FACT SHEET

Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigation on Imports of Certain Polyester Staple Fiber from the People's Republic of China

On July 14, the Department of Commerce announced its decision to initiate an antidumping duty investigation on imports of Certain Polyester Staple Fiber from the People's Republic of China.

Next Steps: The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to make its preliminary injury determination on or about August 8. If the ITC determines that there is a reasonable indication that imports from China are injuring or threatening material injury to the domestic industry, the investigation would continue and the Department would be scheduled to make its preliminary antidumping duty determination in August 2006. If the ITC makes a negative preliminary injury determination, the investigation will be terminated.

Petitioners: The petition requesting this investigation was filed by DAK Americas LLC (NC), Nan Ya Plastics Corporation America (SC), and Wellman, Inc. (NJ).

Product Description: The merchandise subject to this proceeding is synthetic staple fibers, not carded, combed or otherwise processed for spinning, of polyesters measuring 3.3 decitex (3 denier, inclusive) or more in diameter. This merchandise is cut to lengths varying from one inch (25 mm) to five inches (127 mm). The subject merchandise may be coated, usually with a silicon or other finish, or not coated. PSF is generally used as stuffing in sleeping bags, mattresses, ski jackets, comforters, cushions, pillows, and furniture.

The following products are excluded from the scope: (1) PSF of less than 3.3 decitex (less than 3 denier) currently classifiable in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTSUS") at subheading 5503.20.0025 and known to the industry as PSF for spinning and generally used in woven and knit applications to produce textile and apparel products; (2) PSF of 10 to 18 denier that are cut to lengths of 6 to 8 inches and that are generally used in the manufacture of carpeting; and (3) low-melt PSF defined as a bi-component fiber with an outer, non-polyester sheath that melts at a significantly lower temperature than its inner polyester core (classified at HTSUS 5503.20.0015).

Certain PSF is classifiable under the HTSUS subheadings 5503.20.0045 and 5503.20.0065. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise under the orders is dispositive.

Initiated Dumping Margins:

COUNTRY	MARGIN	
China	87.43% to 108.98%	

Case Calendar:

EVENT	DATE	
Petition Filed	June 23, 2006	
DOC Initiation Date	July 13, 2006	
ITC Preliminary Determination	August 8, 2006	
DOC Preliminary Determination*	November 30, 2006	
DOC Final Determination*	February 13, 2007	
ITC Final Determination**	March 30, 2007	
Issuance of Order***	April 6, 2007	

^{*} These deadlines may be extended under the governing statute.

Import Statistics (1000s):

China	2003	2004	2005	2006(Jan-Mar)
Volume (lbs)	74,606	71,280	194,872	60,084
Value (\$US)	\$26,827	\$29,708	\$93,260	\$28,013

Source: U.S. International Trade Commission, Dataweb (HTSUS 5503.20.0045 and 5503.20.0065).

^{**} This will take place only in the event of a final affirmative determination from the Department of Commerce.

^{***} This will take place only in the event of final affirmative determinations by both the Department and the ITC.