

**PURCHASERS' QUESTIONNAIRE**  
**STAINLESS STEEL BUTT-WELD PIPE FITTINGS FROM**  
**ITALY, MALAYSIA, AND THE PHILIPPINES**

*Return completed questionnaire to:*

**UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION**  
Office of Investigations, Room 615  
500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436

**So as to be received by the Commission by no later than June 30, 2006**

The information called for in this questionnaire is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its antidumping review investigation concerning stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from Italy, Malaysia, and the Philippines (inv. Nos. 731-TA-865-867 (Review)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII. This report is mandatory and failure to reply as directed can result in a subpoena or other order to compel the submission of records or information in your possession (19 U.S.C. § 1333(a)). Further information on this questionnaire can be obtained from Clark Workman (202-205-3253; E-mail clark.workman@USITC.gov).

<p>Name of firm _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip code _____</p> <p>World Wide Web address _____</p> <p>Has your firm purchased stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings (as defined in the instruction booklet) from <u>any</u> source (domestic or foreign) at any time since January 1, 2000?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>NO</b> (Sign the certification below and promptly return only this page of the questionnaire to the Commission)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>YES</b> (Read the instruction booklet carefully, complete all parts of the questionnaire, sign the certification, and return the entire questionnaire to the Commission)</p>
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**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 signing 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 review in any other import-injury investigations or reviews conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise. (If you do not consent to such use, please note the certification accordingly.)*

*I acknowledge that information submitted in this questionnaire response and throughout this review 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 review or related proceedings for which this information is submitted, or in internal audits and investigations 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 and Title of Authorized Official*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Authorized Official*

( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
*Phone*

( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
*Fax*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email address*

**PART I.--GENERAL QUESTIONS**

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 25 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. 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. 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. Provide the name and address of establishment(s) covered by this questionnaire (see pages 3-4 of the instruction booklet for reporting guidelines). If your firm is publicly traded, please specify the stock exchange and trading symbol.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I-3. Is your firm owned, in whole or in part, by any other firm?

No       Yes--List the following information.

<u>Firm name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Extent of ownership</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I-4. Does your firm have any related firms, either domestic or foreign, which are engaged in importing stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from Italy, Malaysia, and/or the Philippines into the United States or which are engaged in exporting stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from Italy, Malaysia, and/or the Philippines to the United States?

No       Yes--List the following information.

<u>Firm name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**PART I.--GENERAL QUESTIONS--Continued**

I-5. Does your firm have any related firms, either domestic or foreign, which are engaged in the production of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings?

No             Yes--List the following information.

<u>Firm name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I-6. In Part III of this questionnaire we request a copy of your company's business plan. Does your company or any related firm have a business plan or any internal documents that describe, discuss, or analyze expected future market conditions for stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings?

No             Yes--Please provide the requested documents. If you are not providing the requested documents, please explain why not.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PART II.--PURCHASES**

II-1. Report, as indicated below, your firm's purchases (either directly or through a sales agent or broker) of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings. Report based on delivery date, not order date.

<i>(Quantity in 1,000 pounds, value in \$1,000)</i>						
Item	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>PURCHASES OF PRODUCT PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES:</b>						
<i>Quantity</i>						
<i>Value</i>						
<b>PURCHASES OF PRODUCT PRODUCED IN ITALY:</b>						
<i>Quantity</i>						
<i>Value</i>						
<b>PURCHASES OF PRODUCT PRODUCED IN MALAYSIA:</b>						
<i>Quantity</i>						
<i>Value</i>						
<b>PURCHASES OF PRODUCT PRODUCED IN THE PHILIPPINES:</b>						
<i>Quantity</i>						
<i>Value</i>						
<b>PURCHASES OF PRODUCT PRODUCED IN ALL OTHER COUNTRIES:<sup>1</sup></b>						
<i>Quantity</i>						
<i>Value</i>						
<sup>1</sup> Please identify these countries: _____						

**PART II.--PURCHASES--Continued**

II-2. If the relative levels of your firm's purchases of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from different sources (both domestic and foreign) have changed since 2001 (the year the antidumping duty order under review became effective), please list the country, state whether the relative share from that country has increased or decreased, and state the reason.

Country	Increase/decrease	Reason

II-3. (a) Did your firm purchase stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from Italy, Malaysia, and/or the Philippines before 2001?

- No--Skip to (c)                       Yes

(b) If yes, has your pattern of purchasing stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from Italy, Malaysia, and/or the Philippines changed since 2001?

- No, our pattern of purchasing is essentially unchanged.
- Yes, we discontinued purchases from Italy, Malaysia, and/or the Philippines because of the order.
- Yes, we reduced purchases from Italy, Malaysia, and/or the Philippines because of the order.
- Yes, but we changed the pattern of purchases from Italy, Malaysia, and/or the Philippines for reasons other than the order (please explain below).

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(c) Has your pattern of purchasing stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from nonsubject foreign sources changed since 2001 (please check all that apply).

- We did not purchase from nonsubject foreign sources before or after the order.
- No, our pattern of purchasing is essentially unchanged.
- Yes, we increased purchases from nonsubject countries because of the order.
- Yes, but we changed our pattern of purchases from nonsubject countries for reasons other than the order (please explain below).

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**PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES**

III-1. Which of the following best describes your firm as a purchaser of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings (check all that apply, noting the specific end uses if known)?

**END USER** ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

**DISTRIBUTOR** ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

**Other** ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

III-2. (a) If your firm is a distributor or reseller of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings, what are the major types of consumers to which you sell stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Do you compete for sales to your customers with the manufacturers or importers from which you purchase stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III-3. If your firm is an end user of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings, list in order of quantity of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings consumed, the top 3 products for which your firm purchases stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings as a component part or input. Please indicate what percentage of the total cost is accounted for by stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings.

**Product you produce**

**Percent of cost accounted for by stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

III-4. (a) If your firm is an end user of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings, has the demand for your firm's final products incorporating stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings changed since 2001?

Increased       Unchanged       Decreased

(b) Has this had any effect on your firm's demand for stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued**

III-5. Have there been any changes in the end uses of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings since 2001?

No       Yes--Discuss the changes, noting the time period in which they occurred.

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III-6. Do you anticipate any changes in terms of the end uses of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings in the future?

No       Yes--Please describe and identify the time period. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.

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III-7. (a) Please list in order of importance any products that may be substituted for stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings.

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) For each possible substitute product, please give examples of applications and end uses for which they are substitutes.

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(c) Have changes in the prices of these products affected the price for stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings?

No       Yes--Please explain.

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III-8. Have there been any changes in the number or types of products that can be substituted for stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings since 2001?

No       Yes--Please explain.

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**PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued**

III-9. Do you anticipate any changes in terms of the substitutability of other products for stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings in the future?

- No             Yes--Please describe. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.

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III-10. How has demand within the United States for stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings changed since 2001?

- Increased             Unchanged             Decreased  
 Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

What were the principal factors affecting changes in demand?

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How has demand outside the United States for stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings changed since 2001?

- Increased             Unchanged             Decreased  
 Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

What were the principal factors affecting changes in demand?

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III-11. Do you anticipate any future changes in stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings demand in the United States and, if known, the rest of the world?

- No             Yes--Please describe and identify the time period. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.

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**PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued**

III-12. Please provide as separate attachments to this request any studies, surveys, etc., that you are aware of that quantify and/or otherwise discuss stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings demand and/or factors affecting stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings demand in the (1) United States, (2) each of the major producing/consuming countries, including those subject to this review, and (3) the world as a whole. Of particular interest is such data on an annual basis from 2001 to the present and forecasts of these demand data.

III-13. Have any changes occurred in any factors affecting supply (e.g., changes in availability or prices of raw materials, energy or labor; transportation conditions; production capacity and/or methods of production; technology; export markets; or alternative production opportunities) that affected the availability of U.S.-produced stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings in the U.S. market since 2001?

- No             Yes--Please note the time period(s) of any such changes, the factors(s) involved, and the impact such changes had on your shipment volumes and prices.
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III-14. Is buying a product that is produced in the United States an important factor in your firm's purchases of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings (please check ALL that apply)?

- No
- Yes--Purchases of domestic product are required by law or regulation (for example, government purchases under "Buy American" provisions). This involves \_\_\_\_ percent of all purchases of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings.
- Yes--Purchases of domestic product are not required by law or regulation, but are by your customers. This involves \_\_\_\_ percent of all purchases of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings.
- Yes--Purchases of domestic product are required for other reasons (please specify these reasons below). This involves \_\_\_\_ percent of all purchases of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings.
- 
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III-15. (a) Is the stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings market subject to business cycles or conditions of competition distinctive to stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings?

- No             Yes--Please explain and provide estimates of the duration of any such cycle.
- 
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**PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued**

III-15 (b) Has the emergence of new markets for stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings since 2001 affected the business cycles or conditions of competition distinctive to stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings?

No                       Yes--Please explain any such changes.

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III-16. Who are your major competitors?

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III-17. Does your firm, and to the extent that you know, do your customers make purchasing decisions involving stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings based on the producer of the stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings you purchase?

Your firm:                       Always       Usually       Sometimes       Never

Your customers:                       Always       Usually       Sometimes       Never

If at least sometimes, please discuss how your firm or your customers determine the producer and why this information is important.

Your firm: \_\_\_\_\_

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Your customers: \_\_\_\_\_

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III-18. Does your firm, and to the extent that you know, do your customers make purchasing decisions involving stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings based on the country of origin of the stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings you purchase?

Your firm:                       Always       Usually       Sometimes       Never

Your customers:                       Always       Usually       Sometimes       Never

If at least sometimes, please discuss how your firm or your customers determine the source and why this information is important.

Your firm: \_\_\_\_\_

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Your customers: \_\_\_\_\_

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**PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued**

III-19. (a) How frequently do you make purchases?

- Daily       Weekly       Monthly       Quarterly       Annually  
 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_)

(b) Do you expect this purchasing pattern to change in the next two years?

- No       Yes--How and why do you expect these changes to occur?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III-20. How many suppliers do you generally contact before making a purchase?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III-21. (a) Do purchases of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings usually involve negotiations between supplier and purchaser?

- No       Yes--Please describe these negotiations. In your response, please comment on whether purchasers generally quote competing prices as part of the negotiation process.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Does your firm tend to vary its purchases from a given supplier within a specified time period based on the price offered for that period?

- No       Yes--Specify the time period.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III-22. Have you changed suppliers in the last 5 years?

- No       Yes--Please list the supplier or suppliers and indicate whether the firm was added or dropped as a supplier. Also give the reasons for the change and how frequently you change suppliers.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued**

III-23. (a) Are you aware of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have entered the market in the last 3 years?

- No             Yes--Please identify the firms and indicate how you become aware of them.

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(b) Do you expect new stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings suppliers to enter the market in the future?

- No             Yes--Please provide details, noting the specific future time period in your response.

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III-24. Do you require your suppliers to become certified or prequalified with respect to the quality, chemistry, strength, or other performance characteristic of the stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings they sell to your firm?

- No             Yes-- \_\_\_\_ percent of purchases in 2005             Yes--all purchases

Please provide a general description of the certification or qualification process and the time required.

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III-25. Briefly describe the factors that you consider when qualifying a new supplier (e.g., quality of product, reliability of supplier, etc.) and estimate the time it takes to certify or qualify a new supplier.

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III-26. Since 2001, have any domestic or foreign producers failed in their attempts to certify or qualify their stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings with your firm or have any producers lost their approved status?

- No             Yes--Please identify these firms, the countries where they are located, and the reasons why they failed the certification/qualification process.

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**PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued**

III-27. (a) For the factors listed below, please rate each in terms of its importance in your purchase decision for stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings.

	<b>VERY IMPORTANT</b>	<b>SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT</b>	<b>NOT IMPORTANT</b>
Availability .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivery terms .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivery time .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discounts offered .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extension of credit .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Price .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minimum qty requirements .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Packaging .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Product consistency .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality meets industry standards .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality exceeds industry standards .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Product range .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reliability of supply .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Technical support/service .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
U.S. transportation costs .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify):			
_____ .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued**

III-27. (b) Please list, in order of their importance, the three major factors generally considered by your firm in deciding from whom to purchase stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings for any one order (examples include current availability, extension of credit, prearranged contracts, price, quality exceeding specifications or industry standards, range of supplier's product line, traditional supplier, etc.).

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

Other factors or comments: \_\_\_\_\_

III-28. What characteristics does your firm consider when determining the quality of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III-29. How often does your firm purchase the stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings that is offered at the lowest price?

- Always       Usually       Sometimes       Never

III-30. Please list the names of any firms you considered price leaders in the stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings market since 2001. A price leader is defined as (1) one or more firms that initiate a price change, either upward or downward, that is followed by other firms, or (2) one or more firms that have a significant impact on prices. A price leader does not necessarily have to be the lowest priced supplier. For those firms identified as a price leader, please specify the time period in which a price change was communicated, whether the price change was upward or downward, and whether it covered a specific geographic region or a specific product type.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III-31. Please describe how the above firm(s) exhibited price leadership.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III-32. How frequently does the price of the stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings you are purchasing change?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued**

III-33. Does your firm purchase stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings over the internet?

No

Yes--Please describe, noting the estimated percentage of your firm's total purchases of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings in 2005 accounted for by internet purchases.

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III-34. (a) As an attachment to this questionnaire, please identify and discuss any improvements/changes in the U.S. stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings industry since 2001 and explain fully, to the extent possible, the factor(s), including the order(s) under review, that was/(were) responsible for each improvement/change.

(b) Please also discuss fully, to the extent possible, any improvements/changes that you anticipate in the future in the U.S. stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings industry. Identify the specific future time period covered in your response, and discuss the factors that you believe would be responsible for each improvement/change.

III-35. What do you think will be the likely effects of any revocation of the antidumping duty orders for imports of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from Italy, Malaysia, and/or the Philippines? As appropriate, please discuss any potential effects of revocation of the antidumping duty orders on (1) the future activities of your firm and (2) the U.S. market as a whole. Please note the future time period to which you are referring. Attach additional pages if necessary.

(1) Activities of your firm: \_\_\_\_\_

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(2) Entire U.S. market: \_\_\_\_\_

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**PART IV.--COMPARISONS BETWEEN IMPORTED AND U.S.-PRODUCED STAINLESS STEEL BUTT-WELD PIPE FITTINGS**

IV-1. Please indicate the countries of origin for stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings for which your firm has actual marketing/pricing knowledge.

- United States
- Italy
- Malaysia
- Philippines
- Other countries (Please specify \_\_\_\_\_)

IV-2. Are stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings produced in the United States and in other countries used interchangeably (i.e., can they physically be used in the same applications)? Please indicate below, using "A" to indicate that the products from a specified country-pair are *always* interchangeable, "F" to indicate that the products are *frequently* interchangeable, "S" to indicate that the products are *sometimes* interchangeable, "N" to indicate that the products are *never* interchangeable, and "0" to indicate *no familiarity* with products from a specified country-pair.<sup>1</sup>

Country-pair	United States	Italy	Malaysia	Philippines	Other countries
United States					
Italy					
Malaysia					
Philippines					

<sup>1</sup> For any country-pair producing stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings which is *sometimes* or *never* used interchangeably, please explain the factors that limit or preclude interchangeable use:

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**PART IV.--COMPARISONS BETWEEN IMPORTED AND U.S.-PRODUCED PRODUCT--Continued**

IV-3. Do you or your customers ever specifically order stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from one country in particular over other possible sources of supply?

- No             Yes--Please identify all relevant countries (including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries) from which you or your customers prefer to order, and indicate why stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from these countries is preferred over product from other countries (please note the specific product in your response).

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IV-4. Are certain grades/types/sizes of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings available from only a single source (domestic or foreign, including both subject and nonsubject countries)?

- No             Yes--Please identify the source and the grade/type/size.

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IV-5. If you purchased stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from one source although a comparable product was available from another source at a lower price, please explain your reasons for doing so (please specify by country, including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries). Possibilities might include transaction characteristics such as length of time to fill orders, minimum order size, reliability of supply, etc.

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**PART IV.--COMPARISONS BETWEEN IMPORTED AND U.S.-PRODUCED  
PRODUCT--Continued**

IV-6. For the factors listed below, please rate how stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings produced in each country you identified in your response to the first question in Part IV compares with stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings produced in each of the other countries you identified (including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries). Copy this page as necessary to cover all possible country combinations and please attach any comments you care to make concerning your responses, especially in comparisons where you rate product from one country superior or inferior to product from another.

_____	<b>compared to</b>	_____	
(specify country)		(specify country)	
	<b>SUPERIOR</b>	<b>COMPARABLE</b>	<b>INFERIOR</b>
Availability .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivery terms .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivery time .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discounts offered .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extension of credit .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lower price <sup>1</sup> .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minimum qty requirements .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Packaging .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Product consistency .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality meets industry standards .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality exceeds industry standards .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Product range .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reliability of supply .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Technical support/service .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lower U.S. transportation costs <sup>1</sup> .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify):			
_____ .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____ .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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<sup>1</sup> A rating of "Superior" means that the price (or U.S. transportation costs) is generally lower. For example, if you report on the United States compared to Italy and check "Superior," you are rating the price of the U.S.-produced stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings as generally lower than the price of the Italian product. Conversely, if you check "Inferior" you are rating the price of the U.S.-produced product as generally higher than the price of the Italian product.

**PART IV.--COMPARISONS BETWEEN IMPORTED AND U.S.-PRODUCED PRODUCT--Continued**

IV-7. (a) How often does domestically produced stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings meet minimum quality specifications for your uses or your customers' uses?

- Always       Usually       Sometimes       Rarely or never

(b) How often does imported subject stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings meet minimum quality specifications for your uses or your customers' uses?

- Always       Usually       Sometimes       Rarely or never

(c) How often does imported nonsubject stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings meet minimum quality specifications for your uses or your customers' uses?

Country \_\_\_\_\_  Always       Usually       Sometimes       Rarely or never

Country \_\_\_\_\_  Always       Usually       Sometimes       Rarely or never

Country \_\_\_\_\_  Always       Usually       Sometimes       Rarely or never

IV-8. (a) Since 2001, has there been a change in the price of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings? If so, has the price of U.S.-produced stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings changed more or less than the price of imported stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from Italy, Malaysia, and/or the Philippines?

- No change in price
- Prices have changed by the same amount
- Price of U.S.-produced stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings has changed relative to the price of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from Italy, Malaysia, and/or the Philippines.

(b) If the price of U.S.-produced stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings has changed relative to the price of stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings from Italy, Malaysia, and/or the Philippines, the price of U.S.-produced stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings is now relatively

- Higher       Lower

**PART V.--SUPPLIER IDENTIFICATION**

Please list the suppliers from which you have purchased stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings since 2001 and approximate the percentage of your stainless steel butt-weld pipe fittings purchases each accounted for in 2005.

No.	Firm name	Percentage of purchases	No.	Firm name	Percentage of purchases
1			6		
2			7		
3			8		
4			9		
5			10		