



FACT SHEET

Commerce Preliminarily Finds Dumping of Imports of Melamine from the People's Republic of China and Trinidad and Tobago

- On June 11, 2015, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced its affirmative preliminary determinations in the antidumping duty (AD) investigations of imports of melamine from the People's Republic of China (China) and Trinidad and Tobago.
- The AD law provides U.S. businesses and workers with a transparent and internationally accepted mechanism to seek relief from the market distorting effects caused by injurious dumping of imports into the United States, establishing an opportunity to compete on a level playing field.
- For the purpose of AD investigations, dumping occurs when a foreign company sells a product in the United States at less than its fair value.
- Commerce preliminarily determined that melamine from China has been sold in the United States at a dumping margin of 363.31 percent.
- Commerce preliminarily determined that melamine from Trinidad and Tobago has been sold in the United States at a dumping margin of 174.22 percent.
- In the China investigation, because the mandatory respondents failed to cooperate with Commerce's requests for information, all imports of subject merchandise from China will be subject to the China-wide dumping margin. Mandatory respondents Allied Chemicals Inc., Xinji Jiuyuan Chemical Co. Ltd., and Sichuan Golden-Elephant Sincerity Chemical Co., Ltd. notified Commerce that they would not participate in this investigation. As a result, they failed to demonstrate eligibility for a separate rate and are preliminarily considered part of the China-wide entity. The rate for the China-wide entity is 363.31 percent, the highest margin from the petition.
- In the Trinidad and Tobago investigation, mandatory respondent Methanol Holdings (Trinidad) Ltd. received a preliminary dumping margin of 174.22 percent. All other producers/exporters in Trinidad and Tobago received a preliminary dumping margin of 174.22 percent.
- As a result of the preliminary affirmative determinations, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection to require cash deposits based on these preliminary rates, adjusted for export subsidies as appropriate.
- The petitioner for these investigations is Cornerstone Chemical Company (LA).
- The merchandise subject to these investigations is melamine (Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) registry number 108-78-01, molecular formula $C_3H_6N_6$).¹ Melamine is a crystalline powder or granule typically (but not exclusively) used to manufacture melamine formaldehyde resins. All

¹ Melamine is also known as 2,4,6-triamino-s-triazine; 1,3,5-Triazine-2,4,6-triamine; Cyanurotriamide; Cyanurotriamine; Cyanuramide; and by various brand names.

melamine is covered by the scope of these investigations irrespective of purity, particle size, or physical form. Melamine that has been blended with other products is included within this scope when such blends include constituent parts that have been intermingled, but that have not been chemically reacted with each other to produce a different product. For such blends, only the melamine component of the mixture is covered by the scope of these investigations. Melamine that is otherwise subject to these investigations is not excluded when commingled with melamine from sources not subject to these investigations. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of these investigations.

The subject merchandise is provided for in subheading 2933.61.0000 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Although the HTSUS subheading and CAS registry number are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope is dispositive.

- In 2014, imports of melamine from China and Trinidad and Tobago were valued at an estimated \$14.5 million and \$16.9 million, respectively.

NEXT STEPS

- Commerce is scheduled to announce its final determination for the China investigation on or about August 25, 2015, unless the statutory deadline is extended. Pursuant to a request for extension from Methanol Holdings (Trinidad) Limited, Commerce is postponing the final determination for the Trinidad and Tobago investigation until no later than 135 days after the date of this preliminary determination and is scheduled to announce the final determination on or about October 23, 2015.
- If Commerce makes affirmative final determinations, and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) makes affirmative final determinations that imports of melamine from China and/or Trinidad and Tobago has materially injured, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, Commerce will issue AD orders. If either Commerce or the ITC final determinations are negative, no AD orders will be issued. The ITC is scheduled to make its final injury determinations in October 2015.

PRELIMINARY DUMPING MARGINS:

COUNTRY	EXPORTER/PRODUCER	DUMPING MARGIN	CASH DEPOSIT
China	China-Wide Rate	363.31%	360.03%

NOTE: The cash deposit rate accounts for the applicable export subsidy rate of 3.28 percent.

COUNTRY	EXPORTER/PRODUCER	DUMPING MARGINS
Trinidad and Tobago	Methanol Holdings (Trinidad) Ltd.	174.22%
	All Others	174.22%

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	CHINA INVESTIGATION	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO INVESTIGATION
Petitions Filed	November 12, 2014	November 12, 2014
DOC Initiation Date	December 2, 2014	December 2, 2014
ITC Preliminary Determinations	December 29, 2014	December 29, 2014
DOC Preliminary Determinations	June 10, 2015	June 10, 2015
DOC Final Determinations	August 24, 2015	October 23, 2015
ITC Final Determinations*	October 8, 2015	December 7, 2015
Issuance of Orders**	October 15, 2015	December 14, 2015

NOTE: Commerce preliminary and final determination deadlines are governed by statute. For AD investigations, the deadlines are set forth in sections 733(b) and 735(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended. These deadlines may be extended under certain circumstances.

*This will take place only in the event of a final affirmative determinations by Commerce.

**This will take place only in the event of final affirmative determinations by Commerce and the ITC.

IMPORT STATISTICS:

CHINA	2012	2013	2014
Volume (metric tons)	2,700	10,600	13,000
Value (USD)	4,181,000	14,054,000	14,537,000
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	2012	2013	2014
Volume (metric tons)	17,100	12,000	12,000
Value (USD)	21,544,000	16,798,000	16,917,000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas. (HTSUS 2933.61.0000).