PURCHASERS' QUESTIONNAIRE

SUGAR FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION; SUGAR FROM BELGIUM, FRANCE, AND GERMANY

Return completed questionnaire to:

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Office of Investigations, Room 615 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436

So as to be received by the Commission by no later than May 9, 2005

The information called for in this questionnaire is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its reviews concerning the countervailing duty order on sugar from the European Union (Inv. No. 104-TAA-7 (Second Review)) and the antidumping findings on sugar from Belgium, France, and Germany (Invs. Nos. AA1921-198–200 (Second Review)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII. **This report is mandatory and failure to reply as directed can result in a subpoena** or other order to compel the submission of records or information in your possession (19 U.S.C. § 1333(a)). Further information on this questionnaire can be obtained from Catherine DeFilippo (202-205-3253).

Name of t	firm
Address	
City	State Zip code
	ide Web address
•	arm purchased sugar (as defined in the instruction booklet) from <u>any</u> source (domestic or foreign) at any time ary 1, 1999?
	(Sign the certification below and promptly return only this page of the questionnaire to the Commission)
YES	(Read the instruction booklet carefully, complete all parts of the questionnaire, sign the certification, and return the entire questionnaire to the Commission)

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information herein supplied in response to this questionnaire is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and understand that the information submitted is subject to audit and verification by the Commission.

By signing this certification I also grant consent for the Commission, and its employees and contract personnel, to use the information provided in this questionnaire and throughout these reviews in any other import-injury investigations or reviews conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise. (If you do not consent to such use, please note the certification accordingly.)

I acknowledge that information submitted in this questionnaire response and throughout these reviews may be used by the Commission, its employees, and contract personnel who are acting in the capacity of Commission employees, for developing or maintaining the records of these reviews or related proceedings for which this information is submitted, or in internal audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of the Commission pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3. I understand that all contract personnel will sign non-disclosure agreements.

Name and Title of Authorized Official

Date

() Phone Fax

PART I.--GENERAL QUESTIONS

The questions in this questionnaire have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible. Public reporting burden for this questionnaire is estimated to average 20 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering the data needed, and completing and reviewing the questionnaire. Send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436.

I-1. (a) Please report below the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of preparing the reply to this questionnaire and completing the form.

hours dollars

- (b) We are interested in any comments you may have for improving this questionnaire in general or the clarity of specific questions. Please attach such comments to your response or send them to the above address.
- I-2. Provide the name and address of establishment(s) covered by this questionnaire (see pages 3-4 of the instruction booklet for reporting guidelines). If your firm is publicly traded, please specify the stock exchange and trading symbol.

Is your firm owned,	in whole or in part, by any other firm?	
No	YesList the following information.	
Firm name	Address	<u>Extent of</u> <u>ownership</u>
importing sugar from	e any related firms, either domestic or for m the European Union into the United S m the European Union to the United Sta	states or which are engaged in
importing sugar from exporting sugar from	m the European Union into the United S	tates or which are engaged in

PART I.--<u>GENERAL QUESTIONS</u>--Continued

I-5.	5. Does your firm have any related firms, either domestic or foreign, which are engaged in th production of sugar?			are engaged in the	
	No	YesList th	ne following informat	ion.	
	<u>Firm name</u>		Address		<u>Affiliation</u>
I-6. In Part III of this questionnaire we request a copy of your company's business plan. Does company or any related firm have a business plan or any internal documents that describe discuss, or analyze expected future market conditions for sugar?					
	No		e provide the requeste sted documents, pleas	-	u are not providing the

PART II.--<u>PURCHASES</u>

II-1. Report, as indicated below, your firm's purchases (either directly or through a sales agent or broker) of sugar. Report based on delivery date, not order date.

(<i>Quantity</i> in 1,000 sho	rt tons raw	value, valu	e in \$1,000))		
Item	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
PURCHASES OF SUGAR PRODUCED IN THE UNITE	D STATES:					
Quantity						
Value						
PURCHASES OF SUGAR PRODUCED IN BELGIUM:						
Quantity						
Value						
PURCHASES OF SUGAR PRODUCED IN FRANCE:					•	
Quantity						
Value						
PURCHASES OF SUGAR PRODUCED IN GERMANY:					•	
Quantity						
Value						
PURCHASES OF SUGAR PRODUCED IN OTHER EU	15 COUNT	RIES (see i	nstruction b	ooklet):1		
Quantity						
Value						
PURCHASES OF SUGAR PRODUCED IN EU-NMS (se	ee instruction	h booklet):2				
Quantity						
Value						
PURCHASES OF PRODUCT PRODUCED IN ALL OTH	IER (NON-E	U) COUNT	RIES: ³			
Quantity						
Value						
¹ Please identify these countries:						
² Please identify these countries:						
³ Please identify these countries:						

PART II.--<u>PURCHASES</u>--Continued

II-2. If the relative levels of your firm's purchases of sugar from different sources (both domestic and foreign) have changed since 1999 (the year in which the countervailing duty order and antidumping findings under review were continued), please list the country, state whether the relative share from that country has increased or decreased, and state the reason.

Country	Increase/decrease	Reason

II-3. (a) Did your firm purchase sugar from the European Union before 1999?

NoSkip to II-4	
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(b) If yes, has your pattern of purchasing sugar from the European Union changed since 1999?

Yes

No, our pattern of purchasing is essentially unchanged.

Yes, we discontinued purchases from the European Union because of the order.

Yes, we reduced purchases from the European Union because of the order.

Yes, but we changed the pattern of purchases from the European Union for reasons other than the order (please explain below).

PART II.--<u>PURCHASES</u>--Continued

II-4.	(a)	Did your firm purchase sugar from nonsubject (i.e., non-EU) countries before 1999?
		No Yes
	(b)	If yes, has your pattern of purchasing sugar from nonsubject countries changed since 1999?
		No, our pattern of purchasing is essentially unchanged.
		Yes, we increased purchases from nonsubject countries because of the order.
		Yes, but we changed the pattern of purchases from nonsubject countries for reasons other than the order (please explain below).

PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES

III-1. Which of the following best describes your firm as a purchaser of sugar (check all that apply, noting the specific end uses if known)?

	R (
RETAIL END USER (
DISTRIBUTOR (
	or reseller of sugar, what are the major types of consumers to
(b) Do you compete for sales to you purchase sugar?	your customers with the manufacturers or importers from which
for which your firm purchases s percentage of the <u>total cost</u> is ac Product you produce	ugar as a component part or input. Please indicate what
percentage of the <u>total cost</u> is ac	counted for by sugar.
percentage of the <u>total cost</u> is ac <u>Product you produce</u>	ugar as a component part or input. Please indicate what counted for by sugar. <u>Percent of cost accounted for by sugar</u>
percentage of the <u>total cost</u> is ac <u>Product you produce</u> 1	 ugar as a component part or input. Please indicate what is counted for by sugar. Percent of cost accounted for by sugar 1
percentage of the total cost is ac Product you produce 1. 2. 3.	ugar as a component part or input. Please indicate what scounted for by sugar. Percent of cost accounted for by sugar 1. 2. 3. 5 sugar, has the demand for your firm's final products
percentage of the total cost is ac Product you produce 1. 2. 3. (a) If your firm is an end user of incorporating sugar changed sin	ugar as a component part or input. Please indicate what scounted for by sugar. Percent of cost accounted for by sugar 1. 2. 3. 5 sugar, has the demand for your firm's final products
percentage of the total cost is ac Product you produce 1. 2. 3. (a) If your firm is an end user of incorporating sugar changed sin Increased	ugar as a component part or input. Please indicate what scounted for by sugar. Percent of cost accounted for by sugar 1. 2. 3. f sugar, has the demand for your firm's final products ce 1999?

III-5.	Have there been any changes in the end uses of sugar since 1999?
	No YesDiscuss the changes, noting the time period in which they occurred.
III-6.	Do you anticipate any changes in terms of the end uses of sugar in the future?
	No YesPlease describe and identify the time period. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.
III-7.	(a) Please list in order of importance any products that may be substituted for sugar.
	(1) (2) (3)
	(b) For each possible substitute product, please give examples of applications and end uses for which they are substitutes.
	(c) Have changes in the prices of these products affected the price for sugar?
	No Yes–Please explain.
III-8.	Have there been any changes in the number or types of products that can be substituted for sugar since 1999?
	No YesPlease explain.

III-9.	Do you anticipate any changes in terms of the substitutability of other products for sugar in the future?
	No YesPlease describe. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.
III-10.	How has demand within the United States (and outside the United States, if known) for sugar changed since 1999?
	Increased Unchanged Decreased
	Other (describe)
	What were the principal factors affecting changes in demand?
III-11.	Do you anticipate any future changes in sugar demand in the United States and, if known, the rest of the world?
	No YesPlease describe and identify the time period. Provide any underlying assumptions, along with relevant portions of business plans or other supporting documentation, that address this issue.
III-12.	Please provide as separate attachments to this request any studies, surveys, etc., that you are

111-12. Please provide as separate attachments to this request any studies, surveys, etc., that you are aware of that quantify and/or otherwise discuss sugar demand and/or factors affecting sugar demand in the (1) United States, (2) each of the major producing/consuming countries, including those subject to this review, and (3) the world as a whole. Of particular interest is such data on an annual basis from 1999 to the present and forecasts of these demand data.

III-13.	Have any changes occurred in any factors affecting supply (e.g., changes in availability or prices of raw materials, energy or labor; transportation conditions; production capacity and/or methods of production; technology; export markets; or alternative production opportunities) that affected the availability of U.Sproduced sugar in the U.S. market since 1999?
	No YesPlease note the time period(s) of any such changes, the factors(s) involved, and the impact such changes had on your shipment volumes and prices.
III-14.	Is buying a product that is produced in the United States an important factor in your firm's purchases of sugar (please check ALL that apply)?
	 No YesPurchases of domestic product are required by law or regulation (for example, government purchases under "Buy American" provisions). This involves percent of all purchases of sugar.
	YesPurchases of domestic product are not required by law or regulation, but are by your customers. This involves percent of all purchases of sugar.
	YesPurchases of domestic product are required for other reasons (please specify these reasons below). This involves percent of all purchases of sugar.
III-15.	(a) Is the sugar market subject to business cycles or conditions of competition distinctive to sugar?
	No YesPlease explain and provide estimates of the duration of any such cycle.
	(b) Has the emergence of new geographic or product markets for sugar since 1999 affected the business cycles or conditions of competition distinctive to sugar?
	No YesPlease explain any such changes.

III-16.	Who are your firm's major competitors?
III-17.	Does your firm, and to the extent that you know, do your customers make purchasing decisions involving sugar based on the producer of the sugar you purchase?
	Your firm: Always Usually Sometimes Never
	Your customers: Always Usually Sometimes Never
	If at least sometimes, please discuss how your firm or your customers determine the producer and why this information is important.
	Your firm:
	Your customers:
III-18.	Does your firm, and to the extent that you know, do your customers make purchasing decisions involving sugar based on the country of origin of the sugar you purchase?
	Your firm: Always Usually Sometimes Never
	Your customers: Always Usually Sometimes Never
	If at least sometimes, please discuss how your firm or your customers determine the source and why this information is important.
	Your firm:
	Your customers:

Business Proprietary

III-19.	(a) How frequently does your firm make purchases?					
	Daily Weekly Monthly Quarterly Annually					
	Other (specify)					
	(b) Do you expect this purchasing pattern to change in the next two years?					
	No YesHow and why do you expect these changes to occur?					
	(c) Does your firm purchase larger quantities of sugar during certain seasons or periods of the year?					
	No YesPlease describe your firm's annual purchasing trend.					
III-20.	How many suppliers do you generally contact before making a purchase?					
III-21.	(a) Do purchases of sugar usually involve negotiations between supplier and purchaser?					
	No YesPlease describe these negotiations. In your response, please comment on whether purchasers generally quote competing prices as part of the negotiation process.					
	(b) Does your firm tend to vary its purchases from a given supplier within a specified time period					
	$\Box_{No} \qquad \Box_{YesSpecify the time period.}$					

III-22.	22. Have you changed suppliers in the last 5 years?						
	No YesPlease list the supplier or suppliers and indicate whether the firm was added or dropped as a supplier. Also give the reasons for the change and how frequently you change suppliers.						
111.02							
III-23.	(a) Are you aware of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have entered the market in the last five years?						
	No YesPlease identify the firms and indicate how you become aware of them.						
	(b) Do you expect new sugar suppliers to enter the market in the future?						
	No YesPlease provide details, noting the specific future time period in your response.						
III-24.	Do you require your suppliers to become certified or prequalified with respect to the quality, chemistry, consistency, or other performance characteristic of the sugar they sell to your firm?						
	No Yespercent of purchases in 2004 Yes-all purchases						
	Please provide a general description of the certification or qualification process and the time required.						
III-25.	Briefly describe the factors that you consider when qualifying a new supplier (e.g., quality of product, reliability of supplier, etc.) and estimate the time it takes to certify or qualify a new supplier.						

III-26. Since 1999, have any domestic or foreign producers failed in their attempts to certify or qualify their sugar with your firm or have any producers lost their approved status?

No	YesPlease identify these firms, the countries where they are located, and
	the reasons why they failed the certification/qualification process.

III-27. (a) For the factors listed below, please rate each in terms of its importance in your purchase decision for sugar.

	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT
Availability			
Delivery terms			
Delivery time			
Discounts offered			
Extension of credit			
Price			
Minimum qty requirements			
Packaging			
Product consistency			
Quality meets industry standards			
Quality exceeds industry standard	ds 🗖		
Product range			
Reliability of supply			
Technical support/service			
U.S. transportation costs			
Other (specify):			

III-27.	(b) Please list, in order of their importance, the three major factors generally considered by your firm in deciding from whom to purchase sugar for any one order (examples include current availability, extension of credit, prearranged contracts, price, quality exceeding specifications or industry standards, range of supplier's product line, traditional supplier, etc.).					
	1					
	2					
	3					
	Other factors or comments:					
III-28.	What characteristics does your firm consider when determining the quality of sugar?					
III-29.	How often does your firm purchase the sugar that is offered at the lowest price?					
	Always Usually Sometimes Never					
III-30.	Please list the names of any firms you considered price leaders in the sugar market since 1999. A price leader is defined as (1) one or more firms that initiate a price change, either upward or downward, that is followed by other firms, or (2) one or more firms that have a significant impact on prices. A price leader does not necessarily have to be the lowest priced supplier. For those firms identified as a price leader, please specify the time period in which a price change was communicated, whether the price change was upward or downward, and whether it covered a specific geographic region or a specific product type.					
III-31.	Please describe how the above firm(s) exhibited price leadership.					
III-32.	How frequently does the price of the sugar you are purchasing change?					

III-33.	Does your	firm	purchase	sugar	over	the	internet?

No
110

Yes--Please describe, noting the estimated percentage of your firm's total purchases of sugar in 2004 accounted for by internet purchases.

III-34. (a) As an attachment to this questionnaire, please identify and discuss any improvements/changes in the U.S. sugar industry since 1999 and explain fully, to the extent possible, the factor(s), including the order(s) under review, that was/(were) responsible for each improvement/change.

(b) Please also discuss fully, to the extent possible, any improvements/changes that you anticipate in the future in the U.S. sugar industry. Identify the specific future time period covered in your response, and discuss the factors that you believe would be responsible for each improvement/change.

III-35. What do you think will be the likely effects of any revocation of the countervailing duty order for imports of sugar from the European Union or the antidumping findings for imports of sugar from Belgium, France, and Germany? As appropriate, please discuss any potential effects of revocation of the countervailing duty order or antidumping findings on (1) the future activities of your firm and (2) the U.S. market as a whole. Please note the future time period to which you are referring. Attach additional pages if necessary.

(1) Activities of your firm:				
(2) Entire U.S. market:				

PART IV.--COMPARISONS BETWEEN IMPORTED AND U.S.-PRODUCED SUGAR

IV-1. Please indicate the countries of origin for sugar for which your firm has actual marketing/pricing knowledge.

United States	
Belgium	
France	
Germany	
Other EU countries (Please specify)
Other non-EU countries (Please specify)

PART IV.--<u>COMPARISONS BETWEEN IMPORTED AND U.S.-PRODUCED</u> <u>SUGAR</u>--Continued

IV-2. Is sugar produced in the United States and in other countries used interchangeably (i.e., can they physically be used in the same applications)? Please indicate below, using "A" to indicate that the products from a specified country-pair are *always* interchangeable, "F" to indicate that the products are *frequently* interchangeable, "S" to indicate that the products are *sometimes* interchangeable, "N" to indicate that the products are *never* interchangeable, and "0" to indicate *no familiarity* with products from a specified country-pair.¹

Country-pair	United States	Belgium	France	Germany	Other EU-15	EU-NMS	Non-EU
United States							
Belgium							
France							
Germany							
Other EU-15							
EU-NMS							

¹ For any country-pair producing sugar which is *sometimes or never* used interchangeably, please explain the factors that limit or preclude interchangeable use:

IV-3.	Do you or your customers ever specifically order sugar from one country in particular over other
	possible sources of supply?

No Yes--Please identify all relevant countries (including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries) from which you or your customers prefer to order, and indicate why sugar from these countries is preferred over product from other countries (please note the specific product in your response).

IV-4. Are certain grades or types of sugar available from only a single source (domestic or foreign, including both subject and nonsubject countries)?

No	L	YesPlease identify the source and the grade/type/size
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IV-5. If you purchased sugar from one source although a comparable product was available from another source at a lower price, please explain your reasons for doing so (please specify by country, including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries). Possibilities might include transaction characteristics such as length of time to fill orders, minimum order size, reliability of supply, etc.

PART IV.--<u>COMPARISONS BETWEEN IMPORTED AND U.S.-PRODUCED</u> <u>SUGAR</u>--Continued

IV-6. For the factors listed below, please rate how sugar produced in each country you identified in your response to the first question in Part IV compares with sugar produced in each of the other countries you identified (including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries). Copy this page as necessary to cover all possible country combinations and please attach any comments you care to make concerning your responses, especially in comparisons where you rate product from one country superior or inferior to product from another.

compared to						
(specify country)	_ 1 _	(specify country)				
	SUPERIOR	COMPARABLE	INFERIOR			
Availability						
Delivery terms						
Delivery time						
Discounts offered						
Extension of credit						
Lower price						
Minimum qty requirements						
Packaging						
Product consistency						
Quality meets industry standards .						
Quality exceeds industry standards	□					
Product range	□					
Reliability of supply						
Technical support/service						
Lower U.S. transportation costs						
Other (specify):						
	□					
	□					

PART IV.--COMPARISONS BETWEEN IMPORTED AND U.S.-PRODUCED SUGAR--Continued

IV-7.	(a) How often does domestically produced sugar meet minimum quality specifications for you uses or your customers' uses?						
	Always	Usua Usua	lly 🗌 So	ometimes	Rarely or never		
	(b) How often does imported subject sugar meet minimum quality specifications for your uses or your customers' uses?						
	AlwaysUsuallySometimesRarely or never						
	(c) How often does imported nonsubject sugar meet minimum quality specifications for your uses or your customers' uses?						
	Country		Always	Usually	☐ Sometimes	Rarely or never	
	Country		Always	Usually	☐ Sometimes	Rarely or never	
	Country		Always	Usually	☐ Sometimes	Rarely or never	
IV-8.	(a) Since 1999, has there been a change in the price of sugar? If so, has the price of U.S produced sugar changed more or less than the price of imported sugar from the European Union?						
	No change in price						
	Prices have changed by the same amount						
	Price of U.Sproduced sugar has changed relative to the price of sugar from the European Union						
	(b) If the price of U.Sproduced sugar has changed relative to the price of sugar from the European Union, the price of U.Sproduced sugar is now relatively						

Higher Lower

PART V.--SUPPLIER IDENTIFICATION

Please list the suppliers from which you have purchased sugar since 1999 and approximate the percentage of your sugar purchases (based on quantity) each accounted for in 2004.

No.	Firm name	Percentage of purchases
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		