



FACT SHEET

Commerce Initiates Antidumping Duty (AD) Investigations of Steel Wire Garment Hangers from Taiwan and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Vietnam) and a Countervailing Duty (CVD) Investigation of Steel Wire Garment Hangers from Vietnam

- On January 18, 2012, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) initiated AD and CVD investigations of imports of steel wire garment hangers from Taiwan (AD) and Vietnam (AD/CVD).
- For the purpose of AD investigations, dumping occurs when a foreign company sells a product in the United States at less than fair value. For the purpose of CVD investigations, countervailable subsidies are financial assistance from foreign governments that benefit the production of goods from foreign companies and are limited to specific enterprises or industries, or are contingent either upon export performance or upon the use of domestic goods over imported goods.
- The petitioners for these investigations are M&B Metal Products Company, Inc. (Leeds, AL), Innovative Fabrication LLC/ Indy Hanger (Indianapolis, IN), and US Hanger Company, LLC (Gardena, CA).
- Steel wire garment hangers are produced primarily for use by the dry cleaning, industrial laundry, textile, and uniform rental industries. The Department currently has an AD order in place on steel wire garment hangers from the People's Republic of China.
- The merchandise subject to these investigations is steel wire garment hangers, fabricated from carbon steel wire, whether or not galvanized or painted, whether or not coated with latex or epoxy or similar gripping materials, and/or whether or not fashioned with paper covers or capes (with or without printing) and/or nonslip features such as saddles or tubes. These products may also be referred to by a commercial designation, such as shirt, suit, strut, caped, or latex (industrial) hangers.
- Specifically excluded from the scope of these investigations are (a) wooden, plastic, and other garment hangers that are not made of steel wire; (b) steel wire garment hangers with swivel hooks; (c) steel wire garment hangers with clips permanently affixed; and (d) chrome plated steel wire garment hangers with a diameter of 3.4 mm or greater.
- Imports of the subject merchandise are provided for under the following categories of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS): HTSUS 7323.99.9060, 7323.99.9080, and 7326.20.0020). Some HTSUS subheadings include basket categories and may cover both subject and non-subject merchandise. Note HTS code 7323.99.9060 was in effect for subject merchandise prior to 2011 and is included for historic data purposes. These HTS numbers are provided for convenience and Customs purposes only; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

- In 2010, imports of steel wire garment hangers from Taiwan and Vietnam were valued at an estimated \$23 million and \$29 million, respectively.

NEXT STEPS

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to make its preliminary injury determinations on or about February 13, 2012.
- If the ITC determines that there is a reasonable indication that imports from Taiwan and Vietnam are materially injuring, or threatening material injury to, the domestic industry, the investigations will continue, and Commerce will be scheduled to make its CVD and AD preliminary determinations in March and June 2012, respectively.

ALLEGED DUMPING MARGINS:

COUNTRY	MARGIN
TAIWAN	18.90 to 125.43 percent
VIETNAM	117.48 to 220.68 percent

ESTIMATED SUBSIDY RATE:

COUNTRY	SUBSIDY RATE
VIETNAM	Above <i>de minimis</i> *

* *de minimis* = less than 1% for developed countries, less than 2% for developing countries.

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	AD INVESTIGATIONS	CVD INVESTIGATION
Petitions Filed	December 29, 2011	December 29, 2011
DOC Initiation Date	January 18, 2012	January 18, 2012
ITC Preliminary Determination*	February 13, 2012 [†]	February 13, 2012 [†]
DOC Preliminary Determinations**	June 6, 2012	March 23, 2012
DOC Final Determinations**	August 20, 2012	June 6, 2012
ITC Final Determination***	October 4, 2012	July 23, 2012
Issuance of Orders****	October 11, 2012	July 30, 2012

* If the ITC makes a negative preliminary determination of injury, the investigations are terminated.

[†] Where the deadline falls on a weekend/holiday, the appropriate date is the next business day.

**These deadlines may be extended under the governing statute.

***This will take place only in the event of final affirmative determinations from Commerce.

****This will take place only in the event of final affirmative determinations from Commerce and the ITC.

IMPORT STATISTICS:

TAIWAN	2008	2009	2010
Value (US\$)	14,900,000	24,652,000	23,033,000
VIETNAM	2008	2009	2010
Value (US\$)	4,596,000	19,512,000	28,992,000

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, accessed through Global Trade Atlas. (HTSUS 7323.99.9060, 7323.99.9080, and 7326.20.0020). Some HTSUS subheadings include basket categories and may cover both subject and non-subject merchandise. Note HTS code 7323.99.9060 was in effect for subject merchandise prior to 2011 and is included for historic data purposes.