

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.

In the Matter of

**CERTAIN AUTOMOBILE TAIL LIGHT
LENSES AND PRODUCTS
INCORPORATING SAME**

Inv. No. 337-TA-502

NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION

AGENCY: U.S. International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of investigation pursuant to 19 U.S.C. §1337.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a complaint was filed with the U.S. International Trade Commission on December 1, 2003, under section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. §1337, on behalf of Jens E. Sorensen, as Trustee of the Sorensen Research and Development Trust, of San Diego, California, and Jens Ole Sorensen of Rancho Santa Fe, California. A supplement to the Complaint was filed on December 18, 2003. The complaint, as supplemented, alleges violations of section 337 in the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, and the sale within the United States after importation of certain automobile tail light lenses and products incorporating same by reason of infringement of claims 1, 6, 8 and 10 of U.S. Patent No. 4,935,184. The complaint further alleges that an industry in the United States exists as required by subsection (a)(2) of section 337.

The complainants requests that the Commission institute an investigation and, after the investigation, issue a permanent exclusion order and a permanent cease and desist order.

ADDRESSES: The complaint, except for any confidential information contained therein, is available for inspection during official business hours (8:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.) in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, S.W., Room 112, Washington, D.C. 20436, telephone 202-205-2000. Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-205-1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission

should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server at <http://www.usitc.gov>. The public record for this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket imaging system (EDIS) at <http://edis.usitc.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Juan Cockburn, Esq., Office of Unfair Import Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, telephone 202-205-2572.

AUTHORITY: The authority for institution of this investigation is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, and in section 210.10 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 C.F.R. § 210.10 (2003).

SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION: Having considered the complaint, the U.S. International Trade Commission, on December 31, 2003, ORDERED THAT –

(1) Pursuant to subsection (b) of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, an investigation be instituted to determine whether there is a violation of subsection (a)(1)(B) of section 337 in the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or the sale within the United States after importation of certain automobile tail light lenses or products incorporating same by reason of infringement of claims 1, 6, 8 or 10 of U.S. Patent No. 4,935,184 and whether an industry in the United States exists as required by subsection (a)(2) of section 337.

(2) For the purpose of the investigation so instituted, the following are hereby named as parties upon which this notice of investigation shall be served:

(a) The complainants are –

Jens E. Sorensen, as Trustee of the
Sorensen Research and Development Trust
9930 Mesa Rim Road, Suite 300
San Diego, CA 92121

Jens Ole Sorensen
14431 Bellvista Drive
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067

(b) The respondents are the following companies alleged to be in violation of section 337, and are parties upon which the complaint is to be served:

Daimler-Chrysler AG
Epplestr. 225,
Stuttgart, Bade-Wuerttemberg
Germany

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC
One Mercedes Drive
Montvale, NJ 07645-0350

(c) Juan Cockburn, Esq., Office of Unfair Import Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, S.W., Suite 401, Washington, D.C. 20436, who shall be the Commission investigative attorney, party to this investigation; and

(4) For the investigation so instituted, the Honorable Sidney Harris is designated as the presiding administrative law judge.

A response to the complaint and the notice of investigation must be submitted by the named respondents in accordance with section 210.13 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 C.F.R. § 210.13. Pursuant to 19 C.F.R. §§ 201.16(d) and 210.13(a), such responses will be considered by the Commission if received not later than 20 days after the date of service by the Commission of the complaint and the notice of investigation. Extensions of time for submitting the responses to the complaint and the notice of investigation will not be granted unless good cause therefor is shown.

Failure of a respondent to file a timely response to each allegation in the complaint and in this notice may be deemed to constitute a waiver of the right to appear and contest the allegations of the complaint and this notice, and to authorize the administrative law judge and the Commission, without further notice to the respondent, to find the facts to be as alleged in the complaint and this notice and to enter a final determination containing such findings, and may result in the issuance of a limited exclusion order or cease and desist order or both directed against such respondent.

By order of the Commission.

Marilyn R. Abbott
Secretary