



WASHINGTON MONITOR

A Weekly Review of U.S. Trade Policy Developments Affecting Japan

March 24, 2009

Volume 13 Issue 12

Contents

Trade Briefs

- SIMA Extended

Dumping Watch

- Time Extension for Preliminary Results in Review of AD Order on SS Sheet and Strip in Coils from Japan and Taiwan
- CVD Order on Circular Welded Austenitic Stainless Pressure Pipe from China

The Week Ahead

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Trade Briefs

SIMA Extended

The Department of Commerce (DOC) has given notice that there will be a rule change to extend the Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis system (SIMA).

The SIMA was created to provide steel producers, consumers, importers, and the wide public with accurate information on anticipated imports of certain steel products. The system was set to expire on March 21, 2009. On December 12, 2008, the DOC published a proposal for a rule change that would extend this program for four years, through March 21, 2013. The DOC received twelve comments on the proposed rule change, all of which were supportive.

The DOC subsequently gave notice that this rule change would be made final and the SIMA system would be extended to the proposed date: March 21, 2013.

Some commenters had hoped that the rule change would make the SIMA system permanent, arguing that the system was not onerous and had proved effective. The DOC responded that they do not have authority to make the system permanent as the program is arranged through a temporary transfer of authority from the Census Bureau.

Some commenters also requested that the DOC add metal forming products to the downstream monitor. The DOC agreed to do so through the use of publicly available data.

Dumping Watch

Time Extension for Preliminary Results in Review of AD Order on SS Sheet and Strip in Coils from Japan and Taiwan

On Monday, the Department of Commerce (DOC) gave notice that it was extending the time limit for preliminary results in the administrative reviews of the antidumping (AD) duty orders on stainless steel sheet and strip in coils from Japan and Taiwan.

The Federal Register notice is attached.

On November 26, 2008, the DOC gave notice of the initiation of administrative reviews of these AD duty orders. At that time, the preliminary results were due on April 2, 2009.

Now, the DOC has determined that it is not practicable to complete the preliminary results by this date due too the need for additional information from respondents to complete the DOC's analysis. The DOC has therefore extended the time limit by 120 days, and the preliminary results are now due on July 31, 2009.

CVD Order on Circular Welded Austenitic Stainless Pressure Pipe from China

On Thursday, the Department of Commerce (DOC) gave notice that it was issuing a countervailing duty (CVD) order on circular welded austenitic stainless pressure pipe from China.

In the preliminary determination in this case, published in July 2008, the DOC found that countervailable subsidies were being provided to producers of the subject merchandise. The final determination found a net subsidy rate of 1.10% for Winner, a 299.16% subsidy rate for Froch Enterprise Co., Ltd. (Froch), and a PRC-wide rate of 1.10%. Froch did not respond to a questionnaire, and therefore its rate was calculated based entirely on adverse facts available.

The International Trade Commission (ITC) subsequently found in its final determination that an industry in the U.S. is materially injured by reason of the subsidized import of the subject merchandise.

Therefore, today, the DOC issued a CVD order and will instruct Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to assess duties on relevant entries.

Federal Register Notices

International Trade Administration

[A-570-909] Certain Steel Nails from the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Antidumping Duty New Shipper Review *74 FR 11909*, March 20, 2009.

[C-357-819, C-580-862] Ni-Resist Piston Inserts From Argentina and the Republic of Korea: Notice of Postponement of Preliminary Determination in the Countervailing Duty Investigations *74 FR 11910*, March 20, 2009.

[A-823-808] Certain Cut-to-Length Carbon Steel Plate from Ukraine; Final Results of Full Sunset Review of the Suspension Agreement *74 FR 11910-11911*, March 20, 2009.

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Article 1904 Binational Panel Reviews: Notice of Completion of Panel Review *74 FR 11909-11910*, March 20, 2009.

[A-570-846] Brake Rotors From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Results of the 2007 Administrative Review and Partial Rescission *74 FR 11911-11918*, March 20, 2009.

[C-570-931] Circular Welded Austenitic Stainless Pressure Pipe From the People's Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order *74 FR 11712-11713*, March 19, 2009.

[A-570-918] Steel Wire Garment Hangers from the People's Republic of China: Initiation and Preliminary Results of Changed Circumstances Review, and Intent to Revoke Order in Part *74 FR 11713-11715*, March 19, 2009.

[Docket No.: 0809261282-9117-02] RIN 0625-AA82 Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis System *74 FR 11474-11476*, March 18, 2009.

Application(s) for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instruments *74 FR 11527*, March 18, 2009.

[A-552-802] Certain Frozen Warmwater Shrimp From the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Initiation of Changed Circumstances Reviews *74 FR 11527-11529*, March 18, 2009.

[A-570-880] Barium Carbonate from the People's Republic of China: Continuation of Antidumping Duty Order *74 FR 11348-11349*, March 17, 2009.

[A-552-801] Certain Frozen Fish Fillets From the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Final Results of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review and New Shipper Reviews *74 FR 11349-11351*, March 17, 2009.

[A-570-930] Antidumping Duty Order: Circular Welded Austenitic Stainless Pressure Pipe from the People's Republic of China *74 FR 11351-11352*, March 17, 2009.

[A-570-846] Brake Rotors from the People's Republic of China: Notice of Amended Final Results of Administrative Review Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Antidumping Duty Order Pursuant to Court Decision *74 FR 11081-11082*, March 16, 2009.

[A-580-816] Certain Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products from the Republic of Korea: Notice of Final Results of the Fourteenth Administrative Review and Partial Rescission *74 FR 11082-11084*, March 16, 2009.

[A-475-818] Certain Pasta from Italy: Extension of Time Limits for the Preliminary Results of Twelfth Antidumping Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 11084-11085*, March 16, 2009.

[A-570-888] Floor-Standing, Metal-Top Ironing Tables and Certain Parts Thereof from the People's Republic of China: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 11085-11087*, March 16, 2009.

[A-570-863] Honey from the People's Republic of China: Partial Rescission of the Seventh Antidumping Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 11087-11088*, March 16, 2009.

[C-475-819] Certain Pasta from Italy: Extension of Time Limit for Preliminary Results of the 12th (2007) Countervailing Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 11084*, March 16, 2009.

International Trade Commission

[Investigation Nos. 701-TA-432 and 731-TA-1024-1028 (Review) and AA1921-188 (Third Review)] Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand From Brazil, India, Japan, Korea, Mexico, and Thailand 74 FR 11967-11968, March 20, 2009.

[Investigation No. 337-TA-629] In the Matter of Certain Silicon Microphone Packages and Products Containing the Same; Notice of Commission Determination to Review a Final Initial Determination in Part and Set a Schedule for Filing Written Submissions On the Issues Under Review and On Remedy, the Public Interest, and Bonding; Extension of Target Date 74 FR 11748-11750, March 19, 2009.

[USITC SE-09-008] Government in the Sunshine Act Meeting Notice 74 FR 11750, March 19, 2009.

[USITC SE-09-009] Government in the Sunshine Act Meeting Notice 74 FR 11751, March 19, 2009.

[Investigation No. 337-TA-645] In the Matter of Certain Vein Harvesting Surgical Systems and Components Thereof; Notice of Commission Determination Not To Review an Initial Determination Terminating the Investigation in Its Entirety on the Basis of a Settlement Agreement 74 FR 11603-11604, March 18, 2009.

[Inv. No. 337-TA-660] In the Matter of Certain Active Comfort Footwear; Notice of Commission Determination Not To Review an Initial Determination Granting In Part Complainants' Amended Motion To Amend the Complaint and Notice of Investigation 74 FR 11378, March 17, 2009.

[Investigation Nos. 701-TA-454 and 731-TA-1144 (Final)] Welded Stainless Steel Pressure Pipe From China 74 FR 11378-11379, March 17, 2009.

The Week Ahead

- On Tuesday, March 24, the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade will hold a hearing on trade aspects of climate change legislation.