



FACT SHEET

Commerce Preliminarily Finds Dumping of Imports of 1,1,1,2-Tetrafluoroethane from the People's Republic of China

- On September 30, 2016, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced its affirmative preliminary determination in 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 an AD investigation dumping occurs when a foreign company sells a product in the United States at less than its fair value.
- Commerce preliminarily found that dumping has occurred by mandatory respondent Zhejiang Sanmei Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. and Jiangsu Sanmei Chemicals Co., Ltd. (collectively, Sanmei) at a preliminary dumping margin of 137.23 percent. Commerce preliminarily found that the other mandatory respondent, Zhejiang Quzhou Lianzhou Refrigerants Co., Ltd., is not eligible for a separate rate and is part of the China-wide entity. Commerce assigned the preliminary margin of 137.23 percent, to the non-selected respondents eligible for a separate rate. Commerce determined a preliminary dumping margin of 188.94 percent based on adverse facts available for all other producers/exporters in China that are part of the China-wide entity due to their failure to respond to Commerce's requests for information.
- As a result of the preliminary affirmative determination, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to collect cash deposits based on these preliminary rates.
- Commerce preliminarily found that critical circumstances exist with respect to the separate rate respondents and the China-wide entity. CBP will be instructed to impose retroactively provisional measures on entries of 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane from China exported by the separate rate respondents and the China-wide entity effective 90 days prior to publication of the preliminary determination in the Federal Register.
- 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 CF₃-CH₂F, 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

- Commerce is scheduled to announce its final determination on or about February 14, 2017.
- If Commerce makes an affirmative final determination, and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) makes an affirmative final determination that imports of 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane from China materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, Commerce will issue an AD order. If either Commerce’s or the ITC’s final determination is negative, no AD order will be issued. The ITC is scheduled to make its final injury determination in March 2017.

PRELIMINARY DUMPING MARGINS:

COUNTRY	EXPORTER/PRODUCER	DUMPING RATES
China	Zhejiang Sanmei Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. and Jiangsu Sanmei Chemicals Co., Ltd. (collectively, Sanmei)	137.23%
	Separate Rate Companies (See Attached List)	137.23%
	China-Wide Rate	188.94%

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.

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	DATE
Petitions Filed	March 3, 2016
DOC Initiation Date	March 23, 2016
ITC Preliminary Determination	June 6, 2016
DOC Preliminary Determination	September 29, 2016
DOC Final Determination	February 13, 2017
ITC Final Determination*	March 30, 2017
Issuance of Order**	April 6, 2017

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.

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

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

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)

SEPARATE RATE RESPONDENTS

Exporter	Producer	Weighted-Average Margin (percent)
Jiangsu Bluestar Green Technology Co., Ltd.	Jiangsu Bluestar Green Technology Co., Ltd.	137.23
T.T. International Co., Ltd.	Electrochemical Factory of Zhejiang Juhua Co., Ltd.	137.23
T.T. International Co., Ltd.	Sinochem Environmental Protection Chemicals (Taicang) Co., Ltd.	137.23
T.T. International Co., Ltd.	Zhejiang Quzhou Lianzhou Refrigerants Co., Ltd.	137.23
T.T. International Co., Ltd.	Zhejiang Sanmei Chemical Ind. Co., Ltd.	137.23
T.T. International Co., Ltd.	Zhejiang Zhonglan Refrigeration Technology Co., Ltd.	137.23
Weitron International Refrigeration Equipment Co., Ltd.	Sinochem Environmental Protection Chemicals (Taicang) Co., Ltd.	137.23
Weitron International Refrigeration Equipment Co., Ltd.	Weitron International Refrigeration Equipment Co., Ltd.	137.23
Weitron International Refrigeration Equipment Co., Ltd.	Zhejiang Organic Fluor-Chemistry Plant, Zhejiang Juhua Co., Ltd.	137.23
Weitron International Refrigeration Equipment Co., Ltd.	Zhejiang Quhua Fluor-Chemistry Co., Ltd.	137.23
Weitron International Refrigeration Equipment Co., Ltd.	Zhejiang Quhua Juxin Fluorochemical Industry Co., Ltd.	137.23
Weitron International Refrigeration Equipment Co., Ltd.	Zhejiang Sanmei Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.	137.23