

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**International Trade Administration**

[A-580-807]

Polyethylene Terephthalate Film From Korea: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty New Shipper Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of preliminary results of antidumping duty new shipper review.

SUMMARY: In response to a request from one respondent, the Department of Commerce (the Department) is conducting a new shipper review of the antidumping duty order on polyethylene terephthalate film, sheet, and strip (PET film) from the Republic of Korea. The review covers one manufacturer/exporter of the subject merchandise to the United States and the period June 1, 1997 through May 31, 1998. We preliminarily determine that HSI Industries (HSI) did not sell subject merchandise below normal value (NV) during the period of review. If these preliminary results are adopted in our final results of review, we will instruct the U.S. Customs Service to assess no antidumping duties for HSI for the period covered by this new shipper review.

Interested parties are invited to comment on these preliminary results. Parties who submit argument in this proceeding are requested to submit with the argument: (1) a statement of issues and (2) a summary of the arguments (no longer than five pages, including footnotes).

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 10, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael J. Heaney or John Kugelman, AD/CVD Enforcement Group III, Office 8, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone (202) 482-4475/0649.

Applicable Statute

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act) are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments made to the Act by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act. In addition, unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Department's regulations are to the regulations codified at 19 CFR part 351 (1998).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

On June 30, 1998 and July 1, 1998, the Department received requests from HSI and Kohap, Ltd. (Kohap) for new shipper reviews pursuant to section 751(a)(2) of the Act and § 351.214(b) of the Department's regulations. On July 16, 1998, we published the notice of initiation for this new shipper review (63 FR 38371). On August 12, 1998, Kohap, Ltd. (Kohap) withdrew its request for a new shipper review. On December 7, 1998, we postponed the preliminary results until May 12, 1999, and rescinded the review with respect to Kohap (63 FR 67455).

Scope of the Review

Imports covered by this review are shipments of all gauges of raw, pretreated, or primed polyethylene terephthalate film, sheet, and strip, whether extruded or coextruded. The films excluded from this review are metallized films and other finished films that have had at least one of their surfaces modified by the application of a performance-enhancing resinous or inorganic layer of more than 0.00001 inches (0.254 micrometers) thick. Roller transport cleaning film which has at least one of its surfaces modified by the application of 0.5 micrometers of SBR latex has also been ruled as not within the scope of the order.

PET film is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) subheading 3920.62.00.00. The HTS subheading is provided for convenience and for U.S. Customs purposes. The written description remains dispositive as to the scope of the product coverage.

The review covers the period June 1, 1997 through May 31, 1998. The Department is conducting this review in accordance with section 751(a)(2)(B) of the Act, as amended.

Fair Value Comparisons

To determine whether sales of PET film in the United States were made at less than fair value, we compared USP to the NV, as described in the "United States Price" and "Normal Value" sections of this notice. In accordance with section 777A(d)(2) of the Act, we calculated monthly weighted-average prices for NV and compared these to individual U.S. transactions.

United States Price (USP)

In calculating USP, the Department treated HSI's sales as export price (EP) sales, because the merchandise was sold to unaffiliated U.S. purchasers prior to the date of importation and constructed export price (CEP) methodology was not

otherwise indicated. See section 772(a) of the Act.

EP was based on the delivered price to unaffiliated purchasers in the United States. We made adjustments, where applicable, for Korean inland freight, Korean brokerage charges, ocean freight, U.S. brokerage charges, U.S. inland freight, and U.S. customs duties. We made an addition to EP for duty drawback pursuant to section 772(c)(1)(B) of the Act.

Normal Value (NV)

In order to determine whether there were sufficient sales of PET film in the home market (HM) to serve as a viable basis for calculating NV, we compared the volume of home market sales of PET film to the volume of PET film sold in the United States, in accordance with section 773(a)(1)(C) of the Act. HSI's aggregate volume of HM sales of the foreign like product was greater than five percent of its respective aggregate volume of U.S. sales of the subject merchandise. Therefore, we have based NV on HM sales.

In accordance with section 773(a)(6) of the Act, we adjusted NV, where appropriate, by deducting home market packing expenses and adding U.S. packing expenses. We also adjusted NV for differences in credit expenses and deducted inland freight.

Level of Trade

In accordance with section 773(a)(1)(B)(i) of the Act, to the extent practicable, we determine NV based on sales in the comparison market at the same level of trade (LOT) as the EP or CEP transaction. The NV LOT is that of the starting price sales in the comparison market or, when NV is based on CV, that of the sales from which we derive SG&A expenses and profit. For EP, the U.S. LOT is also the level of the starting price sale, which is usually from the exporter to the importer. For CEP, it is the level of the constructed sale from the exporter to the importer.

To determine whether NV sales are at a different LOT than EP or CEP sales, we examine stages in the marketing process and selling functions along the chain of distribution between the producer and the unaffiliated customer. If the comparison market sales are at a different LOT, and the difference affects price comparability, as manifested in a pattern of consistent price differences between the sales on which NV is based and comparison market sales at the LOT of the export transaction, we make a LOT adjustment under section 773(a)(7)(A) of the Act. Finally, for CEP sales, if the NV level is more remote

from the factory than the CEP level and there is no basis for determining whether the differences in the levels between NV and CEP affects price comparability, we adjust NV under section 773(A)(7)(B) of the Act (the CEP offset provision). (See *e.g.*, Certain Carbon Steel Plate from South Africa, Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, 62 FR 61731 (November 19, 1997).)

In implementing these principles in this review, we asked HSI to identify the specific differences and similarities in selling functions and/or support services between all phases of marketing in the home market and the United States. HSI identified two channels of distribution in the home market: (1) Wholesalers/distributors and (2) end-users. For both channels, HSI performs similar selling functions such as order processing, delivery arrangement, and customer liaison. Because channels of distribution do not qualify as separate levels of trade when the selling functions performed for each customer class are sufficiently similar, we determined that there exists one LOT for HSI's home market sales.

For the U.S. market HSI reported one LOT: EP sales made directly to its U.S. customers. When we compared EP sales to home market sales, we determined that sales in both markets were made at the same LOT. For both EP and home market transactions HSI sold directly to the customer and provided similar levels of order processing, delivery arrangement, and customer liaison. Based upon the foregoing, we determined that HSI sold at the same LOT in the U.S. as it did in the home market, and consequently no LOT adjustment is warranted.

Preliminary Results of Review

We preliminarily determine that a margin of 0.00 percent exists for HSI for the period June 1, 1997 through May 31, 1998. We will disclose calculations performed in connection with this preliminary results of review within 10 days after the date of any public announcement, or if there is no public announcement within 5 days of publication of this notice. Interested parties may submit case briefs and/or written comments no later than 30 days after the date of publication. Rebuttal briefs and rebuttals to written comments, limited to issues raised in such briefs or comments, may be filed no later than 5 days after the deadline for filing case briefs. Any interested party may request a hearing within 30 days of publication. Any hearing, if requested, will be held 2 days after the deadline for filing rebuttal briefs unless

the Secretary alters the date. The Department will issue the final results of this administrative review, which will include the results of its analysis of issues raised in any such written comments or at a hearing, within 90 days after the date of these preliminary results.

Upon completion of this new shipper administrative review, the Department shall determine, and Customs shall assess, antidumping duties on all appropriate entries. We have calculated importer-specific *ad valorem* duty assessment rates based on the total amount of antidumping duties calculated for the examined sales as a percentage of the total value of subject merchandise entered during the POR. These rates will be assessed uniformly on all entries made during the POR. The Department will issue appraisal instructions directly to Customs. The final results of this review shall be the basis for the assessment of antidumping duties on entries of merchandise covered by the determination and for future deposits of estimated duties.

Upon completion of this review, the posting of a bond, or security in lieu of cash deposit, pursuant to section 751(a)(2)(B)(iii) of the Act and § 351.214(e) of the Department's regulations will no longer be permitted and, should the final results yield a margin of dumping, a cash deposit will be required for each entry of the merchandise.

Furthermore, the following deposit requirements will be effective upon completion of the final results of this new shipper review for all shipments of PET film from the Republic of Korea entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the publication date of the final results of this new shipper review, as provided by section 751(a)(1) of the Act: (1) the cash deposit rate for HSI will be the rate established in the final results of this new shipper review; (2) for merchandise exported by manufacturers or exporters not covered in this review but covered in the less than fair value (LTFV) investigation or a previous review, the cash deposit will continue to be the most recent rate published in the final determination or final results for which the manufacturer or exporter received a company-specific rate; (3) if the exporter is not a firm covered in this review or the original investigation, but the manufacturer is, the cash deposit rate will be that established for the manufacturer of the merchandise in the final results of this review or the LTFV investigation; and (4) if neither the exporter nor the manufacturer is a firm covered in this or any previous reviews,

the cash deposit rate will be 21.5%, the "all others" rate established in the LTFV investigation.

This notice also serves as a preliminary reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in the Secretary's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of double antidumping duties.

This new shipper review and notice are in accordance with section 751(a)(2)(B) of the Act 19 CFR 351.214(d).

Dated: May 3, 1999.

Robert S. LaRossa,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-11724 Filed 5-7-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-588-028]

Roller Chain, Other Than Bicycle From Japan: Preliminary Results, Intent Not To Revoke in Part, and Partial Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of preliminary results, determination not to revoke in part, and partial rescission of antidumping duty administrative review.

SUMMARY: In response to timely requests for administrative review from the petitioner, the American Chain Association, and five manufacturers/exporters for the period April 1, 1997, through March 31, 1998, the Department of Commerce is conducting an administrative review of the antidumping finding on roller chain, other than bicycle from Japan. We have preliminarily determined that sales of the subject merchandise have been made below normal value. If these preliminary results are adopted in our final results of administrative review, we will instruct the U.S. Customs Service to assess antidumping duties based on the difference between the export price or constructed export price and the normal value.

Because two respondents failed verification, we based the margin for