



## FACT SHEET

### Commerce Preliminarily Finds Dumping of Imports of Carbon and Alloy Steel Threaded Rod from Thailand

- On August 1, 2019, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced its affirmative preliminary determination in the antidumping duty (AD) investigation of imports of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod from Thailand.
- 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.
- Commerce assigned a preliminary dumping rate of 20.83 percent to mandatory respondent Tycoons Worldwide Group (Thailand) Co. Ltd. based on total adverse facts available and its failure to participate in this investigation. Consequently, Commerce preliminarily assigned the same dumping rate of 20.83 percent for all other producers and exporters from Thailand.
- Commerce preliminarily determined that critical circumstances exist for Tycoons and all other producers and exporters from Thailand.
- As a result of the preliminary affirmative determination for Thailand, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to require cash deposits from importers of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod from Thailand based on these preliminary rates. Because Commerce affirmatively determined that critical circumstances exist, we will instruct CBP to begin suspending entries 90 days before the publication of the preliminary determination in the *Federal Register*.
- The petitioner is Vulcan Threaded Products Inc. (Pelham, AL).
- The merchandise covered by this investigation is carbon and alloy steel threaded rod. Steel threaded rod is certain threaded rod, bar, or studs, of carbon or alloy steel, having a solid, circular cross section of any diameter, in any straight length. Steel threaded rod is normally drawn, cold-rolled, threaded, and straightened, or it may be hot-rolled. In addition, the steel threaded rod, bar, or studs subject to these investigations are non-headed and threaded along greater than 25 percent of their total actual length. A variety of finishes or coatings, such as plain oil finish as a temporary rust protectant, zinc coating (*i.e.*, galvanized, whether by electroplating or hot-dipping), paint, and other similar finishes and coatings, may be applied to the merchandise.

Steel threaded rod is normally produced to American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) specifications ASTM A36, ASTM A193 B7/B7m, ASTM A193 B16, ASTM A307, ASTM A329 L7/L7M, ASTM A320 L43, ASTM A354 BC and BD, ASTM A449, ASTM F1554-36, ASTM F1554-55, ASTM F1554 Grade 105, American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) specification ASME

B18.31.3, and American Petroleum Institute (API) specification API 20E. All steel threaded rod meeting the physical description set forth above is covered by the scope of these investigations, whether or not produced according to a particular standard.

Carbon and alloy steel threaded rod are also included in the scope of this investigation whether or not imported attached to, or in conjunction with, other parts and accessories such as nuts and washers. If carbon and alloy steel threaded rod are imported attached to, or in conjunction with, such non-subject merchandise, only the threaded rod is included in the scope.

Excluded from the scope of this investigation is: (1) threaded rod, bar, or studs which are threaded only on one or both ends and the threading covers 25 percent or less of the total actual length; and (2) stainless steel threaded rod, defined as steel threaded rod containing, by weight, 1.2 percent or less of carbon and 10.5 percent or more of chromium, with or without other elements.

Excluded from the scope of the antidumping investigation on steel threaded rod from the People's Republic of China is any merchandise covered by the existing antidumping order on Certain Steel Threaded Rod from the People's Republic of China. *See Certain Steel Threaded Rod from the People's Republic of China: Notice of Antidumping Duty Order*, 74 FR 17154 (April 14, 2009).

Specifically excluded from the scope of this investigation is threaded rod that is imported as part of a package of hardware in conjunction with a ready-to-assemble piece of furniture.

Steel threaded rod is currently classifiable under subheadings 7318.15.5051, 7318.15.5056, and 7318.15.5090 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Subject merchandise may also enter under subheading 7318.15.2095 and 7318.19.0000 of the HTSUS. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and U.S. Customs purposes only. The written description of the scope is dispositive.

- In 2018, imports of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod from Thailand were valued at an estimated \$5.8 million.
- The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is 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-549-840.

## **NEXT STEPS**

- Commerce is scheduled to announce its final determination on or about October 15, 2019.
- If Commerce makes an affirmative final determination, and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) makes an affirmative final determination that imports of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod from Thailand materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, Commerce will issue an AD order. If either Commerce or the ITC issues a negative final determination, no AD order will be issued. The ITC is scheduled to make its final injury determination approximately 45 days after Commerce issues its final determination, if affirmative.

**PRELIMINARY DUMPING RATES:**

<b>EXPORTER/PRODUCER</b>	<b>DUMPING RATES</b>
<b>Tycoons Worldwide Group (Thailand) Co. Ltd.</b>	<b>20.83%</b>
<b>All Others</b>	<b>20.83%</b>

**CASE CALENDAR:**

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>AD INVESTIGATION</b>
<b>Petition Filed</b>	<b>February 21, 2019</b>
<b>DOC Initiation Date</b>	<b>March 13, 2019</b>
<b>ITC Preliminary Determination</b>	<b>April 8, 2019</b>
<b>DOC Preliminary Determination</b>	<b>July 30, 2019</b>
<b>DOC Final Determination</b>	<b>October 14, 2019</b>
<b>ITC Final Determination**</b>	<b>November 28, 2019</b>
<b>Issuance of Order***</b>	<b>December 5, 2019</b>

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:**

<b>Thailand</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Volume (metric tons)	5,487	4,681	5,452
Value (USD)	4,400,920	4,427,201	5,759,103

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas (Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) 7318.15.5051, 7318.15.5056, and 7318.15.5090).