

respondent incorrectly included movement expenses, bank charges, and antidumping legal expenses in its indirect selling expenses and that there were serious discrepancies between actual production hours and the standard production hours used to allocate costs. The petitioners maintain that the corrections are so numerous and substantial that the data provided by the respondent is unusable, and argue, therefore, that the Department should assign the petition margin as BIA.

The respondent contends that every expense was verified, as the verification reports make clear. In addition, the respondent points out that it produced complete information which was entirely verified by the Department. Therefore, the respondent maintains that the Department should use its response in the final determination and not resort to BIA.

#### *DOC Position*

We agree with the respondent. We tested the respondent's sales databases and established that the errors mentioned above were inadvertent and relatively minor. The respondent either brought these errors to our attention, or we discovered them as a result of the respondent providing all requested information. We were able to correct these errors. The errors mentioned above were not ones which lead us to question the reliability of the response. These are the types of errors the Department generally encounters in a typical investigation and it is the Department's normal practice to correct such minor errors for purposes of its analysis and less-than-fair-value calculations. Therefore, we are using the respondent's response in the final determination and not resorting to BIA.

#### *Comment 3—Exclusion of Duties from the COM*

The respondent maintains that the Department must exclude duties paid from the COP and exclude duty drawback from the Canadian price because to do otherwise is contrary to Department practice. The respondent cites *Carlisle Tire & Rubber Co. v. United States*, 634 F.Supp. 419, 424 (CIT 1986), and Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Sweaters Wholly or in Chief Weight of Man-Made Fiber from the Korea (55 FR 32659, 32666, August 10, 1990) (Sweaters from Korea) in support of its argument.

The petitioners argue that it would be inappropriate to exclude duties from the COP because the drawback received on a majority of the Canadian sales is different from the duties HSP paid on

the imported coil incorporated into the exported pipe.

#### *DOC Position*

We agree with the respondent. Our practice, as enunciated in *Sweaters from Korea*, is to calculate a COP exclusive of duties and compare this COP to a duty-exclusive price. Thus, the fact that there may be a difference between the amount of duty paid and the amount of drawback received is irrelevant because neither amount is used for purposes of the COP test involving third country sales. Consequently, other issues which relate to the duty calculation are moot.

#### *Comment 4—Duty Drawback on U.S. Sales*

The petitioners contend that the respondent should have calculated U.S. duty drawback using shipment-specific drawback data instead of the average drawback received on all shipments during the period July-December 1993. They further contend that such reporting would not have been burdensome because the respondent provided this information at verification. In addition, the petitioners assert that the respondent's averaging methodology was not reasonable because it does not accurately capture the correct universe of duty drawback received. Therefore, the petitioners request that the Department deny the allocated duty drawback adjustment to U.S. price.

The respondent maintains that in *Laclede Steel Co. v. United States*, Slip Op. 94-160 (CIT 1994) (*Laclede*), the CIT upheld HSP's drawback methodology which is virtually identical to the methodology HSP is using in this instant case. The respondent points out that based on *Laclede*, HSP is not required to perform sales-specific calculations of Korean duty drawback. Moreover, the respondent maintains that it cannot trace the amount of drawback received on a particular exportation of OCTG back to a particular imported coil upon which duty has previously been paid because of the very nature of the Korean drawback system. Additionally, the respondent contends that the issue of whether it would have been burdensome to provide transaction-specific data is irrelevant because there is no relationship between coil inputs to the OCTG exports. Finally, the respondent argues that its allocation methodology is reasonable because the amount of drawback assigned to each vessel bears no relationship to the sales that are made of the OCTG transported on that vessel.

#### *DOC Position*

We agree with the respondent. Contrary to the petitioners' assertions, we verified that HSP is unable to trace the amount of drawback received upon a particular exportation of OCTG back to a particular imported coil upon which duty has previously been paid because of the nature of the Korean drawback system. Specifically, the Korean duty drawback system is set up such that HSP is allowed to use a FIFO (first in first out) method in matching import permits for raw materials used to produce OCTG to export permits showing OCTG shipments. When it submits its application for duty drawback, HSP is not required by the Korean government to link the amount it paid in duty for a specific amount of imported coil to the OCTG it actually exported.

However, even if HSP were able to provide transaction-specific amounts for duty drawback, the *Laclede* decision is clear that a respondent is not required to report sales-specific calculations for duty drawback relating to sales in a particular market.

Regarding whether HSP's duty drawback allocation methodology is reasonable, we examined at verification alternative allocation methods HSP could have used. We determined, based on verification, that the methodology HSP selected reasonably allocated its duty drawback amounts and was non-distortive based on the following facts: (1) While HSP cannot determine on a sales specific basis which coil imported actually was used to produce a specific product for export, it can in general determine which coil was used to produce U.S.-destined OCTG and Canadian-destined OCTG; (2) HSP applies for duty drawback in the ordinary course of business by taking the oldest coil import permits and linking them to export permits so that it receives all of the drawback due to it; and (3) there was an insignificant difference between using HSP's method and using an alternative method based on the drawback received on OCTG sold during the POI. Regarding petitioners' request that the duty drawback amount be limited to the actual amount of duties included in CV and the COP, this issue is moot since we have excluded duties from the COP calculation and we are not resorting to CV as a basis for FMV.

Therefore, we are accepting the respondent's duty drawback allocation methodology because it is in accordance with the *Laclede* decision and Department practice.