

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 109th Congress¹**

[Date approved: July 31, 2006]²

Bill No. and sponsor: S. 2218 (Mr. Jim DeMint, SC).

Proponent name, location: Michelin North America, Inc., Greenville, SC.

Other bills on product (109th Congress only): H.R. 4489.

Nature of bill: Extension of existing temporary duty suspension through December 31, 2009.

Retroactive effect: None.

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

Sawing machines certified for use in production of radial tires, designed for off-the-highway use, and for use on a rim measuring 63.5 cm or more in diameter (provided for in subheading 4011.20.10, 4011.61.00, 4011.63.00, 4011.69.00, 4011.92.00, 4011.94.40, or 4011.99.45), numerically controlled, or parts thereof (provided for in subheading 8465.91.00 or 8466.92.50).

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:

Sawing machines (and related parts) as described in the proposed legislation are custom-built machine tools, which are numerically controlled³ and are designed to saw cured, vulcanized rubber.⁴ These machines are used to saw a sampled of finished tires into parts in order to ascertain if the tire is being manufactured correctly. The principal import source of these machines is France.

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://usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel_doc/bill_reports/index.htm.

³ The term "numerically controlled" means computer numerically controlled, in which the control system adds fully automatic programmable positioning and feed rate control of the machine's axis movement relative to the workpiece, as well as automatic control of other functions.

⁴ Vulcanized rubber is rubber that has been cured under heat and pressure, and is found in tires after they have gone through their final stage of production.

Estimated effect on customs revenue:

Total Revenue Loss for this Bill					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
 					
Customs revenue loss 1/	\$10,700	\$16,700	\$66,800	\$33,400	\$50,100

1/ The estimated customs revenue loss for 2006 reflects the existing duty suspension under heading 9902.84.91 that expires on December 31, 2006.

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Sum of table totals below.

HTS subheading: <u>8465.91.00</u>					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
 					
Col. 1-General rate of duty	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$200,000	\$400,000	\$1,600,000	\$800,000	\$1,200,000
Customs revenue loss 1/	\$6,000	\$12,000	\$48,000	\$24,000	\$36,000

1/ The estimated customs revenue loss for 2006 reflects the existing duty suspension under heading 9902.84.91 that expires on December 31, 2006.

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Industry and Commission estimates.

HTS subheading: <u>8466.92.50</u>					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
 					
Col. 1-General rate of duty	4.7%	4.7%	4.7%	4.7%	4.7%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$400,000	\$200,000	\$300,000
Customs revenue loss 1/	\$4,700	\$4,700	\$18,800	\$9,400	\$14,100

1/ The estimated customs revenue loss for 2006 reflects the existing duty suspension under heading 9902.84.91 that expires on December 31, 2006.

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Industry and Commission estimates.

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?
		(Yes/No)		
Michelin North America, Inc. (Proponent) Steve Evered: 864-458-5080	4/18/2006	No	No	No
Bridgestone Firestone, Inc. Steve Akey, 202-354-8220	5/15/2006	No	No	No
Continental Tire North America, Inc. Tom Williams, 704-583-8570	5/17/2006	No	No	No
Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. Isabel Jasinowski, 202-682-9250	5/15/2006	No	No	No
Titan Tire Corp. Bill Campbell, 515-265-9200	5/15/2006	No	No	No

Technical comments:⁵ None.

⁵ 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.

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 2218

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain sawing machines.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 30, 2006

Mr. DEMINT introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To extend the temporary suspension of duty on certain sawing machines.

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. CERTAIN SAWING MACHINES.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Heading 9902.84.91 of the Har-
5 monized Tariff Schedule of the United States (relating to
6 certain manufacturing equipment) is amended by striking
7 “12/31/2006” and inserting “12/31/2009”.

8 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
9 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from

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- 1 warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after
- 2 the date of enactment of this Act.

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