

from sample months that corresponded to the sample weeks selected for U.S. sales sampling plus one contemporaneous month prior to the POR and one following the POR. The sample months included April, June, July, October, and November of 1993, and February, April, and May of 1994.

In general, the Department relies on monthly weighted-average prices in the calculation of FMV in administrative reviews. Because of the significant volume of home market sales involved in these reviews, we examined whether it was appropriate to average, in accordance with section 777A of the Tariff Act, all of each respondent's home market sales on an annual basis. In this case, the use of POR weighted-average prices results in significant time and resource savings for the Department. To determine whether a POR weighted-average price was representative of the transactions under consideration, we performed a three-step test.

We first compared each monthly weighted-average home market price for each model with the weighted-average POR price of that model. We calculated the proportion of each model's sales whose POR weighted-average price did not vary meaningfully (i.e., was within plus or minus 10 percent) from the monthly weighted-average prices. We did this for each model within each class or kind of merchandise. We then compared the volume of sales of all models within each class or kind of merchandise whose POR weighted-average price did not vary meaningfully from the monthly weighted-average price with the total volume of sales of that class or kind of merchandise. If the POR weighted-average price of at least 90 percent of sales in each class or kind of merchandise did not vary meaningfully from the monthly weighted-average price, we considered the POR weighted-average prices to be representative of the transactions under consideration. Finally, we tested whether there was any correlation between fluctuations in price and time for the home market sales. Where the absolute value of the correlation coefficient was less than 0.05 (where a coefficient approaching 1.0 means a direct relation between price and time, i.e., that prices consistently rise from month to month, and a coefficient approaching zero means no relation between prices and time), we concluded that there was no significant relation between price and time. We calculated a weighted-average POR FMV only for those classes or kinds that satisfied our three-step test for the factors of price, volume, and time.

We compared U.S. sales with sales of such or similar merchandise in the home market. We considered all non-identical products within a bearing family to be equally similar. As defined in the questionnaire, a bearing family consists of all bearings within a class or kind of merchandise that are the same in the following physical characteristics: load direction, bearing design, number of rows of rolling elements, precision rating, dynamic load rating, outer diameter, inner diameter, and width.

Home market prices were based on the packed, ex-factory or delivered prices to related or unrelated purchasers in the home market. Where applicable, we made adjustments for movement expenses, differences in cost attributable to differences in physical characteristics of the merchandise pursuant to 773(a)(4)(C) of the Tariff Act, and differences in packing. We also made adjustments for differences in circumstances of sale in accordance with 19 C.F.R. 353.56. For comparisons to purchase price sales, we deducted home market direct selling expenses and added U.S. direct selling expenses. For comparisons to ESP sales, we deducted home market direct selling expenses. We also made adjustments, where applicable, for home market indirect selling expenses to offset U.S. commissions in purchase price and ESP calculations and to offset U.S. indirect selling expenses deducted in ESP calculations, but not exceeding the amount of the indirect U.S. expenses. For comparisons to both ESP and purchase price sales, we adjusted FMV for taxes consistent with our change in practice as stated above.

We used sales to related customers only where we determined such sales were made at arm's-length prices, i.e., at prices comparable to prices at which the firm sold identical merchandise to unrelated customers.

Where we found home market sales below the cost of production in the 1991-1992 administrative reviews, we concluded that reasonable grounds exist to believe or suspect that home market sales during the POR were made at prices below the cost of production, and we initiated cost investigations.

In accordance with section 773(b) of the Tariff Act, in determining whether to disregard home market sales made at prices below the cost of production, we examined whether such sales were made in substantial quantities over an extended period of time. When less than 10 percent of the home market sales of a particular model were at prices below the cost of production, we found that there were not substantial quantities of that model sold below cost and did not

disregard any sales of that model. When 10 percent or more, but not more than 90 percent, of the home market sales of a particular model were determined to be below cost, we determined that substantial quantities of that model were sold below cost and excluded the below-cost home market sales from our calculation of FMV, provided that these below-cost sales were made over an extended period of time. When more than 90 percent of the home market sales of a particular model were made below cost over an extended period of time, we disregarded all home market sales of that model from our calculation of FMV and used CV (see Polyethylene Terephthalate Film, Sheet, and Strip from Korea, 56 FR 16306 (1991)).

To determine if sales below cost had been made over an extended period of time, we compared the number of months in which sales below cost had occurred for a particular model to the number of months in which the model was sold. If the model was sold in three or fewer months, we did not find that below-cost sales were made over an extended period of time unless there were sales below cost of that model in each month. If a model was sold in more than three months, we did not find that below-cost sales were made over an extended period of time unless there were sales below cost in at least three of the months in which the model was sold (see Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Reviews; Tapered Roller Bearings and Parts Thereof, Finished and Unfinished, From Japan and Tapered Roller Bearings, Four Inches or Less in Outside Diameter, and Components Thereof, From Japan, 58 FR 64729 (December 9, 1993)).

Since none of the respondents has submitted information indicating that any of its sales below cost were at prices which would have permitted "recovery of all costs within a reasonable period of time in the normal course of trade" within the meaning of section 773(b)(2) of the Tariff Act, we were unable to conclude that the costs of production of such sales were recovered within a reasonable period of time. As a result, we disregarded below-cost sales when the conditions described above were met.

In accordance with sections 773(a)(1) and 773(b)(2) of the Tariff Act, we used CV as the basis for FMV when there were no usable sales of such or similar merchandise for comparison.

We calculated CV in accordance with section 773(e) of the Tariff Act. We included the cost of materials, fabrication, general expenses, profit, and packing. To calculate CV we used: (1) Actual general expenses or the statutory