

Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-5288 or (202) 482-0186, respectively.

### Preliminary Determination

We preliminarily determine that certain partial-extension steel drawer slides with rollers (drawer slides) from the People's Republic of China (PRC) are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV), as provided in section 733 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). The estimated margins are shown in the "Suspension of Liquidation" section of this notice.

### Case History

Since the initiation of this investigation on November 21, 1994, (*Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigation: Certain Partial-Extension Steel Drawer Slides with Rollers from the People's Republic of China (PRC)*, 59 FR 60773 (November 28, 1994) (*Initiation of Drawer Slides from the PRC*)), the following events have occurred:

On November 30, 1994, Guangdong Metals and Minerals Import and Export Group Corporation (GDMC), identified itself as an exporter of the subject merchandise during the period of investigation (POI).

On December 15, 1994, the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) notified the Department of Commerce (the Department) of its preliminary determination that there is a reasonable indication that the drawer slides industry in the United States is threatened with material injury by reason of imports from the PRC that are alleged to be sold at less than fair value.

On December 20, 1994, we sent a survey to the PRC's Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (MOFTEC) and the China Chamber of Commerce for Machinery and Electronics Products Importers/Exporters (the Chamber) requesting the identification of drawer slides producers and exporters, and information on production and sales of drawer slides exported to the United States. MOFTEC did not respond to this survey.

We did, however, receive a response to the survey on January 6, 1995, from the Chamber. The Chamber indicated that it could not confirm whether any PRC company exported the subject merchandise to the United States during the POI. On December 23, and 30, 1994, we received letters from Hangzhou Metals, Minerals, Machinery and

Chemicals, Import/Export Corp. and Liaoning Machinery Import & Export Corporation, respectively. Both of these companies indicated that although they were named in the petition, they did not produce or export drawer slides during the POI. On January 3, 1995, two companies, Tai Ming Metal Products Co., Ltd. (Taiming), and Sikai Hardware & Electronic Equipment Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (SHEEM), which were not named in the petition, identified themselves as exporters of the subject merchandise to the United States during the POI.

Based on the foregoing information, on January 19, 1995, the Department sent full questionnaires including Attachment I (dealing with claims for Market Oriented Industry (MOI) status) and Attachment II (dealing with claims for Separate Rates), to MOFTEC and the Chamber. The Department requested that the questionnaire be transmitted to all companies that produce drawer slides for export to the United States and to all companies that exported drawer slides to the United States during the POI. Although requested, the Department never received confirmation that either MOFTEC or the Chamber had forwarded the questionnaire. The Department sent questionnaires to the three identified respondents (*i.e.*, GDMC, Taiming and SHEEM) on January 19, 1995.

On February 10, 1995, the Department received Section A responses from GDMC, Taiming and SHEEM. Supplemental information regarding Section A was provided at the Department's request on March 28, 1995.

On February 10, 1995, Taiming requested that it be allowed to exclude certain Exporter Sales Price (ESP) transactions of drawer slides given that these sales constituted a negligible portion of its sales during the POI. On February 21, 1995, the Department issued a decision memorandum granting Taiming's request. (See Memorandum to Barbara R. Stafford from the Team dated February 21, 1995, on file in Room B-099, U.S. Department of Commerce.)

On March 10, 1995, we received responses to the remaining sections of our questionnaire from the three respondents. Supplemental information requested by the Department was received on May 2, 1995. The petitioner filed comments on all responses submitted by the respondents on March 2 and 24, and May 8, 1995.

On March 30, 1995, the Department requested the parties to submit publicly available published information concerning surrogate country selection and factors of production valuation for

drawer slides. The Department also requested parties to identify those surrogate countries which produce merchandise comparable to the subject merchandise. On April 27 and May 4, 1995, the petitioner and respondents submitted the information and comments on these issues.

### Postponement of Final Determination

Pursuant to section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act, on May 17, 1995, the respondents requested that, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination in this investigation, the Department postpone its final determination until 135 days after the date of publication of an affirmative preliminary determination in the **Federal Register**. Pursuant to 19 CFR 353.20(b), because our preliminary determination is affirmative, and no compelling reasons for denial exist, we are granting respondents' request and postponing the final determination.

### Scope of Investigation

The subject merchandise in this investigation is certain partial-extension steel drawer slides of any length with rollers. A drawer slide is composed of two separate drawer slide rails. Each rail has screw holes and an attached polymer roller. The polymer roller may or may not have ball bearings. The subject drawer slides come in two models: European or Low-Profile and Over-Under or High-Profile. The former model has two opposing rails that provide one channel along which both rollers move and the latter has two opposing rails that provide two channels, one for each roller. For both models of drawer slides, the two opposing rails differ slightly in shape depending on whether the rail is to be affixed to the side of a cabinet or the side of a drawer. A rail may also feature a flange for affixing to or aligning along the bottom of a drawer.

Drawer slides may be packaged in an assembly pack with two drawer slides; that is, four rails with their attached rollers, or in an assembly pack with one drawer slide; that is, two rails with their attached rollers; or individually; as a drawer slide rail with its attached roller. An assembly pack may or may not contain a packet of screws.

Not included in the scope of this investigation are linear ball bearing steel drawer slides (with ball bearings in a linear plane between the steel elements of the slide), roller bearing drawer slides (with roller bearings in the wheel), metal box drawer slides (slides built into the side of a metal or aluminum drawer), full extension drawer slides (with more than four rails per pair), and