

subject to this order are currently classifiable under subheadings 7307.21.1000 and 7307.21.5000 of the HTSUS.

Rescission of 1997/98 Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

On March 29, 1999, in response to a request from Echjay Forgings, Ltd. (Echjay), the Department published a Notice of Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Administrative Reviews (64 FR 14860). Echjay was the only party who requested a review. Subsequently, we received information from respondent Echjay which indicated that the company made no sales or consumption entries of subject merchandise in the United States during the period of review. On May 25, 1999, the Department forwarded a no-shipment inquiry to the U.S. Customs Service (Customs) for circulation to all Customs ports. Customs did not indicate to the Department that there was any record of consumption entries of subject merchandise by Echjay during the POR. We are therefore rescinding this review in its entirety in accordance with section(a)(1) of the Tariff Act (19 U.S.C. 1675(a)(1)) and section 351.213(d)(3) of our regulations.

This notice is published in accordance with section 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: September 27, 1999.

Edward Yang,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-25752 Filed 10-4-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-588-706]

Revocation of Antidumping Duty Order: Nitrile Rubber From Japan

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

ACTION: Notice of revocation of antidumping duty order: nitrile rubber from Japan.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"), the United States International Trade Commission ("the Commission") determined that revocation of the antidumping duty order on nitrile rubber from Japan is not likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time (64 FR 51557 (September 23,

1999)). Therefore, pursuant to section 751(d)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.222(i)(1), the Department of Commerce ("the Department") is revoking the antidumping duty order on nitrile rubber from Japan. Pursuant to section 751(c)(6)(A)(iv) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.222(i)(2) the effective date of revocation is January 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eun W. Cho or Melissa G. Skinner, Office of Policy for Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-1698 or (202) 482-1560, respectively.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2000.

Background

On April 1, 1999, the Department initiated, and the Commission instituted, a sunset review (63 FR 15727 and 64 FR 15788, respectively) of the antidumping duty order on nitrile rubber from Japan pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act. As a result of the review, the Department found that revocation of the antidumping duty order would likely lead to continuation or recurrence of dumping and notified the Commission of the magnitude of the margin likely to prevail were the order to be revoked (*see Final Results of Expedited Sunset Review: Nitrile Rubber From Japan*, 64 FR 42668 (August 5, 1999)).

On September 23, 1999, the Commission determined, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act, that revocation of the antidumping duty order on nitrile rubber from Japan would not likely lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time (*see Nitrile Rubber From Japan*, 64 FR 51557 (September 23, 1999)), and USITC Pub. 3233, Inv. No. 731-TA-384 (Review) (September 1999)).

Scope

The merchandise covered by this order is nitrile rubber from Japan. Nitrile rubber from Japan is currently classifiable under item number 4002.59.0000 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule ("HTS"). The HTS item number is provided for convenience and customs purposes. The written description remains dispositive.

Determination

As a result of the determination by the Commission that revocation of this antidumping duty order is not likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States, the Department, pursuant

to section 751(d)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.222(i)(1) is revoking the antidumping duty order on nitrile rubber from Japan. Pursuant to section 751(c)(6)(A)(iv) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.222(i)(2), this revocation is effective January 1, 2000. The Department will instruct the U.S. Customs Service to discontinue suspension of liquidation and collection of cash deposit rates on entries of the subject merchandise entered or withdrawn from warehouse on or after January 1, 2000 (the effective date). The Department will complete any pending administrative reviews of this order and will conduct administrative reviews of subject merchandise entered prior to the effective date of revocation in response to appropriately filed requests for review.

Dated: September 29, 1999.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-25875 Filed 10-4-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Application for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instrument

Pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials Importation Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-651; 80 Stat. 897; 15 CFR part 301), we invite comments on the question of an instrument of equivalent scientific value, for the purposes for which the instrument shown below is intended to be used, is being manufactured in the United States.

Comments must comply with 15 CFR 301.5(a)(3) and (4) of the regulations and be filed within 20 days with the Statutory Import Programs Staff, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230. Application may be examined between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in Room 4211, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Docket Number: 99-022. Applicant: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Center for Cancer Research, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139. Instrument: Fish Tank System, replacement parts for existing tank system, and fish breeding accessories. Manufacturer: Klaus-Jurgen Schwarz, Germany. Intended Use: The instrument will be used to house a large number of genetically different strains of fish for research to identify and clone the genes that are required to make a normal

living zebra fish embryo. The instrument will also be used to train graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to carry out genetic research on early vertebrate development using the zebra fish as an experimental model system. Application accepted by Commissioner of Customs: September 9, 1999.

Frank W. Creel,

Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.

[FR Doc. 99-25872 Filed 10-4-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No. 990927265-9265-01]

National Voluntary Conformity Assessment System Evaluation (NVCASE) Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) hereby announces the establishment of a sub-program under the National Voluntary Conformity Assessment System Evaluation (NVCASE) program to recognize bodies that accredit certification bodies to certify products related to telecommunications equipment. The sub-program is being established in accordance with NVCASE regulations in response to a request from a Federal Agency, the Federal Communications Commission. Accreditation bodies recognized by NIST may then accredit certification bodies to certify that specified telecommunications equipment satisfies designated foreign or domestic government regulatory (i.e., mandated) requirements.

The action taken under this notice addresses both generic and specific NVCASE requirements pursuant to U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requirements under FCC Docket 98-68, requirements relating to the telecommunications sector specified in the U.S.-European Union (EU) Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA), and requirements specified in the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement for the Conformity Assessment of Telecommunications Equipment. If MRSS covering telecommunications equipment are negotiated between the United States and another country or region, additional specific requirements

may also be included under this NVCASE activity.

Sub-program requirements have been developed in accordance with NVCASE Regulations and with public consultation. Public input was obtained at two open meetings on April 27 and April 28, 1999 and from comments received through May 30, 1999.

DATES: Applications will be accepted beginning September 30, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Applications for recognition may be obtained from, and returned to, Robert L. Gladhill, NVCASE Program Manager, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, Mailstop 2100, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2100, by fax (301) 975-5414, or email at robert.gladhill@nist.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert L. Gladhill, NVCASE Program Manager, at NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, Mailstop 2100, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2100, telephone: (301) 975-4273, telefax: (301) 975-5414, email: robert.gladhill@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NVCASE sub-program to recognize bodies that accredit certification bodies to certify telecommunications equipment is being established in accordance with the NVCASE Regulations (15 CFR 286.2(b)(3)(ii)) and in response to requirements as described in FCC GEN Docket 98-68 (FCC 98-338), adopted on December 17, 1998, and FCC Public Notice DA 99-1640, released August 17, 1999. This sub-program also supports NIST's responsibilities as a designating authority for the United States in both the Telecommunication Equipment Sectoral Annex of the U.S./EU MRA (which may be located at <http://www.iep.doc.gov/mra/mra.htm>) and the APEC MRA for Conformity Assessment of Telecommunications Equipment (which may be located at <http://www.apii.or.kr/telwg/mraTG/mraTG-frame.html>).

As referenced in this notice, telecommunications equipment covers network terminal attachment and other equipment subject to telecommunications regulations, including wire and wireless equipment, transmitters, and terrestrial and satellite equipment, whether or not connected to a Public Telecommunications Network.

Generic and specific requirements for this NVCASE sub-program have been established in accordance with NVCASE regulations (15 CFR 286.5). Public input on the establishment of sub-program requirements was received during two workshops held at the Department of Commerce on April 27 and 28, 1999. These workshops were announced in the **Federal Register** on March 19, 1999

(64 FR 13543). Follow-up comments from the public were accepted through May 30, 1999.

NIST will apply the generic requirements contained in the International Organization for Standardization/International Electrotechnical Commission (ISO/IEC) Guide 61—"General Requirements for Assessment and Accreditation of Certification/Registration Bodies," to all applicant accreditation bodies. Certification bodies applying to recognized accreditation bodies are to be assessed against the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 65—"General Requirements for Bodies Operating Product Certification Systems." These generic requirements will be supplemented by specific requirements contained in individual NVCASE program handbooks, available on request from NIST.

For the FCC Telecommunications Certification Body (TCB) program, established in FCC Docket 98-68, NIST will apply requirements contained in the Docket and information published subsequently by the FCC. The FCC TCB programs requires that TCBs be accredited to both ISO/IEC Guide 65—"General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories." The FCC has determined that a prospective TCB which is already accredited to ISO/IEC Guide 25 by NIST's National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP), the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA), or another recognized body will not have to obtain another Guide 25 accreditation, provided that the equipment it certifies is covered by the scope of its accreditation.

Organizations seeking to operate as Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) for the purposes of certifying products relating to telecommunications equipment covered under the provisions of the U.S.-EU MRA and APEC MRA must be accredited to ISO/IEC Guide 65; however, they are not presently required to be accredited to ISO/IEC Guide 25. Both the U.S.-EU MRA and APEC MRA (Phase I) also provide for a separate role for testing laboratories accredited to ISO/IEC Guide 25 for specific test methods. A separate NVCASE sub-program to recognize accreditors of testing laboratories is also being established to meet this requirement.

As stated in the NVCASE regulations (15 CFR 286.4), the NVCASE program is operated on a cost reimbursable basis. It is open for voluntary participation by any U.S.-based body that conducts activities relating to conformity assessment falling within the program's