



## FACT SHEET

### Commerce Initiates Antidumping Duty Investigations of Imports of Acetone from Belgium, Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, and Spain

- On March 12, 2019, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced the initiation of antidumping duty (AD) investigations of imports of acetone from Belgium, Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, and Spain.
- The AD laws provide 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 AD investigations, dumping occurs when a foreign company sells a product in the United States at less than its fair value.
- The petitioner is the Coalition for Acetone Fair Trade. The members of the Coalition for Acetone Fair Trade are AdvanSix Inc. (Parsippany, NJ), Altivia Petrochemicals, LLC (Haverhill, OH), and Olin Corporation (Clayton, MO).
- The merchandise covered by these investigations is all grades of liquid or aqueous acetone. Acetone is also known under the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) name propan-2-one. In addition to the IUPAC name, acetone is also referred to as  $\beta$ -ketopropane (or beta-ketopropane), ketone propane, methyl ketone, dimethyl ketone, DMK, dimethyl carbonyl, propanone, 2-propanone, dimethyl formaldehyde, pyroacetic acid, pyroacetic ether, and pyroacetic spirit. Acetone is an isomer of the chemical formula  $C_3H_6O$ , with a specific molecular formula of  $CH_3COCH_3$  or  $(CH_3)_2CO$ .

The scope includes acetone that is combined or mixed with other products, including, but not limited to, isopropyl alcohol, benzene, diethyl ether, methanol, chloroform, and ethanol, regardless of the quantity or value of the acetone component. For such combined products, only the acetone component is covered by the scope of these investigations. Acetone that has been combined with other products is included within the scope, regardless of whether the combining occurs in third countries. Notwithstanding the foregoing language, an acetone combination or mixture that is transformed through a chemical reaction into another product, such that, for example, the acetone can no longer be separated from the other products through a distillation process (*e.g.*, methyl methacrylate (MMA) or Bisphenol A (BPA)) is excluded from these investigations.

The scope also includes acetone that is commingled with acetone from sources not subject to these investigations, regardless of the quantity or value of the subject acetone component. Only the subject merchandise component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of these investigations. Acetone that has been comingled with acetone from sources not subject to these investigations is included within the scope, regardless of whether the combining occurs in third countries. The acetone component from sources not subject to these investigations may still be subject to other acetone investigations.

The Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) registry number for acetone is 67-64-1.

The merchandise covered by these investigations is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheadings 2914.11.1000 and 2914.11.5000. Acetone and acetone combinations and mixtures covered by these investigations may also enter under different HTSUS subheadings, such as 2902.20.0000, 2902.70.0000, 2905.12.0050, or 2914.12.0000, however, this list of HTSUS subheadings is non-exhaustive. Although these HTSUS subheadings and CAS registry number are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of these investigations is dispositive.

- In 2017, imports of acetone from Belgium, Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, and Spain were valued at an estimated \$31.4 million, \$37.0 million, \$3.6 million, \$2.7 million, \$17.3 million, and \$7.3 million, respectively.
- The Initiation Decision Checklists are on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and to all parties in the Central Records Unit, Room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. Please refer to case numbers A-423-814 for Belgium, A-580-899 for Korea, A-517-805 for Saudi Arabia, A-559-808 for Singapore, A-791-824 for South Africa, and A-469-819 for Spain.

## NEXT STEPS

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to make its preliminary injury determinations on or before April 5, 2019.
- If the ITC determines that there is a reasonable indication that imports of acetone from Belgium, Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, and/or Spain materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry in the United States, the investigations will continue, and Commerce will be scheduled to announce its preliminary determinations on July 30, 2019, although this date may be extended. If the ITC's determinations are negative, the investigations will be terminated.

**ALLEGED DUMPING MARGINS:**

<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>DUMPING MARGINS</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	<b>43.41 to 73.69 percent</b>
<b>Korea</b>	<b>112.72 to 174.66 percent</b>
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	<b>36.88 percent</b>
<b>Singapore</b>	<b>14.52 to 131.75 percent</b>
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>214.09 to 414.92 percent</b>
<b>Spain</b>	<b>102.97 to 171.81 percent</b>

**CASE CALENDAR:**

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>AD INVESTIGATION</b>
<b>Petitions Filed</b>	<b>February 19, 2019</b>
<b>DOC Initiation Date</b>	<b>March 11, 2019</b>
<b>ITC Preliminary Determinations*</b>	<b>April 5, 2019</b>
<b>DOC Preliminary Determinations</b>	<b>July 29, 2019</b>
<b>DOC Final Determinations</b>	<b>October 15, 2019<sup>†</sup></b>
<b>ITC Final Determinations**</b>	<b>November 29, 2019</b>
<b>Issuance of Orders***</b>	<b>December 6, 2019<sup>†</sup></b>

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. These deadlines may be extended under certain circumstances.

\* If the ITC makes a negative preliminary determination of injury, the investigations are terminated.

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

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

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

## IMPORT STATISTICS:

<b>BELGIUM</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2018</b>
Quantity (metric tons)	748	30,545	45,019	37,103	55,803
Customs Value (USD)	674,175	14,934,049	31,454,384	25,070,945	44,927,748
<b>KOREA</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2018</b>
Quantity (metric tons)	41,541	23,536	50,519	43,468	84,749
Customs Value (USD)	27,243,492	12,296,879	37,046,081	31,884,684	57,951,171
<b>SAUDI ARABIA</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2018</b>
Quantity (metric tons)	-	-	5,035	-	6,120
Customs Value (USD)	-	-	3,610,226	-	3,957,373
<b>SINGAPORE</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2018</b>
Quantity (metric tons)	26,273	2,504	3,995	2,001	9,663
Customs Value (USD)	14,791,846	1,436,314	2,723,035	1,176,780	7,040,073
<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2018</b>
Quantity (metric tons)	22,655	25,946	24,276	24,277	25,707
Customs Value (USD)	15,339,080	12,355,598	17,256,941	17,256,941	20,561,473
<b>SPAIN</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2017</b>	<b>Jan-Nov 2018</b>
Quantity (metric tons)	3,124	6	4,065	2,065	24,885
Customs Value (USD)	1,099,151	3,136,445	7,336,872	5,856,829	17,361,200

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas using the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheadings 2914.11.1000 and 2914.11.5000.