



FACT SHEET

Commerce Initiates Antidumping Duty Investigation of Imports of Large Residential Washers from the People's Republic of China

- On January 6, 2016, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced the initiation of the antidumping duty (AD) investigation of imports of certain large residential washers (washing machines) from the People's Republic of China (China).
- The AD law provides U.S. businesses and workers with a transparent 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.
- The petitioner for this investigation is Whirlpool Corporation (MI).
- The products covered by this investigation are large residential washers and certain parts thereof from the People's Republic of China.

For purposes of this investigation, the term “large residential washers” denotes all automatic clothes washing machines, regardless of the orientation of the rotational axis, with a cabinet width (measured from its widest point) of at least 24.5 inches (62.23 cm) and no more than 32.0 inches (81.28 cm), except as noted below.

Also covered are certain parts used in large residential washers, namely: (1) all cabinets, or portions thereof, designed for use in large residential washers; (2) all assembled tubs¹ designed for use in large residential washers which incorporate, at a minimum: (a) a tub; and (b) a seal; (3) all assembled baskets² designed for use in large residential washers which incorporate, at a minimum: (a) a side wrapper;³ (b) a base; and (c) a drive hub;⁴ and (4) any combination of the foregoing parts or subassemblies.

Excluded from the scope are stacked washer-dryers and commercial washers. The term “stacked washer-dryers” denotes distinct washing and drying machines that are built on a unitary frame and share a common console that controls both the washer and the dryer. The term “commercial washer” denotes an automatic clothes washing machine designed for the “pay per use” segment meeting either of the following two definitions:

¹ A “tub” is the part of the washer designed to hold water.

² A “basket” (sometimes referred to as a “drum”) is the part of the washer designed to hold clothing or other fabrics.

³ A “side wrapper” is the cylindrical part of the basket that actually holds the clothing or other fabrics.

⁴ A “drive hub” is the hub at the center of the base that bears the load from the motor.

(1) (a) it contains payment system electronics;⁵ (b) it is configured with an externally mounted steel frame at least six inches high that is designed to house a coin/token operated payment system (whether or not the actual coin/token operated payment system is installed at the time of importation); (c) it contains a push button user interface with a maximum of six manually selectable wash cycle settings, with no ability of the end user to otherwise modify water temperature, water level, or spin speed for a selected wash cycle setting; and (d) the console containing the user interface is made of steel and is assembled with security fasteners;⁶ or

(2) (a) it contains payment system electronics; (b) the payment system electronics are enabled (whether or not the payment acceptance device has been installed at the time of importation) such that, in normal operation,⁷ the unit cannot begin a wash cycle without first receiving a signal from a bona fide payment acceptance device such as an electronic credit card reader; (c) it contains a push button user interface with a maximum of six manually selectable wash cycle settings, with no ability of the end user to otherwise modify water temperature, water level, or spin speed for a selected wash cycle setting; and (d) the console containing the user interface is made of steel and is assembled with security fasteners.

Also excluded from the scope are automatic clothes washing machines that meet all of the following conditions: (1) have a vertical rotational axis; (2) are top loading;⁸ (3) have a drive train consisting, *inter alia*, of (a) a permanent split capacitor (PSC) motor,⁹ (b) a belt drive,¹⁰ and (c) a flat wrap spring clutch.¹¹

Also excluded from the scope are automatic clothes washing machines that meet all of the following conditions: (1) have a horizontal rotational axis; (2) are front loading;¹² and (3) have a drive train consisting, *inter alia*, of (a) a controlled induction motor (CIM),¹³ and (b) a belt drive.

Also excluded from the scope are automatic clothes washing machines that meet all of the following conditions: (1) have a horizontal rotational axis; (2) are front loading; and (3) have cabinet width (measured from its widest point) of more than 28.5 inches (72.39 cm).

⁵ “Payment system electronics” denotes a circuit board designed to receive signals from a payment acceptance device and to display payment amount, selected settings, and cycle status. Such electronics also capture cycles and payment history and provide for transmission to a reader.

⁶ A “security fastener” is a screw with a non-standard head that requires a non-standard driver. Examples include those with a pin in the center of the head as a “center pin reject” feature to prevent standard Allen wrenches or Torx drivers from working.

⁷ “Normal operation” refers to the operating mode(s) available to end users (*i.e.*, not a mode designed for testing or repair by a technician).

⁸ “Top loading” means that access to the basket is from the top of the washer.

⁹ A “PSC motor” is an asynchronous, alternating current (AC), single phase induction motor that employs split phase capacitor technology.

¹⁰ A “belt drive” refers to a drive system that includes a belt and pulleys.

¹¹ A “flat wrap spring clutch” is a flat metal spring that, when engaged, links abutted cylindrical pieces on the input shaft with the end of the concentric output shaft that connects to the drive hub.

¹² “Front loading” means that access to the basket is from the front of the washer.

¹³ A “controlled induction motor” is an asynchronous, alternating current (AC), polyphase induction motor.

- The products subject to this investigation are currently classifiable under subheadings 8450.20.0040 and 8450.20.0080 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Products subject to this investigation may also enter under HTSUS subheadings 8450.11.0040, 8450.11.0080, 8450.90.2000, and 8450.90.6000. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise subject to this investigation is dispositive.
- In 2014, imports of washing machines from China were valued at an estimated \$899.4 million.

NEXT STEPS

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to make its preliminary injury determination on or before February 1, 2016.
- If the ITC determines that there is a reasonable indication that imports of washing machines from China materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, the AD investigation will continue and Commerce will be scheduled to make its preliminary determination in May 2016, unless the statutory deadline is extended. If the ITC's preliminary determination is negative, then the AD investigation will be terminated.

ALLEGED DUMPING MARGINS:

COUNTRY	DUMPING MARGIN
China	68.92 – 109.04 percent

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	AD INVESTIGATION
Petition Filed	December 16, 2015
DOC Initiation Date	January 5, 2016
ITC Preliminary Determination*	February 1, 2016†
DOC Preliminary Determination	May 24, 2016
DOC Final Determination	August 8, 2016†
ITC Final Determination**	September 21, 2016
Issuance of Order***	September 28, 2016

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.

* If the ITC makes a negative preliminary determination of injury, the AD 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	2012	2013	2014
Volume (units)	471,000	1,823,000	3,806,000
Value (USD)	171,888,000	689,179,000	899,399,000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas. (HTSUS8450.20.0090). The above HTSUS subheading may cover both subject and non-subject merchandise. Note: in 2015, HTSUS 8450.20.0090 was replaced by HTSUS 8450.20.0040 and 8450.20.0080. Imports of washing machines may also enter under HTSUS 8450.11.0040, 8450.11.0080, 8450.90.2000, and 8450.90.6000. However, these HTSUS subheadings may cover a significant amount of non-subject merchandise. Therefore, these HTSUS subheadings have been excluded for purposes of reporting the import statistics above.