

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION  
of the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress<sup>1</sup>**

[Date approved: August 17, 2006]<sup>2</sup>

**Bill No. and sponsor:** S. 2972 (Mr. Johnny Isakson of Georgia).

**Proponent name, location:** The Home Depot Corp., Atlanta, GA.

**Other bills on product (109<sup>th</sup> Congress only):** None.

**Nature of bill:** Temporary duty suspension through December 31, 2009.

**Retroactive effect:** None.

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

Variable speed scroll sawing machines each having a throat depth of approximately 406 mm, new (provided for in subheading 8465.91.00).

**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:**

The subject variable speed scroll saws are primarily designed for woodworking, although these saws may be used to cut other materials such as plastics, metal, glass, plexiglass, and Corian. Scroll saws are used to cut intricate curves in the workpiece where a jigsaw or coping saw could not be used. The scroll saw uses a thin saw blade like those found on coping saws that reciprocates in an up and down motion. The sawblade is held between an arm overhanging a work table that rests upon the base of the saw. The sawblade, driven by an electric motor, reciprocates through an opening in the work table. The speed of the sawblade is adjustable by means of switches, and thus the saw obtains the "variable speed" characteristic. The workpiece is pushed into the moving sawblade to cut the workpiece. The table is able to tilt to the right or left sides of the saw so that complex cuts may be made. Scroll saws are distinguished by their throat depth, which is the distance between the front of the sawblade and the back of the support bracket of the arm that overhangs the work table. Thus, a 16-inch scroll saw has a throat depth of 16 inches; the metric equivalent, which must be used in the HTS, is approximately 406 mm. Scroll saws are also made with throat depths of 14, 18, 20, and 21 inches. The principal import sources of 16-inch variable speed scroll saws are China and Taiwan.

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

<sup>2</sup> Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at [http://usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel\\_doc/bill\\_reports/index.htm](http://usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel_doc/bill_reports/index.htm).

**Estimated effect on customs revenue:**

<b>HTS subheading: 8465.91.00</b>					
	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	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000
Customs revenue loss	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Commission staff estimates based on official U.S. Government statistics.

**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)		
The Home Depot Corp. (Proponent) Miller & Chevalier (of counsel) Zachery Paulsen, 202-626-5921	06/20/2006	No	No	No
Black & Decker Corp. Natalie Shields, 410-716-3078	06/20/2006	No	No	No
Eclipse Scroll Saw Ernesto Mellon, 804-779-2478	07/17/2006	No	No	No
Harbor Freight Tools LLC Suda Suebsang, 805-483-3988	07/17/2006	No	No	No
Lowe's Company Scott D. Mason, 704-758-1000	07/17/2006	No	No	No
PS Wood Machines Barb Peters, 412-831-5402	07/17/2006	No	No	No
RB Industries, Inc. Sunny Rosbrugh, 816-884-3534	07/17/2006	No	No	No
Robert Bosch Tool Corp. Gregory Thiess, 708-865-5393	07/24/2006	No	No	No
Sears, Roebuck & Co. Sharon Brengelson, 847-286-2500	07/11/2006	No	No	No

**Technical comments:**<sup>3</sup>

The proponent indicates that it intends the bill to cover new goods, rather than used or rebuilt goods. Thus, it is suggested that the proposed bill should add this criterion; the goods are separately identified at the statistical reporting level in the HTS. The Customs National Commodity Specialist has indicated that importers would need to file invoices stating that the product is a 406 mm variable speed scroll saw to distinguish the subject merchandise from other scroll saws with different throat depths and/or with constant speeds.

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<sup>3</sup> 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  
2D SESSION

# S. 2972

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain 16-inch variable speed scroll saw machines.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 23, 2006

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

## A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain 16-inch variable speed scroll saw 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 16-INCH VARIABLE SPEED SCROLL**

4 **SAW MACHINES.**

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:

“	9902.84.65	Certain 16-inch variable speed scroll saw machines (provided for in subheading 8465.91.00) .....	Free	No change	No change	On or before	12/31/2009	”.
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1       (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
2 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from  
3 warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after  
4 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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