



FACT SHEET

Commerce Finds Dumping of Imports of Diocetyl Terephthalate from Korea

- On June 20, 2017, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced its affirmative final determination in the antidumping duty (AD) investigation of imports of dioctyl terephthalate (DOTP) from Korea.
- The AD law provides U.S. businesses and workers with a transparent, quasi-judicial, 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 an AD investigation, dumping occurs when a foreign company sells a product in the United States at less than its fair value.
- Commerce found that dumping has occurred by mandatory respondents Aekyung Petrochemical Co., Ltd. (AKP) and LG Chem Ltd. (LG Chem) at dumping margins of 4.08 percent and 2.71 percent, respectively. Commerce assigned the final dumping margin of 3.69 percent to all other producers/exporters of DOTP from Korea.
- As a result of the final affirmative determination, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection to collect cash deposits based on these final rates.
- The petitioner for this investigation is Eastman Chemical Company (TN).
- The merchandise covered by this investigation is dioctyl terephthalate (DOTP), regardless of form. DOTP that has been blended with other products is included within this scope when such blends include constituent parts that have not been chemically reacted with each other to produce a different product. For such blends, only the DOTP component of the mixture is covered by the scope of this investigation.

DOTP that is otherwise subject to this investigation is not excluded when commingled with DOTP from sources not subject to this investigation. Commingled refers to the mixing of subject and non-subject DOTP. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of the investigation.

DOTP has the general chemical formulation $C_6H_4(C_8H_{17}COO)_2$ and a chemical name of “bis (2-ethylhexyl) terephthalate” and has a Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) registry number of 6422-86-2. Regardless of the label, all DOTP is covered by this investigation.

Subject merchandise is currently classified under subheading 2917.39.2000 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Subject merchandise may also enter under subheadings 2917.39.7000 or 3812.20.1000 of the HTSUS. While the CAS registry number and HTSUS classification are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of this investigation is dispositive.

- In 2016, imports of DOTP from Korea were valued at an estimated \$32.5 million.

NEXT STEPS

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to announce its final determination on or about August 3, 2017.
- If the ITC makes an affirmative final determination that imports of DOTP from Korea materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, Commerce will issue an AD order. If the ITC makes a negative determination of injury, the investigation will be terminated.

FINAL DUMPING MARGINS:

COUNTRY	EXPORTER/PRODUCER	DUMPING RATES
Korea	Aekyung Petrochemical Co., Ltd. (AKP)	4.08%
	LG Chem Ltd. (LG Chem)	2.71%
	All Others	3.69%

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	AD INVESTIGATION
Petition Filed	June 30, 2016
DOC Initiation Date	July 20, 2016
ITC Preliminary Determination	August 15, 2016†
DOC Preliminary Determination	January 26, 2017
DOC Final Determination	June 19, 2017†
ITC Final Determination*	August 3, 2017
Issuance of Order**	August 10, 2017

NOTE: Commerce's 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 (the Act). These deadlines may be extended under certain circumstances.

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

*This will take place only in the event of final affirmative determinations from the ITC.

IMPORT STATISTICS:

KOREA	2014	2015	2016
Volume (metric tons)	17,643	25,771	34,454
Value (USD)	29,087,329	31,219,070	32,457,849

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas. (HTSUS 2917.39.2000). This HTSUS subheading is a basket category and may cover both subject and non-subject merchandise. Imports of DOTP may also enter under HTSUS 2917.39.7000 and 3812.20.1000. These HTSUS subheadings may cover a significant amount of non-subject merchandise and therefore have been excluded for purposes of reporting import statistics.