



FACT SHEET

Commerce Preliminarily Finds Dumping of Imports of Acetone from Singapore and Spain

- On July 30, 2019, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced its affirmative preliminary determinations in the antidumping duty (AD) investigations of imports of acetone from Singapore and Spain.
- 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 AD investigations, dumping occurs when a foreign company sells an imported product in the United States at less than fair value.
- In the Singapore investigation, Commerce assigned a preliminary dumping rate of 131.75 percent to mandatory respondent Mitsui Phenols Singapore Pte. Ltd. Commerce assigned a preliminary dumping rate of 66.42 percent for all other Singaporean producers and exporters.
- In the Spain investigation, Commerce assigned a preliminary dumping rate of 171.81 percent to mandatory respondent CEPSA Quimica, S.A. Commerce preliminarily found that Industrias Quimicas del Oxido de Etileno, S.A., one of the two Spanish producers/exporters named in the petition, had no exports, shipments, or sales of subject merchandise to the United States during the period of investigation. Commerce assigned a preliminary dumping rate of 137.39 percent for all other Spanish producers and exporters.
- 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 β -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 covers both pure acetone (with or without impurities) and acetone that is combined or mixed with other products, including, but not limited to, isopropyl alcohol, benzene, diethyl ether, methanol, chloroform, and ethanol. Acetone that has been combined with other products is included within the scope, regardless of whether the combining occurs in third countries.

The scope also includes acetone that is commingled with acetone from sources not subject to these investigations.

For combined and commingled products, only the acetone component is covered by the scope of these investigations. However, when acetone is combined with acetone components from sources not subject to these investigations, those third country acetone components may still be subject to other acetone investigations.

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.

A combination or mixture is excluded from these investigations if the total acetone component (regardless of the source or sources) comprises less than 5 percent of the combination or mixture, on a dry weight basis.

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. Combinations or mixtures of acetone may enter under subheadings in Chapter 38 of the HTSUS, including, but not limited to, those under heading 3814.00.1000, 3814.00.2000, 3814.00.5010, and 3814.00.5090. The list of items found under these 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 2018, imports of acetone from Singapore and Spain were valued at an estimated \$8.5 million and \$17 million, respectively.
- The Preliminary Decision Memoranda 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 number A-559-808 for Singapore and A-469-819 for Spain.

NEXT STEPS

- Commerce is scheduled to announce its final determinations on or about October 16, 2019.
- If Commerce makes affirmative final determinations, and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) makes affirmative final determinations that imports of acetone from Singapore and Spain materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, Commerce will issue AD orders. If either Commerce or the ITC issues negative final determinations, no AD orders will be issued. The ITC is scheduled to make its final injury determinations approximately 45 days after Commerce issues its final determinations, if affirmative.

PRELIMINARY DUMPING RATES:

COUNTRY	EXPORTER/PRODUCER	DUMPING RATES
Singapore	Mitsui Phenols Singapore Pte. Ltd.	131.75%
	All Others	66.42%

COUNTRY	EXPORTER/PRODUCER	DUMPING RATES
Spain	CEPSA Quimica, S.A.	171.81%
	All Others	137.39%

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	AD INVESTIGATIONS
Petitions Filed	February 19, 2019
DOC Initiation Date	March 11, 2019
ITC Preliminary Determinations	April 5, 2019
DOC Preliminary Determinations	July 29, 2019
DOC Final Determinations	October 15, 2019
ITC Final Determinations**	November 29, 2019
Issuance of OrderS***	December 6, 2019

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)(1) 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 affirmative final determinations from Commerce.

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IMPORT STATISTICS:

SINGAPORE	2016	2017	2018
Quantity (metric tons)	2,504	3,995	12,289
Value (USD)	1,436,314	2,723,035	8,469,413

SPAIN	2016	2017	2018
Quantity (metric tons)	6	4,065	24,885
Value (USD)	3,136,445	7,336,872	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.