

For labor, we used the Russian regression-based wage rate at Import Administration's homepage, Import Library, Expected Wages of Selected NME Countries, revised in May 1999. Because of the variability of wage rates in countries with similar per capita gross domestic products, section 351.408(c)(3) of the Department's regulations provides for the use of a regression-based wage rate. The source of this wage rate data on the Import Administration's homepage is found in the *1998 Year Book of Labour Statistics*, International Labour Office ("ILO"), (Geneva: 1998), Chapter 5: Wages in Manufacturing.

To value overhead, general expenses and profit, we used public information reported in the 1998 financial statements of Ereğli Demir ve Çelik Fabrikalari TAS ("Erdemir"), a Turkish steel producer. We adjusted Erdemir's depreciation expenses for the effects of high inflation, and we reduced its financial expenses for estimated short-term interest income and we excluded estimated long-term foreign exchange losses. We carried through the financial expense changes to the profit rate calculations. For a further discussion of this issue, see Attachment 5 of the *Factor Valuation Memo*.

As stated above in the "Facts Available" section of this notice, there were several factors of production for which we did not have complete information. With regard to "recycled materials," we have valued recycled materials using steel scrap because in Severstal's description of recycled materials, scrap is the most prevalent item (see, Exhibit D-16 of Severstal's October, 4, 1999 submission). For "additional materials," we have calculated and applied a weighted-average of the values for all other reported inputs which are added at the same stage of the production process as these "additional materials." In addition, we made the assumption, based on information contained in Exhibit D-4 of Severstal's October 4, 1999 supplemental response, that this factor was reported on a unit of measure other than a metric ton basis. We have made an adjustment to the unit of measure accordingly. See *Analysis Memo: Severstal*, dated November 1, 1999.

Finally, Severstal reported a large number of different types of packing materials. However, because the record does not contain surrogate values for these materials, and because we have not been able to otherwise locate surrogate values for these materials, we have used the ratio of packing materials to total cost of production based on

public information from *Certain Cold-Rolled Flat-Rolled Carbon-Quality Steel Products From Turkey*. For a further discussion, see *Factor Valuation Memo* (proprietary version).

#### Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Act, we will verify all information relied upon in making our final determination.

#### Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d) of the Act, we are directing the U.S. Customs Service to suspend liquidation of all imports of subject merchandise that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. We will instruct the U.S. Customs Service to require a cash deposit or the posting of a bond equal to the weighted-average amount by which the NV exceeds the EP, as indicated below. These suspension-of-liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice. The weighted-average dumping margins are as follows:

Exporter/manufacturer	Weighted-average margin (percent)
JSC Severstal .....	177.59
Novolipetsk Iron & Steel Corp ..	177.59
Russia-Wide .....	177.59

#### International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we have notified the ITC of our determination. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after our final determination whether imports of cold-rolled steel from the Russian Federation are materially injuring, or threatening material injury to, the U.S. industry.

#### Public Comment

Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration no later than fifty days after the date of publication of this notice, and rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, no later than fifty-five days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination. A list of authorities used and an executive summary of issues should accompany any briefs submitted to the Department. This summary should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In accordance with section 774 of the Act, we will hold a public hearing, if

requested, to afford interested parties an opportunity to comment on arguments raised in case or rebuttal briefs.

Tentatively, any hearing will be held fifty-seven days after publication of this notice at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230, at a time and location to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

Interested parties who wish to request a hearing, or to participate if one is requested, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 1870, within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain: (1) The party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. At the hearing, each party may make an affirmative presentation only on issues raised in that party's case brief, and may make rebuttal presentations only on arguments included in that party's rebuttal brief. See *19 CFR 351.310(c)*.

If this investigation proceeds normally, we will make our final determination no later than January 15, 2000.

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(d) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: November 1, 1999.

**Robert S. LaRussa,**

*Assistant Secretary, for Import Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[A-791-807]

#### Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Certain Cold-Rolled Flat-Rolled Carbon-Quality Steel Products From South Africa

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

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** November 10, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carrie Blozy, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-0165.

### The Applicable Statute

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

### Preliminary Determination

We preliminarily determine that certain cold-rolled flat-rolled carbon-quality steel products ("cold-rolled steel products") from South Africa are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value ("LTFV"), as provided in section 733 of the Act. The estimated margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the "Suspension of Liquidation" section of this notice.

### Case History

Since the initiation of this investigation (see *Notice of Initiation of Antidumping Investigations: Certain Cold-Rolled Flat-Rolled Carbon-Quality Steel Products from Argentina, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Japan, the Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, and Venezuela*, 64 FR 34194 (June 25, 1999) ("Initiation Notice")), the following events have occurred:

On June 21, 1998, the Department invited interested parties to submit comments regarding model matching. On June 28, 1999, Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Gulf States Steel, Ispat Inland Steel, LTV Steel Company Inc., National Steel Corporation, Steel Dynamics, U.S. Steel Group (a unit of USX Corporation), Weirton Steel Corporation, and United Steelworkers of America, (collectively, "petitioners"), stated that we should revise the category "annealing" to account more precisely for important differences in processing, pricing, functions, and customer expectations. In addition, petitioners recommended that the Department include an additional category under "Quality," for motor lamination steels.

In their petition, petitioners identified Iscor Limited ("Iskor") as a possible producer and exporter of cold-rolled steel from South Africa. On June 22, 1999, the Department issued the Section A antidumping questionnaire to Iscor, the only known South African exporter of subject merchandise. On July 9, 1999, the Department issued the Section B, C, D, and E antidumping questionnaire to Iscor. Iscor did not respond to the

Department's antidumping questionnaire (see "Facts Available" section below).

On July 16, 1999, the United States International Trade Commission ("the ITC") preliminarily determined that there is a reasonable indication that imports of the products under this investigation are materially injuring the United States industry.

The Department set aside a period for all interested parties to raise issues regarding product coverage. From July through October 1999, the Department received responses from a number of parties including importers, respondents, consumers, and petitioners, aimed at clarifying the scope of the investigation. See *Memorandum to Joseph A. Spetrini*, November 1, 1999 ("Scope Memorandum") for a list of all persons submitting comments and a discussion of all scope comments. There are several scope exclusion requests for products which are currently covered by the scope of this investigation that are still under consideration by the Department. These items are considered to be within the scope for this preliminary determination; however, these requests will be reconsidered for the final determination. See *Scope Memorandum*.

### Period of Investigation

The period of investigation is April 1, 1998 through March 31, 1999.

### Scope of Investigation

For purposes of this investigation, the products covered are certain cold-rolled (cold-reduced) flat-rolled carbon-quality steel products, neither clad, plated, nor coated with metal, but whether or not annealed, painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances, both in coils, 0.5 inch wide or wider, (whether or not in successively superimposed layers and/or otherwise coiled, such as spirally oscillated coils), and also in straight lengths, which, if less than 4.75 mm in thickness having a width that is 0.5 inch or greater and that measures at least 10 times the thickness; or, if of a thickness of 4.75 mm or more, having a width exceeding 150 mm and measuring at least twice the thickness. The products described above may be rectangular, square, circular or other shape and include products of either rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process (i.e., products which have been "worked after rolling")—for example, products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges.

Specifically included in this scope are vacuum degassed, fully stabilized (commonly referred to as interstitial-free ("IF")) steels, high strength low alloy ("HSLA") steels, and motor lamination steels. IF steels are recognized as low carbon steels with micro-alloying levels of elements such as titanium and/or niobium added to stabilize carbon and nitrogen elements. HSLA steels are recognized as steels with micro-alloying levels of elements such as chromium, copper, niobium, titanium, vanadium, and molybdenum. Motor lamination steels contain micro-alloying levels of elements such as silicon and aluminum.

Steel products included in the scope of this investigation, regardless of definitions in the Harmonized Tariff Schedules of the United States ("HTSUS"), are products in which: (1) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less, by weight, and; (3) none of the elements listed below exceeds the quantity, by weight, respectively indicated:

- 1.80 percent of manganese, or
- 2.25 percent of silicon, or
- 1.00 percent of copper, or
- 0.50 percent of aluminum, or
- 1.25 percent of chromium, or
- 0.30 percent of cobalt, or
- 0.40 percent of lead, or
- 1.25 percent of nickel, or
- 0.30 percent of tungsten, or
- 0.10 percent of molybdenum, or
- 0.10 percent of niobium (also called columbium), or
- 0.15 percent of vanadium, or
- 0.15 percent of zirconium.

All products that meet the written physical description, and in which the chemistry quantities do not exceed any one of the noted element levels listed above, are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded. The following products, by way of example, are outside and/or specifically excluded from the scope of this investigation:

- SAE grades (formerly also called AISI grades) above 2300;
- Ball bearing steels, as defined in the HTSUS;
- Tool steels, as defined in the HTSUS;
- Silico-manganese steel, as defined in the HTSUS;
- Silicon-electrical steels, as defined in the HTSUS, that are grain-oriented;
- Silicon-electrical steels, as defined in the HTSUS, that are not grain-oriented and that have a silicon level exceeding 2.25 percent;
- All products (proprietary or otherwise) based on an alloy ASTM specification (sample specifications: ASTM A506, A507);

- Silicon-electrical steels, as defined in the HTSUS, that are not grain-oriented and that have a silicon level less than 2.25 percent, and
    - (a) fully-processed, with a core loss of less than 0.14 watts/pound per mil
    - (b) semi-processed, with core loss of less than 0.085 watts/pound per mil (0.001 inches);
  - Certain shadow mask steel, which is aluminum killed cold-rolled steel
- coil that is open coil annealed, has an ultra-flat, isotropic surface, and which meets the following characteristics:  
 Thickness: 0.001 to 0.010 inches  
 Width: 15 to 32 inches

## CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Element .....	C
Weight % .....	<0.002%

- Certain flapper valve steel, which is hardened and tempered, surface polished, and which meets the following characteristics:  
 Thickness:  $\leq 1.0$  mm  
 Width:  $\leq 152.4$  mm

## CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Element .....	C	Si	Mn	P	S
Weight % .....	0.90–1.05	0.15–0.35	0.30–0.50	$\leq 0.03$	$\leq 0.006$

## MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

Tensile Strength .....	$\geq 162$ Kgf/mm <sup>2</sup>
Hardness .....	$\geq 475$ Vickers hardness number

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Flatness .....	<0.2% of nominal strip width
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Microstructure: Completely free from decarburization. Carbides are spheroidal and fine within 1% to 4% (area percentage) and are undissolved in the uniform tempered martensite.

## NON-METALLIC INCLUSION

	Area percent-age
Sulfide Inclusion .....	$\leq 0.04\%$
Oxide Inclusion .....	$\leq 0.05\%$

Compressive Stress: 10 to 40 Kgf/mm<sup>2</sup>.

## SURFACE ROUGHNESS

Thickness (mm)	Roughness ( $\mu$ m)
$t \leq 0.209$ .....	Rz $\leq 0.5$
$0.209 < t \leq 0.310$ .....	Rz $\leq 0.6$
$0.310 < t \leq 0.440$ .....	Rz $\leq 0.7$
$0.440 < t \leq 0.560$ .....	Rz $\leq 0.8$
$0.560 < t$ .....	Rz $\leq 1.0$

- Certain ultra thin gauge steel strip, which meets the following characteristics:  
 Thickness:  $\leq 0.100$  mm  $\pm 7\%$   
 Width: 100 to 600 mm

## CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Element .....	C	Mn	P	S	Al	Fe
Weight % .....	$\leq 0.07$	0.2–0.5	$\leq 0.05$	$\leq 0.05$	$\leq 0.07$	Balance

## MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

Hardness .....	Full Hard (Hv 180 minimum)
Total Elongation .....	$< 3\%$
Tensile Strength .....	600 to 850 N/mm <sup>2</sup>

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Surface Finish .....	≤0.3 micron
Camber (in 2.0 m) .....	<3.0 mm
Flatness (in 2.0 m) .....	≤0.5 mm
Edge Burr .....	< 0.01 mm greater than thickness
Coil Set (in 1.0 m) .....	< 75.0 mm

- Certain silicon steel, which meets the following characteristics:

Thickness: 0.024 inches ±0.0015 inches

Width: 33 to 45.5 inches

## CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Element .....	C	Mn	P	S	Si	Al
Min. Weight % .....					0.65	
Max. Weight % .....	0.004	0.4	0.09	0.009		0.4

## MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

Hardness .....	B 60–75 (AIM 65)
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## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Finish .....	Smooth (30–60 microinches)
Gamma Crown (in 5 inches) .....	0.0005 inches, start measuring ¼ inch from slit edge
Flatness .....	20 I-UNIT max.
Coating .....	C3A–.08A max. (A2 coating acceptable)
Camber (in any 10 feet) .....	1/16 inch
Coil Size I.D. ....	20 inches

## MAGNETIC PROPERTIES

Core Loss (1.5T/60 Hz) NAAS .....	3.8 Watts/Pound max.
Permeability (1.5T/60 Hz) NAAS .....	1700 gauss/oersted typical
	1500 minimum

- Certain aperture mask steel, which has an ultra-flat surface flatness and which meets the following characteristics:

Thickness: 0.025 to 0.245 mm

Width: 381–1000 mm

## CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Element .....	C	N	Al
Weight % .....	< 0.01	0.004 to 0.007	< 0.007

- Certain tin mill black plate, annealed and temper-rolled, continuously cast, which meets the following characteristics:

## CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Element .....	C	Mn	P	S	Si	Al	As	Cu	B	N
Min. Weight %	0.02	0.20				0.03				0.003
Max. Weight %	0.06	0.40	0.02	0.023 (Aiming 0.018 Max.)	0.03	0.08 (Aiming 0.05)	0.02	0.08		0.008 (Aiming 0.005)

Non-metallic Inclusions: Examination with the S.E.M. shall not reveal individual oxides > 1 micron (0.000039 inches) and inclusion groups or clusters shall not exceed 5 microns (0.000197 inches) in length.

Surface Treatment as follows:

The surface finish shall be free of defects (digs, scratches, pits, gouges, slivers, etc.) and suitable for nickel plating.

## SURFACE FINISH

	Roughness, RA Microinches (Micrometers)		
	Aim	Min.	Max.
Extra Bright .....	5 (0.1)	0 (0)	7 (0.2)

- Certain full hard tin mill black plate, continuously cast, which meets the following characteristics:

## CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Element .....	C	Mn	P	S	Si	Al	As	Cu	B	N
Min. Weight %	0.02	0.20				0.03				0.003
Max. Weight %	0.06	0.40	0.02	0.023 (Aiming 0.018 Max.)	0.03	0.08 (Aiming 0.05)	0.02	0.08		0.008 (Aiming 0.005)

Non-metallic Inclusions: Examination with the S.E.M. shall not reveal individual oxides > 1 micron (0.000039 inches) and inclusion groups or clusters shall not exceed 5 microns (0.000197 inches) in length.

Surface Treatment as follows:

The surface finish shall be free of defects (digs, scratches, pits, gouges, slivers, etc.) and suitable for nickel plating.

## SURFACE FINISH

	Roughness, RA Microinches (Micrometers)		
	Aim	Min.	Max.
Stone Finish .....	16 (0.4)	8 (0.2)	24 (0.6)

- Certain "blued steel" coil (also known as "steamed blue steel" or "blue oxide") with a thickness and size of 0.38 mm × 940 mm × coil, and with a bright finish;
- Certain cold-rolled steel sheet, which meets the following characteristics:  
Thickness (nominal): ≤ 0.019 inches  
Width: 35 to 60 inches

## CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Element .....	C	O	B
Max. Weight % .....	0.004		
Min. Weight % .....		0.010	0.012

- Certain band saw steel, which meets the following characteristics:  
Thickness: ≤ 1.31 mm  
Width: ≤ 80 mm

## CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Element .....	C	Si	Mn	P	S	Cr	Ni
Weight .....	%1.2 to 1.3	0.15 to 0.35	0.20 to 0.35	≤ 0.03	≤ 0.007	0.3 to 0.5	≤ 0.25

## Other properties:

Carbide: fully spheroidized having > 80% of carbides, which are ≤ 0.003 mm and uniformly dispersed

Surface finish: bright finish free from pits, scratches, rust, cracks, or seams

Smooth edges

Edge camber (in each 300 mm of length): ≤ 7 mm arc height

Cross bow (per inch of width): 0.015 mm max.

The merchandise subject to this investigation is typically classified in the HTSUS at subheadings:

7209.15.0000, 7209.16.0030, 7209.16.0060, 7209.16.0090, 7209.17.0030, 7209.17.0060, 7209.17.0090, 7209.18.1530, 7209.18.1560, 7209.18.2550, 7209.18.6000, 7209.25.0000, 7209.26.0000, 7209.27.0000, 7209.28.0000, 7209.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.23.1500, 7211.23.2000, 7211.23.3000, 7211.23.4500, 7211.23.6030, 7211.23.6060,

7211.23.6085, 7211.29.2030, 7211.29.2090, 7211.29.4500, 7211.29.6030, 7211.29.6080, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.50.6000, 7225.50.7000, 7225.50.8010, 7225.50.8085, 7225.99.0090, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.92.5000, 7226.92.7050, 7226.92.8050, and 7226.99.0000.

Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and U.S. Customs Service ("U.S. Customs") purposes, the written description of the merchandise under investigation is dispositive.

## Facts Available

Section 776(a)(2) of the Act provides that if an interested party or any other person (A) withholds information that has been requested by the administering authority; (B) fails to provide such information by the deadlines for the submission of the information or in the form and manner requested, subject to

subsections (c)(1) and (e) of section 782; (C) significantly impedes a proceeding under this title; or (D) provides such information but the information cannot be verified as provided in section 782(i), the administering authority shall, subject to section 782(d), use the facts otherwise available in reaching the applicable determination under this title. In accordance with sections 776(a)(2)(A) and (C), because Iscor failed to respond to our questionnaire and significantly impeded the investigation, and because the relevant subsections of section 782 of the Act therefore do not apply, we must use facts otherwise available to determine the dumping margin for Iscor.

Section 776(b) of the Act provides that, in selecting from among the facts available, the Department may employ adverse inferences when an interested party has failed to cooperate by not acting to the best of its ability to comply with requests for information. See also "Statement of Administrative Action" accompanying the URAA, H.R. Rep. No.

103-316, 870 (1994) ("SAA"). Based on Iscor's failure to respond to the Department's antidumping questionnaire, we have determined that Iscor has not acted to the best of its ability to comply with the Department's information requests. Therefore, pursuant to 776(b) of the Act, we used an adverse inference in selecting a margin from the facts available. As facts available, the Department has applied a margin of 16.65 percent, the only alleged margin in the petition.

Section 776(c) of the Act provides that, when the Department relies on secondary information, such as the petition, as facts available, it must, to the extent practicable, corroborate that information from independent sources that are reasonably at its disposal. The SAA clarifies that "corroborate" means that the Department will satisfy itself that the secondary information to be used has probative value (see SAA at 870). The SAA also states that independent sources used to corroborate may include, for example, published price lists, official import statistics and customs data, and information obtained from interested parties during the particular investigation (see *Id.*).

We reviewed the adequacy and accuracy of the information in the petition during our pre-initiation analysis of the petition, to the extent appropriate information was available for this purpose (e.g., import statistics, foreign market research reports, and data from U.S. producers). See *Initiation Checklist: Cold-Rolled Flat-Rolled Carbon-Quality Steel Products from Argentina, Brazil, the People's Republic of China ("China"), Indonesia, Japan, the Russian Federation ("Russia"), Slovakia, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, and Venezuela* (June 21, 1999), which is on file in the Central Records Unit ("CRU") of the Main Commerce Department Building. In order to determine the probative value of the petition margin for use as adverse facts available in this preliminary determination, we have re-examined evidence supporting the petition calculation. In accordance with section 776(c) of the Act, to the extent practicable, we examined the key elements of the U.S. price and normal value calculations on which the petition margin was based and found that the information has probative value (see the October 19, 1999 memorandum to the file regarding Facts Available Corroboration, which is on file in the

CRU of the Main Commerce Department building).

#### The All-Others Rate

All foreign manufacturers/exporters in this investigation are being assigned dumping margins on the basis of facts otherwise available. Section 735(c)(5)(B) of the Act provides that, where the dumping margins established for all exporters and producers individually investigated are determined entirely under section 776 of the Act, the Department may use any reasonable method to establish the estimated all-others rate for exporters and producers not individually investigated, including weight-averaging the facts available margins. In this case, the margin assigned to the only company investigated is based on adverse facts available. Therefore, consistent with the statute and the SAA at 873, we are using an alternative method. As our alternative, we are basing the all-others rate on the margin alleged in the petition. As a result, the all-others rate is 16.65 percent.

#### Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d) of the Act, we are directing the U.S. Customs Service to suspend liquidation of all imports of subject merchandise that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. We will instruct the U.S. Customs Service to require a cash deposit or the posting of a bond equal to the weighted-average amount by which the normal value exceeds the export price, as indicated below. These suspension-of-liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice. The weighted-average dumping margins are as follows:

Exporter/manufacture	Weighted-average margin percentage
Iskor .....	16.65
All Others .....	16.65

#### ITC Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we have notified the ITC of our preliminary determination. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after our final determination whether imports of the subject merchandise are materially

injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

#### Public Comment

Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration no later than fifty days after the date of publication of this notice, and rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, no later than fifty-five days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination. A list of authorities used and an executive summary of issues should accompany any briefs submitted to the Department. This summary should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In accordance with section 774 of the Act, we will hold a public hearing, if requested, to afford interested parties an opportunity to comment on arguments raised in case or rebuttal briefs. Tentatively, any hearing will be held fifty-seven days after publication of this notice at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230, at a time and location to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing 48 hours before the scheduled time.

Interested parties who wish to request a hearing, or to participate if one is requested, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 1870, within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain: (1) The party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. At the hearing, each party may make an affirmative presentation only on issues raised in that party's case brief, and may make rebuttal presentations only on arguments included in that party's rebuttal brief. See 19 CFR 351.310(c). If this investigation proceeds normally, we will make our final determination within 75 days after the date of this preliminary determination.

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(d) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: November 1, 1999.

**Robert S. LaRussa,**

*Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

[FR Doc. 99-29459 Filed 11-9-99; 8:45 am]

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