



FACT SHEET

Commerce Initiates Antidumping Duty Investigation of Imports of Certain Hydrofluorocarbon Blends and Certain Single Hydrofluorocarbon Components Thereof from China

- On July 16, 2015, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced the initiation of the antidumping duty (AD) investigation of imports of certain hydrofluorocarbon blends and certain single hydrofluorocarbon components thereof from China.
- 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.
- The petitioners for this investigation are the American HFC Coalition and its individual members, as well as District Lodge 154 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. The individual members of the American HFC Coalition are: Amtrol Inc. (RI), Arkema Inc. (PA), The Chemours Company FC LLC (DE), Honeywell International Inc. (NJ), Hudson Technologies (NY), Mexichem Fluor Inc. (LA), and Worthington Industries, Inc. (OH).
- The products subject to this investigation are blended hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and single HFC components of those blends thereof, whether or not imported for blending. HFC blends covered by the scope are **R-404**, a zeotropic mixture consisting of 52 percent 1,1,1-Trifluoroethane, 44 percent Pentafluoroethane, and 4 percent 1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane; **R-407A**, a zeotropic mixture of 20 percent Difluoromethane, 40 percent Pentafluoroethane, and 40 percent 1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane; **R-407C**, a zeotropic mixture of 23 percent Difluoromethane, 25 percent Pentafluoroethane, and 52 percent 1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane; **R-410A**, a zeotropic mixture of 50 percent Difluoromethane and 50 percent Pentafluoroethane; and **R-507A**, an azeotropic mixture of 50 percent Pentafluoroethane and 50 percent 1,1,1-Trifluoroethane also known as R-507. The foregoing percentages are nominal percentages by weight. Actual percentages of single component refrigerants by weight may vary by plus or minus two percent points from the nominal percentage identified above.¹

The single component HFCs covered by the scope are **R-32**, **R-125**, and **R-143a**. **R-32** or Difluoromethane has the chemical formula CH_2F_2 , and is registered as CAS No. 75-10-5. It may also be known as HFC-32, FC-32, Freon-32, Methylene difluoride, Methylene fluoride, Carbon fluoride

¹ R-404A is sold under various trade names, including Forane® 404A, Genetron® 404A, Solkane® 404A, Klea® 404A, and Suva®404A. R-407A is sold under various trade names, including Forane® 407A, Solkane® 407A, Klea®407A, and Suva®407A. R-407C is sold under various trade names, including Forane® 407C, Genetron® 407C, Solkane® 407C, Klea® 407C and Suva® 407C. R-410A is sold under various trade names, including EcoFluor R410, Forane® 410A, Genetron® R410A and AZ-20, Solkane® 410A, Klea® 410A, Suva® 410A, and Puron®. R-507A is sold under various trade names, including Forane® 507, Solkane® 507, Klea®507, Genetron®AZ-50, and Suva®507. R-32 is sold under various trade names, including Solkane®32, Forane®32, and Klea®32. R-125 is sold under various trade names, including Solkane®125, Klea®125, Genetron®125, and Forane®125. R-143a is sold under various trade names, including Solkane®143a, Genetron®143a, and Forane®125.

hydride, halocarbon R32, fluorocarbon R32, and UN 3252. **R-125** or 1,1,1,2,2-Pentafluoroethane has the chemical formula CF_3CHF_2 and is registered as CAS No. 354-33-6. R-125 may also be known as R-125, HFC-125, Pentafluoroethane, Freon 125, and Fc-125, R-125. **R-143a** or 1,1,1-Trifluoroethane has the chemical formula CF_3CH_3 and is registered as CAS No. 420-46-2. R-143a may also be known as R-143a, HFC-143a, Methylfluoroform, 1,1,1-Trifluoroform, and UN2035.

Excluded from this investigation are blends of refrigerant chemicals that include products other than HFCs, such as blends including chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) or hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs).

Also excluded from this investigation are patented HFC blends, such as ISCEON® blends, including MO99™ (RR-438A), MO79 (R-422A), MO59 (R-417A), MO49*Plus*™ (R-437A) and MO29™ (R-422D), and Genetron® Performax™ LT (R-407F).

HFC blends covered by the scope of this investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) at subheading 3824.78.0000. Single component HFCs are currently classified at subheading 2903.39.2030, HTSUS. Although the HTSUS subheadings and CAS registry numbers are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope is dispositive.

- In 2014, imports of certain hydrofluorocarbon blends and certain single hydrofluorocarbon components thereof from China were valued at an estimated \$109.5 million.

NEXT STEPS

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to make its preliminary injury determination on or before August 10, 2015.
- If the ITC determines that there is a reasonable indication that imports of certain hydrofluorocarbon blends and certain single hydrofluorocarbon components thereof from China materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, the investigation will continue and Commerce will be scheduled to make its preliminary determination in December 2015, unless the statutory deadline is extended. If the ITC's preliminary determination is negative, the investigation will be discontinued.

Alleged Dumping Margin:

COUNTRY	DUMPING MARGIN
China	111.20 to 300.30 percent

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	DATE
Petition Filed	June 25, 2015
DOC Initiation Date	July 15, 2015
ITC Preliminary Determination*	August 10, 2015†
DOC Preliminary Determination	December 2, 2015
DOC Final Determination	February 16, 2016†
ITC Final Determination**	March 31, 2016
Issuance of Order***	April 7, 2016

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.

†Where the deadline falls on a weekend/holiday, the appropriate date is the next business day.

* If the ITC makes a negative preliminary determination of injury, the investigation is terminated.

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

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IMPORT STATISTICS:

CHINA	2012	2013	2014
Volume (metric tons)	28,300	39,000	34,200
Value (USD)	130,171,000	134,021,000	109,465,000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas. (HTSUS 2903.39.2030 and 3824.78.0000). These HTSUS subheadings are basket categories and may cover both subject and non-subject merchandise.