



FACT SHEET

Commerce Initiates Antidumping Duty Investigation of Imports of 1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane from the People's Republic of China

- On March 24, 2016, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced the initiation of the antidumping duty (AD) investigation of imports of 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane (also known as R-134a) from the People's Republic of China (China).
- 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 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 product subject to this investigation is 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane, R-134a, or its chemical equivalent, regardless of form, type, or purity level. The chemical formula for 1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane is $\text{CF}_3\text{-CH}_2\text{F}$, and the Chemical Abstracts Service registry number is CAS 811-97-2.¹
- Merchandise covered by the scope of this investigation is currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) at subheading 2903.39.2020. Although the HTSUS subheading and CAS registry number are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope is dispositive.
- In 2015, imports of 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane from China were valued at an estimated \$46.2 million.

NEXT STEPS

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to make its preliminary injury determination on or before April 18, 2016.

¹ 1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane is sold under a number of trade names including Klea 134a and Zephex 134a (Mexichem Fluor); Genetron 134a (Honeywell); Freon™ 134a, Suva 134a, Dymel 134a, and Dymel P134a (Chemours); Solkane 134a (Solvay); and Forane 134a (Arkema). Generically, 1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane has been sold as Fluorocarbon 134a, R-134a, HFC-134a, HF A-134a, Refrigerant 134a, and UN3159.

- If the ITC determines that there is a reasonable indication that imports of 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane 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 AD determination in August 2016, 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	153.68 to 220.87 percent

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	DATE
Petition Filed	March 3, 2016
DOC Initiation Date	March 23, 2016
ITC Preliminary Determination*	April 18, 2016†
DOC Preliminary Determination	August 10, 2016
DOC Final Determination	October 24, 2016
ITC Final Determination**	December 8, 2016
Issuance of Order***	December 15, 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	2013	2014	2015
Volume (metric tons)	10,400	7,900	14,000
Value (USD)	36,594,000	26,026,000	46,202,000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas. (HTSUS 2903.39.2020)