



**GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND
DEFINITIONS FOR COMMISSION QUESTIONNAIRES**

**CIRCULAR WELDED CARBON-QUALITY STEEL PIPE
FROM CHINA**

Investigations Nos. 701-TA-447 and 731-TA-1116 (Preliminary)

Further information.--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):

Cynthia Trainor, investigator (202-205-3354; E-mail cynthia.trainor@USITC.GOV) regarding general questions and trade and related information;

Justin Jee, auditor (202-205-3186; E-mail justin.jee@USITC.GOV) regarding financial information; and

Gerry Benedick, economist (202-205-3244; E-mail gerald.benedick@USITC.GOV) regarding pricing, market, and related information.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.--These investigations were was instituted in response to a petition filed on June 7, 2007 by Allied Tube & Conduit, Harvey, IL; IPSCO Tubulars, Inc., Camanche, IA; Northwest Pipe Co., Portland OR; Sharon Tube Co., Sharon, PA; Western Tube & Conduit Corp., Long Beach, CA; Wheatland Tube Co., Collingswood, NJ; and the United Steelworkers, Pittsburgh, PA. Countervailing and/or antidumping duties may be assessed on the subject imports as a result of these investigations if the Commission makes an affirmative determination of injury, threat, or material retardation, and if the U.S. Department of Commerce makes an affirmative determination 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 these investigations via the Commission's TDD terminal (202-205-1810).

Due date of questionnaire(s).--Return the completed questionnaire(s) to the United States International Trade Commission by no later than June 21, 2007. 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 June 21, 2007. If you do not use the enclosed envelope, please make sure the completed questionnaire is sent to the attention of Cynthia Trainor. **Return only one 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 investigation.**

Service of questionnaire response(s).--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 (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).

Confidentiality.--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.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

Verification.--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 these 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 import-injury 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 circular welded carbon quality steel pipe 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 these investigations. 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

Answer all questions.--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 investigations (i.e., a producer, importer, and/or purchaser questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions in the questionnaires.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

Consolidate all U.S. establishments.--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

Circular Welded Carbon-Quality Steel Pipe (“Circular Welded Pipe”).--Certain welded carbon-quality¹ steel pipes and tubes, of circular cross-section, and with an outside diameter of 0.372 inches (9.45 mm) or more, but not more than 16 inches (406.4 mm), whether or not stenciled, regardless of wall thickness, surface finish (*e.g.*, black, galvanized, or painted), end finish (*e.g.*, plain end, beveled end, grooved, threaded, or threaded and coupled), or industry specifications (*e.g.*, ASTM, proprietary, or other), generally known as standard pipe and structural pipe.²

All pipe meeting the physical description set forth above that is used in, or intended for use in, standard and structural pipe applications is covered by the scope of these investigations. Standard pipe applications include the low-pressure conveyance of water, steam, natural gas, air, and other liquids and gases in plumbing and heating systems, air conditioning units, automatic sprinkler systems, and other related uses. Standard pipe may also be used for light load-bearing and mechanical applications, such as for fence tubing, and as an intermediate product for protection of electrical wiring, such as conduit shells. Structural pipe is used in construction applications.

Standard pipe is made primarily to American Society for Testing and Materials (“ASTM”) specifications, but can be made to other specification. Standard pipe is made primarily to ASTM specifications A-53, A-135, and A-795. Structural pipe is made primarily to ASTM specifications A-252 and A-500. Standard and structural pipe may also be produced to proprietary specifications rather than to industry standard. This is often the case, for example, with fence tubing. In addition, conduit shells (but not finished conduit) and pipe used for the production of scaffolding (but not finished scaffolding) are included in this definition.³

¹ Specifically, the term, “carbon quality” includes products in which (a) iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; (b) the carbon content is 2 percent or less, by weight; and (c) none of the elements listed below exceeds the quantity, by weight, respectively indicated: 1.80 percent of manganese, or 2.25 percent of silicon, or 1.00 percent of copper, or 0.50 percent of aluminum, or 1.25 percent of chromium, or 0.30 percent of cobalt, or 0.40 percent of lead, or 1.25 percent of nickel, or 0.30 percent of tungsten, or 0.15 percent of molybdenum, or 0.10 percent of niobium, or 0.41 percent titanium, or 0.15 percent of vanadium, or 0.015 percent of zirconium, or 0.012 percent boron.

² These tubular products may also be referred to as circular, structural, or mechanical tubing.

³ The definition does ***not*** include

- (a) pipe suitable for use in boilers, superheaters, heat exchangers, condensers, refining furnaces and
(continued...)

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

The imported products are provided for in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) subheadings 7306.30.10 and 7306.30.50.⁴

Dual-Stenciled or Multiple-Stenciled Pipe

Pipe multiple-stenciled to an ASTM specification and to any other specification, such as the American Petroleum Institute (“API”) API-5L or 5L X-42 specifications, is covered by the scope of these investigations when used in, or intended for use in, one of the standard applications listed above, regardless of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (“HTSUS”) category under which it is entered. Such pipe has entered under statistical reporting numbers 7306.10.1010 (7306.19.1010 as of February 2007), 7306.10.1050 (7306.19.1050 as of February 2007), 7306.10.5010 (7306.19.5110 as of February 2007), and 7306.10.5050 (7306.19.5150 as of February 2007) of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS).

Firm.--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 circular welded pipe (as defined above), including auxiliary facilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate from) such facilities.

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

³ (...continued)

- feedwater heaters, whether or not cold drawn, that is properly classifiable under HTSUS 7306.30.50.10;
- (b) mechanical tubing, whether or not cold-drawn, that is properly classified under HTSUS 7306.30.50.15 or HTSUS 7306.30.50.20;
- (c) finished electrical conduit that is properly classified under HTSUS 7306.30.50.28;
- (d) tube and pipe hollows for redrawing that is properly classified under HTSUS 7306.30.50.35;
- (e) oil country tubular goods (“OCTG”) produced to API specifications; and
- (f) line pipe produced to API specifications for oil and gas applications.

⁴ Specifically, the various HTS statistical reporting numbers under which the subject pipe has been provided for since January 1, 1992, are as follows: 7306.30.1000, 7306.30.5025, 7306.30.5028, 7306.30.5032, 7306.30.5035, 7306.30.5040, 7306.30.5055, 7306.30.5085, and 7306.30.5090.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Importer.--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing circular welded pipe (as defined above) into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Imports.--Those products identified for Customs purposes as imports for consumption 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.

Import values.--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).

Purchaser.--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in purchasing circular welded pipe (as defined above) from another firm that produces, imports, or otherwise distributes circular welded pipe. A retail firm that is the importer of record may be considered a purchaser.

Purchases.--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.

Purchase values.--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.

Shipment values.--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.S. shipments.--Commercial shipments, internal consumption, and transfers to related firms within the United States.

Commercial shipments.--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.

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).

Toll agreement.--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.

PRWs.--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

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. For the January-March periods, calculate similarly and divide by 3.

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.

Wages paid.--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.

Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act (Byrd Amendment) funds received.--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."

Purchases other than direct imports.--Purchases from U.S. producers, U.S. importers, and other U.S. sources.