

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 110th Congress¹**

[Date approved: August 8, 2008]²

Bill No. and sponsor: H.R. 4989 (Mr. John E. Peterson of Pennsylvania).

Proponent name,³ location: Hitachi Metals America, Ltd., Purchase, NY; Novi, MI; and Wellsboro, PA.

Other bills on product (110th Congress only): None.

Nature of bill: Temporary duty suspension through December 31, 2011.

Retroactive effect: None.

Suggested article description(s) for enactment (including appropriate HTS subheading(s)):

Cast stainless steel single-piece exhaust gas manifolds, suitable for use solely or principally with spark-ignition internal combustion engines and certified by the importer as capable of withstanding exhaust gas temperatures of 900 degrees C or higher (provided for in subheading 8409.91.50).

Check one: Same as that in bill as introduced.
 Different from that in bill as introduced (see Technical comments section).

Product information, including uses/applications and source(s) of imports:

These exhaust gas manifolds are made of cast stainless steel and are designed to withstand exhaust gas temperatures of 900 degrees Celsius or higher. Exhaust gas manifolds collect the exhaust gas from each of the cylinders of a spark-ignition internal combustion engine and route the gas to an exhaust catalyst and muffler and tailpipe system. The subject exhaust gas manifolds are cast as a single piece. Increasingly, environmental regulations have resulted in increased use of high performance engines that produce higher exhaust gas temperatures. Exhaust gas manifolds for engines with lower exhaust gas temperatures may be made of aluminum, cast iron, or steel tubing. The subject exhaust gas manifolds will be imported from Japan. Of the \$1.5 billion in dutiable U.S. imports under HTS subheading 8409.91.50 (a broader category than is covered by the bill), Japan accounted for \$979 million in shipments.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Dennis Fravel (202-205-3404); Tariff Affairs contact: Jan Summers (202-205-2605).

² Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at http://www.usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel_doc/bill_reports/.

³ The sponsor/proponent did not identify any additional beneficiaries of this bill.

Estimated effect on customs revenue:

HTS subheading: 8409.91.50					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Col. 1-General rate of duty	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$35,000,000	\$35,000,000	\$35,000,000	\$35,000,000	\$35,000,000
Customs revenue loss 1/	\$875,000	\$875,000	\$875,000	\$875,000	\$875,000

1/ The proponent has also suggested that the bill could be amended to provide a duty reduction to 1 percent ad valorem, which would result in annual customs revenue loss of \$525,000 Through 2013. Source of estimated dutiable import data: Commission estimates based on U.S. industry data.

Contacts with domestic firms/organizations (including the proponent):

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	Claim US makes same or competing product(s)?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
Hitachi Metals America, Ltd. (Proponent) Gary K. Grimm, 248-465-6019	05/09/2008	No	No	No
Hitchiner Manufacturing Co., Inc. Matthew Wallis, 603-673-1100	06/3/2008	No	No	No
Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association Ann Wilson, 202-312-9246	05/27/2008	No	No	No

Technical comments:⁴

To be consistent with other HTS provisions, the word “Centigrade” should be abbreviated as “C”; a hyphen should be inserted in “single-piece” as shown on page 1 for clarity.

⁴ The Commission may express an opinion on the HTS classification of a product to facilitate consideration of the bill. However, by law, only the U.S. Customs Service is authorized to issue a binding ruling on this matter. The Commission believes that the U.S. Customs Service should be consulted prior to enactment of the bill.

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4989

To suspend temporarily the duty on stainless steel single-piece exhaust gas manifolds.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 16, 2008

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on stainless steel single-piece exhaust gas manifolds.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. STAINLESS STEEL SINGLE-PIECE EXHAUST GAS**

4 **MANIFOLDS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of
6 the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is
7 amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following
8 new heading:

“	9902.01.00	Cast stainless steel single-piece exhaust gas manifolds, suitable for use solely or principally with spark-ignition internal combustion engines and certified by the importer as capable of withstanding exhaust gas temperatures of 900 degrees Centigrade or higher (provided for in subheading 8409.91.50)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2011	”.
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1 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
2 subsection (a) applies to articles entered, or withdrawn
3 from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day
4 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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