

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Investigation No. TA-421-2

CERTAIN STEEL WIRE GARMENT HANGERS FROM CHINA

DETERMINATION

On the basis of information developed in the subject investigation, the United States International Trade Commission determines, pursuant to section 421(b)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974,¹ that certain steel wire garment hangers² from the People's Republic of China are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities or under such conditions as to cause market disruption to the domestic producers of like or directly competitive products.

BACKGROUND

Following receipt of a petition filed on November 27, 2002 on behalf of CHC Industries, Inc.; M&B Metal Products Co., Inc.; and United Wire Hanger Corp., the Commission instituted investigation No. TA-421-2, *Certain Steel Wire Garment Hangers From China*, under section 421 of the Trade Act of 1974 to determine whether certain steel wire garment hangers 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.

Notice of the institution of the Commission's investigation and of the scheduling of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith was given by posting a copy of the notice on the Commission's website (www.usitc.gov) and by publishing the notice in the *Federal Register* of December 6, 2002 (67 FR 72700). The hearing was held on January 9, 2003 in Washington, DC; all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

By order of the Commission.

Marilyn R. Abbott
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: January 31, 2003

¹ 19 U.S.C. § 2451(b)(1).

² For purposes of this investigation, certain steel wire garment hangers consist of 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 *HTS*. The products subject to this investigation are classified in subheading 7326.20.00 of the *HTS* and reported under statistical reporting number 7326.20.0020. Although the *HTS* subheading is provided for convenience and Customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise is dispositive.