



# WASHINGTON MONITOR

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*The Washington Monitor is a product of the Japan Fair Trade Center in cooperation with the international trade practice of the U.S. law firm of Winston & Strawn LLP. All questions concerning its content should be addressed to:*

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## Trade Briefs

### Congressmen Call for Opening of Japan's Auto Market

A group of U.S. congressmen have called for the opening of Japan's market to U.S. automobiles. The congressmen, led by House Ways & Means Chairman Charlie Rangel (D-NY), signed a letter to U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) Ron Kirk calling for the U.S. to urge both Japan and Korea to treat U.S. automakers fairly.

In addition to Rangel, the letter was signed by Senators Carl Levin (D-MI) and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) as well as Representatives John Dingell (D-MI), Dale Kildee (D-MI), Sander Levin (D-MI), Fred Upton (R-MI), Vernon Ehlers (R-MI), Candice Miller (R-MI), Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI), Betty Sutton (D-OH), and Gary Peters (D-MI). A number of these signatories make up the House Auto Caucus.

In particular, the letter references Japan's equivalent of the U.S. "Cash for Clunkers" program, claiming that it has resulted in the further decline of an already low market share for foreign brand automobiles in the Japanese market. The letter says that the share of foreign vehicles sold in Japan has dropped from 5% in 2007 to 3.9% in the first seven months of 2009. The congressmen say that the Japanese auto purchase incentive program excludes most foreign autos, including those from the U.S. If an auto enters the country through Japan's Preferential Handling Procedure (PHP), then it cannot be purchased through the use of the incentives in the auto purchase incentive program. Therefore, the letter asserts, Japanese consumers can buy Japanese autos at a lesser price than comparable U.S.-made models. The letter says that the U.S. Cash for Clunkers program does not have such restrictions.

The congressmen also urged the USTR to address Korea's similar auto purchase incentive program. They also pointed to their suggestions for modification to the pending Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (KORUS FTA).

The congressmen say that the current economic crisis has made access to the valuable Japanese and Korean auto markets particularly important to U.S. automakers, and they urge the USTR to press Japan and Korea to open their markets.

President Barack Obama will make a trip to Asia this week, and this message is likely intended to put pressure on him to bring these concerns to Tokyo and Seoul.

## Dumping Watch

### Rescission of AD Review regarding Circular Welded Carbon Quality Steel Pipe from China

On November 4, the Department of Commerce (DOC) gave notice that it was rescinding the administrative review of the antidumping (AD) duty order on circular welded carbon quality steel pipe from China. The DOC initiated this review on August 25, 2009. Subsequently, all parties withdrew their request for review. Their withdrawal requests were made within the 90 day time-limit. Therefore, the DOC has decided to rescind this review in full.

## Federal Register Notices

### *International Trade Administration*

**[A-570-002] Chloropicrin From the People's Republic of China:** Final Results of the Expedited Sunset Review of the Antidumping Duty Order *74 FR 57450*, November 6, 2009.

**[A-570-960] Certain Standard Steel Fasteners From the People's Republic of China:** Amendment to Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigation *74 FR 57289-57290*, November 5, 2009.

**[A-570-887] Tetrahydrofurfuryl Alcohol From the People's Republic of China:** Final Results of the Expedited Sunset Review of the Antidumping Duty Order *74 FR 57290-57291*, November 5, 2009.

**[A-570-900, A-580-855] Diamond Sawblades and Parts Thereof From the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Korea:** Antidumping Duty Orders *74 FR 57145-57147*, November 4, 2009.

**[A-570-868] Folding Metal Tables and Chairs From the People's Republic of China:** Extension of Time Limit for the Final Results of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 57147*, November 4, 2009.

**[A-412-801] Ball Bearings and Parts Thereof From the United Kingdom:** Final Results of Changed-Circumstances Review *74 FR 57147-57148*, November 4, 2009.

**[A-570-910] Circular Welded Carbon Quality Steel Pipe From the People's Republic of China:** Notice of Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 57149-57150*, November 4, 2009.

**[A-570-888] Floor-Standing Metal-Top Ironing Tables and Parts Thereof from the People's Republic of China:** Final Results of Expedited Five-year (Sunset) Review of Antidumping Duty Order *74 FR 56794-56795*, November 3, 2009.

**[A-570-878] Saccharin From the People's Republic of China:** Notice of Partial Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 56792-56793*, November 3, 2009.

**[A-427-001] Sorbitol from France:** Final Results of Expedited Five-year (Sunset) Review of Antidumping Duty Order *74 FR 56793-56794*, November 3, 2009.

**University of Notre Dame, et al. Notice of Consolidated Decision on Applications for Duty-Free Entry of Electron Microscopes** *74 FR 56795-56796*, November 3, 2009.

**[C-570-948] Certain Steel Grating from the People's Republic of China:** Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination and Alignment of Final Countervailing Duty Determination with Final Antidumping Duty Determination *74 FR 56796-56805*, November 3, 2009.

**[A-560-822] Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags from Indonesia:** Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination *74 FR 56807-56813*, November 3, 2009.

**[A-552-806] Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags From the Socialist Republic of Vietnam:** Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination *74 FR 56813-56820*, November 3, 2009.

**Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation; Advance Notification of Sunset Reviews** *74 FR 56573*, November 2, 2009.

**Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation; Opportunity to Request Administrative Review** *74 FR 56573-56575*, November 2, 2009.

**[A-570-912] New Pneumatic Off-the-Road Tires from the People's Republic of China:** Initiation of New Shipper Review *74 FR 56575-56576*, November 2, 2009.

**(C-570-946) Pre-Stressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from the People's Republic of China:** Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination *74 FR 56576-56592*, November 2, 2009.

**Initiation of Five-Year ("Sunset") Review** *74 FR 56593-56594*, November 2, 2009.

**Subsidy Programs Provided by Countries Exporting Softwood Lumber and Softwood Lumber Products to the United States; Request for Comment** *74 FR 56594-56595*, November 2, 2009.

*International Trade Commission*

**[Investigation Nos. 701-TA-469 and 731-TA-1168 (Preliminary)] Certain Seamless Carbon and Alloy Steel Standard, Line, and Pressure Pipe From China** *74 FR 57521*, November 6, 2009.

**[USITC SE-09-031] Government in the Sunshine Act Meeting Notice** *74 FR 57251-57522*, November 6, 2009.

**[Investigation No. 701-TA-460 (Final)] Ni-Resist Piston Inserts From Argentina;** Determination *74 FR 57329*, November 5, 2009.

**[USITC SE-09-030] Sunshine Act Meeting Notice** *74 FR 57329-57330*, November 5, 2009.

**[Inv. No. 337-TA-692] Certain Ceramic Capacitors and Products Containing Same;** Notice of Investigation *74 FR 57193-57194*, November 4, 2009.

**[Investigation No. 337-TA-630] Certain Semiconductor Chips With Minimized Chip Package Size and Products Containing Same (III); Notice of Commission Determination To Review in Part a Final Initial Determination Finding No Violation of Section 337;** Schedule for Filing Written Submissions on the Issues Under Review and on Remedy, the Public Interest and Bonding *74 FR 57192-57193*, November 4, 2009.

**[Investigation Nos. 701-TA-437 and 731-TA-1060-1061 (Review)] Carbazole Violet Pigment 23 From China and India** *74 FR 56663-56666*, November 2, 2009.

**[Investigation Nos. 731-TA-753, 754, and 756 (Second Review)] Cut-to-Length Carbon Steel Plate From China, Russia, and Ukraine 74 FR 56666, November 2, 2009.**

**[Investigation No. 731-TA-1059 (Review)] Hand Trucks From China 74 FR 56661-56663, November 2, 2009.**

**[Investigation No. 731-TA-244 (Third Review)] Natural Bristle Paint Brushes From China 74 FR 56666-56669, November 2, 2009.**

*Office of the U.S. Trade Representative*

**Generalized System of Preferences (GSP): Notice Regarding the Filing of Petitions Requesting Competitive Need Limitations (CNL) Waivers for the 2009 GSP Annual Review 74 FR 56908-56909, November 3, 2009.**

### **The Week Ahead**

- On November 10, the ITC will hold a vote on the five-year sunset reviews on prestressed concrete steel wire strand from Brazil, India, Japan, Korea, Mexico, and Thailand.
- On November 13, the ITC will hold a vote on the preliminary phase AD investigations into seamless refined copper pipe and tube from China and Mexico.