

**Period of Investigation (POI)**

The petitioners contend that the POI is April 1, 2001 through March 31, 2002, which is the last completed fiscal year for each of the alleged producers/exporters of the subject merchandise. If these companies do not have the same fiscal year then the POI would be calendar year 2001.

**Allegations of Subsidies**

Section 702(b) of the Act requires the Department to initiate a countervailing duty proceeding whenever an interested party files a petition, on behalf of an industry, that (1) alleges the elements necessary for an imposition of a duty under section 701(a), and (2) is accompanied by information reasonably available to petitioners supporting the allegations.

We are initiating an investigation of the following programs alleged in the petition to have provided countervailable subsidies to manufacturers, producers and exporters of the subject merchandise in India (a full description of each program is provided in the *Initiation Checklist*):

**A. Government of India Programs**

1. Duty Entitlement Passbook Scheme (DEPBS)
2. Pre-Shipment and Post-Shipment Export Financing
3. Export Promotion of Capital Goods Scheme (EPCGS)
4. Loans from the Steel Development Fund (SDF)
5. Exemption of Export Credit from Interest Taxes
6. Advance Licenses
7. Income Tax Exemption Scheme (ITES) (Sections 10A, 10B and 80 HHC)
8. Government of India Loan Guarantees

**B. Programs in the State of Maharashtra**

1. Sales Tax Incentives
2. Capital Incentive Scheme
3. Octroi Refund Scheme
4. Electricity Duty Exemption Scheme
5. Exemption of Sales and Purchase Taxes for Certain Investments Related to Automobiles or Automobile Components

**C. Program in the State of Bihar**

1. Sales Tax Incentives

**D. Programs in the State of Jharkhand**

1. Sales Tax Incentives
2. Captive Electricity Generative Plant Subsidy
3. Interest Subsidy
4. Stamp Duty and Registration
5. Pollution Control Equipment Subsidy
6. Mega Units

**7. Captive Electricity Tax Exemptions****E. Program in the State of Gujarat****1. Sales Tax Incentives**

We are not initiating an investigation of the following programs alleged in the petition to have provided countervailable subsidies to manufacturers, producers and exporters of the subject merchandise in India (a full description of each program is provided in the *Initiation Checklist*):

**D. Government of India Program****1. Special Import Licenses (SILs)****E. Program in the State of Bihar****1. Power Incentives****C. Programs in the State of Gujarat**

1. Incentives to Premier and Prestigious Units
2. Incentives for Private Sector Investments in Infrastructure Projects
3. Government Infrastructure Assistance to Medium and Large Industries
4. Promotion of Specific Industrial Sectors

**Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation**

The Department has examined the countervailing duty petition on PC strand from India, and found that it complies with the requirements of section 702(b) of the Act. Therefore, in accordance with section 702(b) of the Act, we are initiating a countervailing duty investigation to determine whether manufacturers, producers, or exporters of PC strand from India receive countervailable subsidies.

**Distribution of Copies of the Petition**

In accordance with section 702(b)(4)(A)(i) of the Act, a copy of the public version of the petition has been provided to the representatives of the GOI. We will attempt to provide a copy of the public version of the petition to each exporter named in the petition, as provided for under 19 CFR 351.203(c)(2).

**International Trade Commission Notification**

Pursuant to section 702(d) of the Act, we have notified the ITC of our initiation.

**Preliminary Determination by the ITC**

The ITC will determine by March 17, 2003, whether there is a reasonable indication that imports of PC strand from India are causing material injury, or threatening to cause material injury, to a U.S. industry. A negative ITC determination will result in the

investigation being terminated; otherwise, this investigation will proceed according to statutory and regulatory time limits.

This notice is issued and published pursuant to section 777(i) of the Act.

Dated: February 20, 2003.

**Faryar Shirzad,**

*Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

[FR Doc. 03-4651 Filed 2-26-03; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****International Trade Administration**

[C-475-821]

**Notice of Rescission of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review: Stainless Steel Wire Rod from Italy**

**AGENCY:** Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Rescission of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review.

**SUMMARY:** On October 18, 2002, the Department of Commerce (the Department) initiated an administrative review of the countervailing duty order on stainless steel wire rod (SSWR) from Italy, covering the period January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2001, and one manufacturer/exporter of the subject merchandise, Acciaierie Valbruna S.p.A. (Valbruna). See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews and Requests for Revocation in Part*, 67 FR 65336 (October 24, 2002). This review has now been rescinded due to Valbruna's withdrawal of its request for an administrative review.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 27, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stephanie Moore or Jim Neel, AD/CVD Enforcement, Office 6, Group II, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-3692 or (202) 482-4161, respectively.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

On September 30, 2002, the Department received a letter from Valbruna requesting an administrative review of the countervailing order on SSWR from Italy. On October 18, 2002, the Department initiated an administrative review of this order for the period January 1, 2001 through

December 31, 2001. On January 6, 2003, Valbruna submitted a letter requesting to withdraw from the above referenced administrative review.

### Scope of the Review

For purposes of this administrative review, SSWR comprises products that are hot-rolled or hot-rolled annealed and/or pickled and/or descaled rounds, squares, octagons, hexagons or other shapes, in coils, that may also be coated with a lubricant containing copper, lime or oxalate. SSWR is made of alloy steels containing, by weight, 1.2 percent or less of carbon and 10.5 percent or more of chromium, with or without other elements. These products are manufactured only by hot-rolling or hot-rolling, annealing, and/or pickling and/or descaling, and are normally sold in coiled form, and are of solid cross-section. The majority of SSWR sold in the United States is round in cross-sectional shape, annealed and pickled, and later cold-finished into stainless steel wire or small-diameter bar. The most common size for such products is 5.5 millimeters or 0.217 inches in diameter, which represents the smallest size that normally is produced on a rolling mill and is the size that most wire drawing machines are set up to draw. The range of SSWR sizes normally sold in the United States is between 0.20 inches and 1.312 inches in diameter.

The products covered by this administrative review are currently classifiable under subheadings 7221.00.0005, 7221.00.0015, 7221.00.0030, 7221.00.0045, and 7221.00.0075 of the *Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States* (HTSUS). Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and Customs purposes, the written description of the scope of this review is dispositive.

### Rescission of Review

Within 90 days of the October 24, 2002 notice of initiation, Valbruna requested to withdraw its request for an administrative review. See Letter from Valbruna to the Department dated January 6, 2003 on file in the Central Records unit, Room B-099, Main Building of the Department of Commerce.

In accordance with the Department's regulations, and consistent with its practice, the Department hereby rescinds the administrative review of SSWR from Italy for the period January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001. See 19 CFR section 351.213(d)(1), which states in pertinent part: "The Secretary will rescind an administrative review under this section, in whole or in part, if a

party that requested a review withdraws the request within 90 days of the date of publication of notice of initiation of the requested review."

This notice is in accordance with section 751(a)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, and section 351.213(d) of the Department's regulations.

Dated: February 13, 2003.

**Bernard Carreau,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[Docket No. 021220324-3029-02]

### Special American Business Internship Training Program (SABIT)

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of extension of funding availability for grants under the Special American Business Internship Training Program (SABIT).

**SUMMARY:** The International Trade Administration publishes this notice to extend the closing date for the Special American Business Internship Training Program (SABIT) from March 1, 2003, to April 7, 2003.

**DATES:** To be considered, applications must be received in the SABIT office by April 7, 2002. Processing of complete applications takes approximately three to four months. All awards are expected to be made by July 1, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Liesel Duhon, Director, Special American Business Internship Training program, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, phone—(202) 482-0073, facsimile—(202) 482-2443. These are not toll free numbers.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice amends the **Federal Register** notice of December 27, 2002 (67 FR 79056-79059), announcing the availability of funds for the Special American Business Internship Training program (SABIT), for training business executives and scientists (also referred to as "interns") from Eurasia (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan). This notice extends the closing date of the referenced **Federal Register** notice for

five weeks to April 7, 2003. All applications must be received by SABIT by April 7, 2003. All information in the previous announcement remains current, except for the change of the closing date.

Dated: February 21, 2003.

**Tracy M. Rollins,**

*Deputy Director, SABIT Program.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

### Closed Meeting of the U.S. Automotive Parts Advisory Committee (APAC)

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Announcement of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The APAC will have a closed meeting on March 13, 2003 at the U.S. Department of Commerce to discuss U.S.-made automotive parts sales in Japanese and other Asian markets.

**DATES:** March 13, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Robert Reck, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4036, Washington, DC 20230, telephone: 202-482-1418.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The U.S. Automotive Parts Advisory Committee (the "Committee") advises U.S. Government officials on matters relating to the implementation of the Fair Trade in Automotive Parts Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-261). The Committee: (1) Reports to the Secretary of Commerce on barriers to sales of U.S.-made automotive parts and accessories in Japanese and other Asian markets; (2) reviews and considers data collected on sales of U.S.-made auto parts and accessories in Japanese and other Asian markets; (3) advises the Secretary of Commerce during consultations with other Governments on issues concerning sales of U.S.-made automotive parts in Japanese and other Asian markets; and (4) assists in establishing priorities for the initiative to increase sales of U.S.-made auto parts and accessories to Japanese markets, and otherwise provide assistance and direction to the Secretary of Commerce in carrying out the intent of that section; and (5) assists the Secretary of Commerce in reporting to Congress by submitting an annual written report to the Secretary on the sale of U.S.-made automotive parts in Japanese and other Asian markets, as well as any other issues with respect to which the Committee provides advice pursuant to its authorizing legislation.