

FACT SHEET

Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigations on Imports of Diamond Sawblades and Parts Thereof from the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Korea

On June 14, the Department of Commerce announced its decision to initiate antidumping duty investigations on imports of Diamond Sawblades and Parts Thereof from the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Korea.

Next Steps: The International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to make its preliminary injury determinations on or about July 8. If the ITC determines that there is a reasonable indication that imports from China and/or Korea are injuring or threatening material injury to the domestic industry, one or both investigations would continue and the Department would be scheduled to make its preliminary antidumping duty determinations in October 2005. If the ITC makes negative preliminary injury determinations, the investigations will be terminated.

Petitioners: The petition requesting these investigations was filed by the Diamond Sawblade Manufacturers' Coalition, an *ad hoc* trade association, as well as its individual members: Blackhawk Diamond, Inc. (CA), Diamond B, Inc. (CA), Diamond Products (OH), Dixie Diamond (GA), Hoffman Diamond (PA), Hyde Manufacturing (MA), Sanders Saws (PA), Terra Diamond (UT), and Western Saw, Inc. (CA).

Determination of Industry Support: The Department extended the initiation deadline by 20 days in order to "poll or otherwise determine industry support for the petition by the industry" because the petitioners did not establish that domestic producers or workers accounting for more than 50 percent of the total production of the domestic like product support the petition. Based on analysis of the data collected from responses to the Department's industry support questionnaire, we determined that the petitioners have demonstrated adequate industry support. Specifically, with respect to Korea, supporters of the petition would account for 51.51 percent of total production and 85.67 percent of production of those companies expressing an opinion. With respect to China, supporters of the petition would account for 53.05 percent of total production and 86.15 percent of production of those companies expressing an opinion.

Product Description: The products covered by these investigations are all finished circular sawblades, whether slotted or not, with a working part that is comprised of a diamond segment or segments, and parts thereof, regardless of specification or size, except as specifically excluded below. Within the scope of these investigations are semifinished diamond sawblades, including diamond sawblade cores and diamond sawblade segments. Diamond sawblade cores are circular steel plates, whether or not attached to non-steel plates, with slots. Diamond sawblade cores are manufactured principally, but not exclusively, from alloy steel. A diamond sawblade segment consists of a mixture of diamonds (whether natural or synthetic, and regardless of the quantity of diamonds) and metal powders (including, but not limited to, iron, cobalt, nickel, tungsten carbide) that are formed together into a solid shape (from generally, but not limited to, a heating and pressing process).

Sawblades with diamonds directly attached to the core with a resin or electroplated bond, which thereby do not contain a diamond segment, are not included within the scope of the investigation. Diamond sawblades and/or sawblade cores with a thickness of less than 0.025 inches, or with a thickness greater than 1.1 inches, are excluded from the scope of the investigations. Circular steel plates that have a cutting edge of non-diamond material, such as external teeth that protrude from the outer diameter of the plate, whether or not finished, are excluded from the scope of the investigations. Diamond sawblade cores with a Rockwell C hardness of less than 25 are excluded from the scope of the investigations. Diamond sawblades and/or diamond segment(s) with diamonds that predominantly have a mesh size number greater than 240 (such as 250 or 260) are excluded from the scope of the investigations.

Merchandise subject to these investigations is typically imported under heading 8202.39.00.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (“HTSUS”). When packaged together as a set for retail sale with an item that is separately classified under headings 8202 to 8205 of the HTSUS, diamond sawblades or parts thereof may be imported under heading 8206.00.00.00 of the HTSUS. The tariff classification is provided for convenience and U.S. Customs and Border Protection purposes; however, the written description of the scope of these investigations is dispositive.

Initiated Dumping Margins:

COUNTRY	MARGIN
China	164.09%
Korea	63.61 - 67.59%

Case Calendar:

EVENT	DATE
Petition Filed	May 3, 2005
DOC Initiation Date	June 13, 2005
ITC Preliminary Determination	July 8, 2005
DOC Preliminary Determination*	October 31, 2005
DOC Final Determination*	January 17, 2006
ITC Final Determination**	February 28, 2006
Issuance of Order***	March 7, 2006

* These deadlines may be extended under the governing statute.

** This will take place only in the event of a final affirmative determination from the Department of Commerce.

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Import Statistics:

China	2002	2003	2004
Volume (Units)	5,630,516	7,978,162	10,940,273
Value (\$US)	\$10,539,193	\$16,386,259	\$26,098,726

Korea	2002	2003	2004
Volume (Units)	3,095,384	2,449,054	2,431,155
Value (\$US)	\$20,933,264	\$19,189,505	\$26,565,315

Source: U.S. International Trade Commission, Dataweb