is used in condiments (e.g., relish, salad dressing, sauces), beverages (e.g., diet, low sugar, energy, or instant powder drinks), syrups, baked goods, frozen meals, prepared foods, bakery products, such as frozen dough, muffins, and gluten-free products. "Approved" refers to definitions and requirements as put forth by multiple regulatory bodies as well as definitive and compendia standards, including:

1. Food Chemicals Codex (FCC)
2. Canadian Food and Drug Law
3. JECFA
4. Japan's Specifications and Standards for Food Additives

These bodies and standards manifest requirements in terms of:

1. Microbiological plate counts
2. Organism types
3. Heavy metal levels
4. Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA) and Ethanol residual levels
5. Basic requirements around color and appearance
6. Consistent and characterized viscosity

Consumer end use applications include products intended for use in oral care (e.g., toothpaste), personal care (e.g., suncare lotions and sprays), and pharmaceutical (e.g., oral antibiotics such as amoxicillin). These products are designed to meet higher level purity standards as set forth in USP and NF monographs, and international bodies such as the Japanese Pharmaceutical Excipients, and European Pharmacopeia.

Oilfield and industrial applications include products used in drilling fluid (and other applications for the extraction of oil and gas), agricultural chemicals (e.g., sprayed onto leaves), fabric (e.g., stain removal), home care (e.g., toilet bowl, surface, and oven cleaners), paints and coatings (e.g., pigment suspension), and textiles. These products are regulated under TSCA, REACH etc.

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-11a. Report your firm's production capacity, production, shipments, and inventories related to the production of xanthan gum in your establishment(s) in China during the specified periods. (See definitions in the instruction booklet.)

CHINA

Quantity (in 1,000 pounds)							
Item	Actual experience					Projections ¹	
				January-March		2012	2013
	2009	2010	2011	2011	2012		
Average production capacity ²							
Beginning-of-period inventories ³							
Production ⁴							
Shipments:							
Internal consumption/transfers							
Home market sales							
Exports to--							
United States ⁵							
All other export markets ⁶							
Total exports							
Total shipments							
End-of-period inventories							

¹ Please explain the basis for your projections.

² The production capacity (see definitions in instruction booklet) reported is based on operating ___ hours per week, ___ weeks per year. Please describe the methodology used to calculate production capacity, and explain any changes in reported capacity.

³ Reconciliation of data--Please note that the **quantities** reported above should reconcile as follows: beginning-of-period inventories, plus production, less total shipments, equals end-of-period inventories. Do the data reported reconcile?

Yes No--Please explain: _____

⁴ Please estimate the **percentage of total production of xanthan gum in China** accounted for by your firm's production in 2011. ____ percent

⁵ Please estimate the **percentage of total exports to the United States of xanthan gum from China** accounted for by your firm's exports in 2011. ____ percent

⁶ Identify principal other export markets. _____

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

II-1b. **Export shipments from China by end use.**—Report your firm’s export shipments to the United States, by major end use.

CHINA

(Quantity in 1,000 pounds, value in \$1,000)					
Calendar years				January-March	
Item	2009	2010	2011	2011	2012
FOOD & BEVERAGE:¹					
<i>Quantity</i>					
<i>Value</i>					
CONSUMER APPLICATIONS:¹					
<i>Quantity</i>					
<i>Value</i>					
OILFIELD & INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS:¹					
<i>Quantity</i>					
<i>Value</i>					
ALL OTHER:²					
<i>Quantity</i>					
<i>Value</i>					
TOTAL EXPORT SHIPMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES:³					
<i>Quantity</i>					
<i>Value</i>					
¹ Please indicate the ranges of xanthan gum purity for reported U.S. shipments during 2011 as follows: <div style="text-align: center;">Purity (percent)</div> Food & beverage _____ Consumer applications _____ Oilfield & industrial applications _____ Other _____					
² Please describe: _____					
³ Total export shipments to the United States data should reconcile with export shipments from China to the United States data reported in section II-11a.					
Definitions for the above-specified export shipment end use applications appear on the following page.					

PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION--Continued

Definitions for export shipment end use applications are as follows:

- 1. Food & Beverage**
- 2. Consumer Applications**
- 3. Oilfield & Industrial Applications**

Xanthan gum provides multiple forms of utility. Applications may benefit from xanthan gum's ability to suspend and stabilize dispersions of solids, immiscible fluids, and gases in aqueous systems. Practically speaking, this would include solids in drilling fluids, immiscible fluids such as oils in personal care products and salad dressings, and gases in fire fighting foams. Xanthan gum also provides lubricity, reducing friction in oilfield drilling applications as well as providing a particular type of skin feel in lotions and cosmetics.

Food and Beverage applications include products approved for use in food and beverage systems. Xanthan gum is used in condiments (e.g., relish, salad dressing, sauces), beverages (e.g., diet, low sugar, energy, or instant powder drinks), syrups, baked goods, frozen meals, prepared foods, bakery products, such as frozen dough, muffins, and gluten-free products. "Approved" refers to definitions and requirements as put forth by multiple regulatory bodies as well as definitive and compendia standards, including:

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5. Basic requirements around color and appearance
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Consumer end use applications include products intended for use in oral care (e.g., toothpaste), personal care (e.g., suncare lotions and sprays), and pharmaceutical (e.g., oral antibiotics such as amoxicillin). These products are designed to meet higher level purity standards as set forth in USP and NF monographs, and international bodies such as the Japanese Pharmaceutical Excipients, and European Pharmacopeia.

Oilfield and industrial applications include products used in drilling fluid (and other applications for the extraction of oil and gas), agricultural chemicals (e.g., sprayed onto leaves), fabric (e.g., stain removal), home care (e.g., toilet bowl, surface, and oven cleaners), paints and coatings (e.g., pigment suspension), and textiles. These products are regulated under TSCA, REACH etc.