

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS FOR COMMISSION PRODUCER, IMPORTER, AND PURCHASER QUESTIONNAIRES

Carbon and Certain Alloy Steel Wire Rod from Brazil, Canada, Indonesia, Mexico, Moldova, Trinidad and Tobago, and Ukraine Investigation Nos. 701-TA-417 and 731-TA-953-954, 957-959, 961, and 962 (Review)

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

Olympia Hand, investigator (202-205-3182; E-mail OLYMPIA.HAND@USITC.GOV) regarding general questions and trade and related information;

David Boyland, auditor (202-708-4725; E-mail DAVID.BOYLAND@USITC.GOV) regarding financial information; and

Amelia Preece, economist (202-205-3250; E-mail AMELIA.PREECE@USITC.GOV) regarding pricing, market, and related information.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.-On October 22, 2002, the Department of Commerce ("Commerce") issued a countervailing duty order on imports of wire rod from Brazil (67 F.R. 64871).¹ On October 29, 2002, Commerce issued antidumping duty orders on imports of wire rod from Brazil, Canada, Indonesia, Mexico, Moldova, Trinidad and Tobago, and Ukraine (67 F.R. 65944-65947). On September 4, 2007, the Commission instituted reviews pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1675(c)) (the Act) to determine whether revocation of the orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time (72 F.R. 50696). If the Commission makes an affirmative determination on an order, and the Department of Commerce finds a likelihood of continuation or recurrence of dumping or subsidization, the order will remain in place. If the Commission or Commerce makes a negative determination on an order, the Department of Commerce will revoke the order.

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 these reviews 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 **February 4, 2008**. 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 **February 4, 2008**. If you do not use the enclosed envelope, please make sure the completed questionnaire is sent to the attention of **Olympia Hand**. **Return only the original 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 reviews.**

<u>Service of questionnaire response(s)</u>.--In the event that your firm is a party to these reviews, 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 (see 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 (see 19 CFR § 207.7).

¹ A countervailing duty order on imports of wire rod from Canada was also issued by Commerce in the same notice; however, that order was subsequently revoked by Commerce (69 F.R. 3330, January 23, 2004).

GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

<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).

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 reviews, 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 reviews or other import-injury investigations or reviews 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.

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 these reviews (i.e., a producer, importer, purchaser, and/or foreign producer questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions in the questionnaires.

INSTRUCTIONS--Continued

<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.**

DEFINITIONS

Carbon and certain alloy steel wire rod ("wire rod").--certain hot-rolled products of carbon steel and alloy steel, in coils, of approximately round cross section, 5.00 mm or more, but less than 19.00 mm, in solid cross-sectional diameter. Specifically excluded are steel products possessing the above-noted physical characteristics and meeting the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) definitions for: (a) stainless steel; (b) tool steel; (c) high nickel steel; (d) ball bearing steel; and (e) concrete reinforcing bars and rods. Also excluded are (f) free machining steel products (i.e., products that contain by weight one or more of the following elements: 0.03 percent or more of lead, 0.05 percent or more of bismuth, 0.08 percent or more of sulfur, more than 0.04 percent of phosphorus, more than 0.05 percent of selenium, or more than 0.01 percent of tellurium). All products meeting the physical description of subject merchandise that are not specifically excluded are included in this subject product definition. Wire rod is covered by statistical reporting numbers 7213.91.3011, 7213.91.3015, 7213.91.3092, 7213.91.4500, 7213.91.6000, 7213.99.0030, 7213.99.0090, 7227.20.0000, 7227.90.6010, and 7227.90.6080 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS).²

² Since 2002, there have been several changes to the HTS classifications for the reporting of wire rod. The following are the relevant tariff numbers for subject wire rod during previous periods:

<u>2002</u>: 7213.91.3010, 7213.91.3090, 7213.91.4510, 7213.91.4590, 7213.91.6010, 7213.91.6090, 7213.99.0031, 7213.99.0038, 7213.99.0090, 7227.20.0010, 7227.20.0020, 7227.20.0095, 7227.90.6051, 7227.90.6053, and 7227.90.6059.

 $[\]underline{2003}$: 7213.91.3010, 7213.91.3090, 7213.91.4510, 7213.91.4590, 7213.91.6010, 7213.91.6090, 7213.99.0031, 7213.99.0038, 7213.99.0090, 7227.20.0010, 7227.20.0020, 7227.20.0095, 7227.90.6051, 7227.90.6053, and 7227.90.6059.

^{2004: 7213.91.3011, 7213.91.3091, 7213.91.4500, 7213.91.6000, 7213.99.0030, 7213.99.0090, 7227.20.0000,} and 7227.90.6050.

 $[\]underline{2005}; \ 7213.91.3011, 7213.91.3015, 7213.91.3092, 7213.91.4500, 7213.91.6000, 7213.99.0030, 7213.99.0090, 7227.20.0000, 72227.90.6050.$

 $[\]underline{2006};\ 7213.91.3011,\ 7213.91.3015,\ 7213.91.3092,\ 7213.91.4500,\ 7213.91.6000,\ 7213.99.0030,\ 7213.99.0090,\ 7227.20.0000,\ 7227.90.6010,\ 7227.90.6080.$

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Carbon and certain alloy steel wire rod includes (but is not limited to) the products listed below.

- (1) <u>Low and medium-low carbon industrial and standard quality rods.</u>—Rods manufactured from low or medium-low carbon steel and primarily intended for drawing into industrial or standard quality wire. This category also includes special quality rods. For the purpose of these questionnaires, data for chain quality rods, cold finishing rods, fine wire quality rods, and nondeformed concrete reinforcement rods should be reported in this category.
- (2) <u>High and medium-high carbon industrial and standard quality rods.</u>—Rods manufactured from high or medium-high carbon steel and primarily intended for drawing into wire for such products as strand, hose, upholstery spring, mechanical spring, oil tempering, cold rolling, bearing, rope, screens, aluminum conductor steel reinforcement (ACSR) core, pipe wrap, prestressed concrete wire, utility strand, and music wire.
- (3) <u>Tire cord and tire bead quality rods.</u>--high-carbon wire rods that downstream purchasers, either specialized wire drawers or producers of steel-reinforced pneumatic tires, draw into bead or cord wire. Tire bead reinforces the bead (inner edge) of a tire and seals the tire against the wheel whereas tire cord is adhered to the inside of the tread for steel-reinforced pneumatic tires. (*Please note the product exclusions for non-U.S. grade 1080 tire cord and tire bead quality rods*).
- (4) <u>Welding quality rods</u>.—Rods intended for producing wire for gas welding, electric arc welding, submerged arc welding, and metal insert gas welding.
- (5) <u>Cold heading quality (CHQ) rods</u>.—Rods used in the manufacture of heading, forging, or cold extrusion quality wire.
- (6) Other specialty carbon and alloy quality rods.—For the purpose of these questionnaires, data for scrapless nut, aircraft, cold heading bearing, and valve spring quality rods should be reported in this category.

DEFINITIONS--Continued

The following products should be included in data for domestic (U.S.) production but excluded from data for U.S. imports or foreign production: Grade 1080 tire cord quality wire rod and 1080 grade tire bead quality wire rod (defined as follows).³

Grade 1080 tire cord quality rod is defined as: (i) grade 1080 tire cord quality wire rod measuring 5.0 mm or more but not more than 6.0 mm in cross- sectional diameter; (ii) with an average partial decarburization of no more than 70 microns in depth (maximum individual 200 microns); (iii) having no non-deformable inclusions greater than 20 microns; and no deformable inclusions greater than 35 microns; (iv) having a carbon segregation per heat average of 3.0 or better using European Method NFA 04-114; (v) having a surface quality with no surface defects of a length greater than 0.15 mm; (vi) capable of being drawn to a diameter of 0.30 mm or less with 3 or fewer breaks per ton, and (vii) containing by weight the following elements in the proportions shown: (1) 0.78 percent or more of carbon, (2) less than 0.01 percent of aluminum, (3) 0.040 percent or less, in the aggregate, of phosphorus and sulfur, (4) 0.006 percent or less of nitrogen, and (5) not more than 0.15 percent, in the aggregate, of copper, nickel and chromium.

Grade 1080 tire bead quality rod is defined as: (i) grade 1080 tire bead quality wire rod measuring 5.5 mm or more but not more than 7.0 mm in cross-sectional diameter; (ii) with an average partial decarburization of no more than 70 microns in depth (maximum individual 200 microns); (iii) having no non-deformable inclusions greater than 20 microns; and no deformable inclusions greater than 35 microns; (iv) having a carbon segregation per heat average of 3.0 or better using European Method NFA 04-114; (v) having a surface quality with no surface defects of a length greater than 0.2 mm; (vi) capable of being drawn to a diameter of 0.78 mm or larger with 0.5 or fewer breaks per ton; and (vii) containing by weight the following elements in the proportions shown: (1) 0.78 percent or more of carbon, (2) less than 0.01 percent of soluble aluminum, (3) 0.040 percent or less, in the aggregate, of phosphorus and sulfur, (4) 0.008 percent or less of nitrogen, and (5) either not more than 0.15 percent, in the aggregate, of copper, nickel and chromium (if chromium is not specified), or not more than 0.10 percent in the aggregate of copper and nickel and a chromium content of 0.24 to 0.30 percent (if chromium is specified).

<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.

³ The designation of the products as "tire cord quality" or "tire bead quality" indicates the acceptability of the product for use in the production of tire cord, tire bead, or wire for use in other rubber reinforcement applications such as hose wire. These quality designations are presumed to indicate that these products are being used in tire cord, tire bead, and other rubber reinforcement applications, and such merchandise intended for the tire cord, tire bead, or other rubber reinforcement applications is not included in the subject product definition.

DEFINITIONS--Continued

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.

<u>Establishment</u>.--Each facility of a firm in the United States involved in the production, importation, and/or purchase of wire rod (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 reviews, 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 wire rod (as defined above) into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

<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 but not including antidumping and/or countervailing duties, at the U.S. port of entry, including ocean freight and insurance costs, brokerage charges, and normal import duties (i.e., including all charges except inland freight in the United States and antidumping and/or countervailing duties).

<u>Purchaser</u>.--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in purchasing wire rod (as defined above) from another firm that produces, imports, or otherwise distributes wire rod. 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).

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

DEFINITIONS--Continued

<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.

<u>Shipments</u>.--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).

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.

Internal consumption.--Product consumed internally by your firm.

Transfers to related firms.--Shipments made to related domestic firms.

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

<u>Inventories</u>.--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).

DEFINITIONS--Continued

<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.

Production.--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.

Average number employed.—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.

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>Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act (Byrd Amendment) funds received.</u>--Funds disbursed by the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection under the Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act of 2000 (the "Byrd Amendment"). The Byrd Amendment provides for the annual distribution of the duties collected pursuant to antidumping and countervailing duty orders. The distribution is available to "affected domestic producers for qualifying expenditures."