

International Trade & Customs Update

January 2012

Three New Trade Remedy Petitions Filed: Wind Turbine Towers, Residential Clothes Washing Machines and Steel Garment Hangers

On the last two business days of 2011, three trade remedy petitions were filed with the U.S. Department of Commerce and the International Trade Commission seeking antidumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) relief. The petitions seek increased import duties on three separate products.

Utility Scale Wind Towers From China and Vietnam

Four U.S. wind tower producers—Broadwind Towers, Inc., DMI Industries, Katana Summit LLC and Trinity Structural Towers, Inc. – filed AD and CVD petitions against imports of utility scale wind towers from China and an AD petition against such towers from Vietnam. The petitioners identify 50 known or suspected producers or exporters of utility scale wind towers from China and Vietnam, along with 15 importers of the product. The petitioners allege these products are being sold in the U.S. market below fair value, which they seek to remedy with antidumping duties of up to 64 percent. They also allege that Chinese producers benefit from government subsidies that should be countervailed with additional duties.

The petition's scope includes towers designed to support the nacelle and rotor blades for use in wind turbines with electrical power generation capacities in excess of 100 kilowatts. The petition specifies that the towers are imported under Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) subheading 7308.20.0020.

Residential Clothes Washing Machines From South Korea and Mexico

Whirlpool Corporation filed AD and CVD petitions against imports of residential scale clothes washing machines from South Korea and an AD petition against the same products from Mexico. Imports from Samsung Electronics Co., Daewoo, LG Electronics, Electrolux Home Products, Mabe and Frigidaire are specifically named in the petitions. Whirlpool identifies 19 importers of residential scale washing machines from South Korea and Mexico. It also alleges these products are being sold in the U.S. market below fair value, which they seek to remedy with antidumping duties of up to 107 percent. Whirlpool also alleges that South Korean producers benefit from government subsidies that should be countervailed with additional duties.

The scope of the petition includes all large, residential clothes washing machines and certain subassemblies. This includes all automatic clothes washing machines, regardless of the orientation of the rotational axis, with a cabinet width of at least 24.5 inches and no more than 32.0 inches. Also included are certain subassemblies, such as certain assembled cabinets, tubs and baskets designed for use in large residential clothes washing machines or combinations of those subassemblies. Excluded from the scope are stacked washer-dryers and commercial washing machines (certain pay-per-use machines equipped with payment system electronics). The petition specifies that the large residential clothes washers are imported under

HTS subheadings 8450.20.0090, 8450.11.0040, 8450.11.0080, 8450.90.2000 and 8450.90.6000.

Steel Wire Garment Hangers From Taiwan and Vietnam

Three U.S. garment hanger manufacturers – M&B Metal Products Company, Innovative Fabrication LLC and US Hanger Company, LLC – filed AD and CVD petitions against steel wire garment hangers from Vietnam and an AD petition against such hangers from Taiwan. The petitioners identify 66 known or suspected producers of steel wire garment hangers from Taiwan and Vietnam and 62 importers of the products. The petitioners allege these products are sold in the U.S. market below fair value, which they seek to remedy with antidumping duties of up to 166 percent.

The scope of the petition includes steel wire garment hangers made from carbon steel wire, whether or not galvanized or painted, whether or not coated with latex or epoxy, whether or not fashioned with paper covers or capes and/or nonslip features such as saddles or tubes. The products are referenced as shirt, suit, strut, caped or latex (industrial) hangers. Excluded from the scope are wood, plastic or other garment hangers not made of steel. Also excluded are steel wire garment hangers with swivel hooks and/or clips permanently affixed to the lower bar. The petition specifies that the garment hangers are imported under HTS subheadings 7326.20.0020 and 7323.99.9080.

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