

Comment 16: SG&A Ratio Clerical Errors
[FR Doc. 02-24788 Filed 10-2-02; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-427-823]

Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination: Certain Cold-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products From France

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

ACTION: Notice of final affirmative determination in a countervailing duty investigation.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce has made a final determination that countervailable subsidies are being provided to certain producers and exporters of certain cold-rolled carbon steel flat products from France. For information on the estimated countervailing duty rates, please see the "Suspension of Liquidation" section, below.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 3, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suresh Maniam at (202) 482-0176; Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Applicable Statute and Regulations

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the statute are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments made to the Tariff Act of 1930 (the "Act") by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act. In addition, unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Department of Commerce's (the "Department") regulations are references to the provisions codified at 19 CFR part 351 (April 2001).

Petitioners

The petition in this investigation was filed by Bethlehem Steel Corp., United States Steel LLC., LTV Steel Co., Inc., Steel Dynamics, Inc., National Steel Corp., Nucor Corp., WCI Steel, Inc., and Weirton Steel Corp. (collectively, "the petitioners").

Case History

Since the publication of the preliminary determination in the

Federal Register (see *Notice of Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination and Alignment of Final Countervailing Duty Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determinations: Certain Cold-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from France*, 67 FR 9662 (March 4, 2002) ("Preliminary Determination")), the following events have occurred:

From April 15, 2002 to April 19, 2002, we conducted a verification of the questionnaire responses submitted by the Government of France ("GOF") and Usinor.

On May 24 and 31, 2002, we received case briefs and rebuttals, respectively, from the petitioners and Usinor/GOF. On June 4, 2002, we held a public hearing at the request of both the petitioners and Usinor/GOF.

With respect to scope, in the preliminary LTFV determinations in the companion cold-rolled steel investigations, the Department preliminarily excluded certain porcelain enameling steel from the scope of these investigations. See *Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Certain Cold-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from Argentina*, 67 FR 31181, 31192 (May 9, 2002). On June 13, 2002, we issued a preliminary decision on the remaining 75 scope exclusion requests filed in a number of the on-going cold-rolled steel investigations (see Memorandum to Bernard T. Carreau, dated June 13, 2002, "Preliminary Scope Rulings in the Antidumping Investigations on Certain Cold-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, France, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, and Venezuela, and in the Countervailing Duty Investigations of Certain Cold-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from Argentina, Brazil, France, and Korea" (*Preliminary Scope Rulings*), which is on file in the Department's Central Records Unit ("CRU"), room B-099 of the main Department building). We gave parties until June 20, 2002, to comment on the *Preliminary Scope Rulings*, and until June 27, 2002, to submit rebuttal comments. We received comments and/or rebuttal comments from petitioners and respondents from various countries subject to these investigations of cold-rolled steel. In addition, on June 13, 2002, North American Metals Company (an interested party in the Japanese proceeding) filed a request that the Department issue a "correction" for an already excluded product. On July 8,

2002, the petitioners objected to this request.

At the request of multiple respondents, the Department held a public hearing with respect to the *Preliminary Scope Rulings* on July 1, 2002. The Department's final decisions on the scope exclusion requests are addressed in the "Scope of Investigation" section below.

Scope of Investigation

For purposes of this investigation, the products covered are certain cold-rolled (cold-reduced) flat-rolled carbon-quality steel products. A full description of the scope of this investigation is contained in the "Scope Appendix" attached to the *Notice of Correction to Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Certain Cold-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from Australia*, 67 FR 52934 (August 14, 2002). For a complete discussion of the comments received on the *Preliminary Scope Rulings*, see Memorandum to Bernard T. Carreau, dated July 10, 2002, "Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Scope Rulings in the Antidumping Duty Investigations on Certain Cold-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, France, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, and Venezuela, and in the Countervailing Duty Investigations of Certain Cold-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from Argentina, Brazil, France, and Korea," which is on file in the CRU.

Injury Test

Because France is a "Subsidies Agreement Country" within the meaning of section 701(b) of the Act, the U.S. International Trade Commission ("ITC") is required to determine whether imports of the subject merchandise from France materially injure, or threaten material injury to, a U.S. industry. On November 19, 2001, the ITC published its preliminary determination finding a reasonable indication of material injury or threat of material injury to an industry in the United States by reason of imports of certain cold-rolled carbon steel flat products from France. See *Certain Cold-Rolled Steel Products from Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, and Venezuela*, 66 FR 57985 (November 19, 2001).

Period of Investigation

The period of investigation for which we are measuring subsidies is the calendar year 2000.

Analysis of Comments Received

All issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs by parties to this investigation are addressed in the "Issues and Decision Memorandum" from Susan H. Kuhbach, Senior Office Director, Import Administration to Faryar Shirzad, Assistant Secretary, Import Administration, dated September 23, 2002 ("Decision Memorandum"), which is hereby adopted by this notice. Attached to this notice as Appendix I is a list of the issues which parties have raised and to which we have responded in the *Decision Memorandum*. Parties can find a complete discussion of all issues raised in this investigation and the corresponding recommendations in this public memorandum which is on file in the CRU, room B-099 of the main Department building. In addition, a complete version of the *Decision Memorandum* can be accessed directly on the Internet at <http://ia.ita.doc.gov/frn/> under the heading "France." The paper copy and electronic version of the Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Suspension of Liquidation

As a result of our *Preliminary Determination*, we instructed the Customs Service to suspend liquidation of all entries of certain cold-rolled carbon steel flat products from France which were entered or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after March 4, 2002, the date of the publication of the *Preliminary Determination* in the **Federal Register**. In accordance with section 703(d) of the Act, we instructed Customs to discontinue the suspension of liquidation for merchandise for countervailing duty purposes entered on or after July 2, 2002, but to continue the suspension of liquidation of entries made from March 4, 2001 through July 1, 2001.

We have calculated an individual net subsidy rate for each manufacturer of the subject merchandise pursuant to section 705(c)(1)(B)(i) of the Act. In accordance with sections 777A(e)(2)(B) and 705(c)(5)(A) of the Act, we have set the "all others" rate as Usinor's rate. We determine the total estimated net countervailable subsidy rates to be:

Producer/exporter	Net subsidy rate (percent)
Usinor	1.27
All Others	1.27

We will issue a countervailing duty order and reinstate the suspension of liquidation under section 706(a) of the Act if the ITC issues a final affirmative injury determination and will require a cash deposit of estimated countervailing duties for such entries of merchandise in the amounts indicated above. If the ITC determines that material injury, or threat of material injury, does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated and all estimated duties deposited or securities posted as a result of the suspension of liquidation will be refunded or canceled.

ITC Notification

In accordance with section 705(d) of the Act, we will notify the ITC of our determination. In addition, we are making available to the ITC all non-privileged and non-proprietary information related to this investigation. We will allow the ITC access to all privileged and business proprietary information in our files, provided the ITC confirms that it will not disclose such information, either publicly or under an Administrative Protective Order ("APO"), without the written consent of the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Return or Destruction of Proprietary Information

In the event that the ITC issues a final negative injury determination, this notice will serve as the only reminder to parties subject to an APO of their responsibility concerning the destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Failure to comply is a violation of the APO.

This determination is published pursuant to sections 705(d) and 777(i) of the Act.

September 23, 2002.

Faryar Shirzad,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Appendix I—List of Comments and Issues in the Decision Memorandum

Comment 1: Post-Privatization Treatment of Usinor's Pre-Privatization Benefits
 Comment 2: Appropriate AUL for Usinor
 Comment 3: SODI Advances
 Comment 4: Funding for Electric Arc Furnace and Myosotis Projects
 Comment 5: ECSC Article 56 Funding
 Comment 6: Appropriate Sales Value
 Comment 7: 1995 Capital Increase

Comment 8: ECSC Article 55 Benefits and Professional Training Grant

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-421-810]

Notice of Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Critical Circumstances: Certain Cold-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products From The Netherlands

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 3, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Salkeld or Jim Neel, AD/CVD Enforcement Office VI, Group II, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-1168 or (202) 482-4161, respectively.

The Applicable Statute and Regulations

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the statute are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments made to the Tariff Act of 1930 ("the Act") by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act ("URAA"). In addition, unless otherwise indicated, all citations to Department of Commerce ("the Department") regulations refer to the regulations codified at 19 CFR part 351 (2002).

Final Determination

We determine that certain cold-rolled carbon steel flat products from The Netherlands are being sold, or are likely to be sold, in the United States at less than fair value ("LTFV"), as provided in section 735 of the Act. The estimated margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation section of this notice.

Case History

The preliminary determination in this investigation was published on May 9, 2002. *See Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination: Certain Cold-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from the Netherlands*, 67 FR 31268 (May 9, 2002). Since the issuance of the preliminary determination, the following events have occurred: