

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Investigation No. TA-421-2

CERTAIN STEEL WIRE GARMENT HANGERS FROM CHINA

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution and scheduling of an investigation under section 421(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2451(b)) (the Act).

SUMMARY: Following receipt of a petition properly filed on November 27, 2002, on behalf of CHC Industries, Inc., Palm Harbor, FL; M&B Hangers Co., Leeds, AL; and United Wire Hanger Corp., South Hackensack, NJ, the Commission instituted investigation No. TA-421-2, *Certain Steel Wire Garment Hangers from China*, under section 421(b) of the Act to determine whether certain steel wire garment hangers<sup>1</sup> from China are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities or under such conditions as to cause or threaten to cause market disruption to the domestic producers of like or directly competitive products.

For further information concerning the conduct of this investigation, hearing procedures, and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A through E (19 CFR part 201), and part 206, subparts A and E (19 CFR part 206).

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 27, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Debra Baker (202-205-3180), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter 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 (<http://www.usitc.gov>).

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<sup>1</sup> Certain steel wire garment hangers, fabricated from steel wire in gauges from 9 to 17, inclusive (3.77 to 1.37 millimeters, inclusive), whether or not galvanized or painted, whether or not coated with latex or epoxy or other similar gripping materials, and whether or not fashioned with paper covers or capes (with or without printing) and/or nonslip features such as saddles, tubes or struts. After fabrication, such hangers are in lengths from 7 to 20 inches, inclusive (177.8 to 508 millimeters, inclusive), and the hanger's length or bottom bar is composed of steel wire and/or saddles, tubes or struts. The product may also be identified by its commercial designation, referring to the shape and/or style of the hanger or the garment for which it is intended, including but not limited to Shirt, Suit, Strut and Caped hangers. Specifically excluded are wooden, plastic, aluminum and other garment hangers that are covered under separate subheadings of the *Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS)*. The products subject to this investigation are classified in subheading 7326.20.00 of the *HTS* and reported under statistical reporting number 7326.20.00.20. Although the *HTS* subheading is provided for convenience and Customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise is dispositive.

The public record for this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS-ON-LINE) at <http://dockets.usitc.gov/eol/public>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Participation in the investigation and service list.--Persons wishing to participate in the investigation as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in section 201.11 of the Commission's rules, not later than seven days after publication of this notice in the *Federal Register*. The Secretary will prepare a service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to this investigation upon the expiration of the period for filing entries of appearance.

Limited disclosure of confidential business information (CBI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and CBI service list.--Pursuant to section 206.47 of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make CBI gathered in this investigation available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the investigation, provided that the application is made not later than seven days after the publication of this notice in the *Federal Register*. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive CBI under the APO.

Hearing.--The Commission has scheduled a hearing in connection with this investigation beginning at 9:30 a.m. on January 9, 2003, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building. Subjects related to both market disruption or threat thereof and remedy may be addressed at the hearing. Requests to appear at the hearing should be filed in writing with the Secretary to the Commission on or before January 2, 2003. All persons desiring to appear at the hearing and make oral presentations should attend a prehearing conference to be held at 9:30 a.m. on January 6, 2003 at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building. Oral testimony and written materials to be submitted at the hearing are governed by sections 201.6(b)(2) and 201.13(f) of the Commission's rules.

Written submissions.--Each party is encouraged to submit a prehearing brief to the Commission. The deadline for filing prehearing briefs is January 3, 2003. Parties may also file posthearing briefs. The deadline for filing posthearing briefs is January 13, 2003. In addition, any person who has not entered an appearance as a party to the investigation may submit a written statement of information pertinent to the consideration of market disruption or threat thereof and/or remedy on or before January 13, 2003. Parties may submit final comments on market disruption or threat thereof on January 23, 2003 and on remedy, if necessary, on January 29, 2003. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of section 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain CBI must also conform with the requirements of section 201.6 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's rules do not authorize filing of submissions with the Secretary by facsimile or electronic means.

In accordance with section 201.16(c) of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the investigation must be served on all other parties to the investigation (as identified by the service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

Remedy.--Parties are reminded that no separate hearing on the issue of remedy will be held. Those parties wishing to present arguments on the issue of remedy may do so orally at the hearing or in their prehearing brief, posthearing brief, or final comments on remedy.

AUTHORITY: This investigation is being conducted under the authority of section 421 of the Trade Act of 1974; this notice is published pursuant to section 206.3 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Marilyn R. Abbott  
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: December 2, 2002