

days. When we determine a fluctuation to have existed, we substitute the benchmark for the daily rate, in accordance with established practice.

Preliminary Results of Review

As a result of our review, we preliminarily determine that the following margins exist for the period October 1, 1999, through September 30, 2000:

Manufacturer/exporter	Percent margin
Filati Lastex Sdn. Bhd.	18.66
Heveafil Sdn. Bhd./Filmax Sdn. Bhd.	0.83
Rubberflex Sdn. Bhd.	0.00

The Department will disclose to parties the calculations performed in connection with these preliminary results within five days of the date of publication of this notice. Interested parties may request a hearing within 30 days of the publication. Any hearing, if requested, will be held seven days after the date rebuttal briefs are filed. Interested parties may submit case briefs not later than 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed not later than 37 days after the date of publication of this notice. The Department will publish a notice of the final results of this administrative review, which will include the results of its analysis of issues raised in any such case briefs, within 120 days of the publication of these preliminary results.

Upon completion of this administrative review, the Department shall determine, and the Customs Service shall assess, antidumping duties on all appropriate entries. We calculate importer-specific assessment rates based on the ratio of the total amount of antidumping duties calculated for the examined sales to the total entered value of those sales, where available. Where the entered value is not available, we calculate a quantity-based assessment rate. These rates will be assessed uniformly on all entries of particular importers made during the POR. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.106(c)(2), we will instruct the Customs Service to liquidate without regard to antidumping duties all entries for any importer for whom the assessment rate is *de minimis* (i.e., less than 0.50 percent of entered value). The Department will issue appraisal instructions directly to the Customs Service.

Further, the following deposit requirements will be effective for all shipments of extruded rubber thread from Malaysia entered, or withdrawn

from warehouse, for consumption on or after the publication date of the final results of this administrative review, as provided for by section 751(a)(1) of the Act: (1) the cash deposit rates for Filati, Heveafil, and Rubberflex will be the rates established in the final results of this review, except if the rate is less than 0.50 percent and, therefore, *de minimis* within the meaning of 19 CFR 351.106, the cash deposit will be zero; (2) for previously reviewed or investigated companies not listed above, the cash deposit rate will continue to be the company-specific rate published for the most recent period; (3) if the exporter is not a firm covered in this review, a prior review, or the less-than-fair-value (LTFV) investigation, but the manufacturer is, the cash deposit rate will be the rate established for the most recent period for the manufacturer of the merchandise; and (4) the cash deposit rate for all other manufacturers or exporters will continue to be 15.16 percent, the all others rate established in the LTFV investigation.

These deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until publication of the final results of the next administrative review.

This notice serves as a preliminary reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in the Secretary's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of double antidumping duties. This administrative review and notice are in accordance with section 751(a)(1) of the Act and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: October 31, 2001.

Faryar Shirzad,

Assistant Secretary, for Import Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-806]

Notice of Extension of Time Limit for Preliminary Results of Antidumping New Shipper Review: Natural Bristle Paintbrushes and Brush Heads From the People's Republic of China

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 6, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sally Gannon Office of AD/CVD Enforcement VII, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-0162.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Applicable Statute

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's regulations are to the current regulations, codified at 19 CFR part 351 (2000).

Background

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(b)(2), the Department received a timely request from petitioner, Paint Applicator Division of the American Brush Manufacturers Association (Paint Applicator Division), that we conduct an administrative review of the sales of Hebei Founder Import & Export Company (Founder) and Hunan Provincial Native Products Import & Export Corp. (Hunan). On March 22, 2001, the Department initiated an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on natural bristle paintbrushes and paintbrush heads for the period of review (POR) of February 1, 2000 through January 31, 2001 for Founder and Hunan. On September 6, 2001, the Department rescinded the administrative review with respect to Founder because it did not sell, ship, or enter the subject merchandise during the POR. See *Natural Bristle Paintbrushes and Brush Heads from the People's Republic of China: Notice of Rescission in Part of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review*, 66 FR 47450 (September 12, 2001).

Extension of Time Limit for Preliminary Results

Pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act, the Department may extend the deadline for completion of the preliminary results of a review if it determines that it is not practicable to complete the preliminary results within the statutory time limit of 245 days from the date on which the review was initiated. The Department has determined that it is not practicable to complete the preliminary results of this review for Hunan within the time limits mandated by section 751(a)(3)(A) of the

Act and section 351.213(h)(1) of the Department's regulations because certain complex issues need to be examined, including the terms of Hunan's business relationship with its supplier and whether Hunan's single sale during the POR was a sample sale.

Therefore, in accordance with these sections, the Department is extending the time limits for the preliminary results by 120 days, until no later than February 28, 2002. The final results continue to be due 120 days after the publication of the preliminary results.

Dated: October 25, 2001.

Edward C. Yang,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

[A-122-838]

Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination: Certain Softwood Lumber Products From Canada

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 6, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Charles Riggle or Constance Handley,
Office 5, AD/CVD Enforcement, Import
Administration, International Trade
Administration, U.S. Department of
Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution
Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230;
telephone: (202) 482-0650 or (202) 482-
0631, 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 (Department) regulations refer to the regulations codified at 19 CFR part 351 (April 2001).

Preliminary Determination

We preliminarily determine that certain softwood lumber products from Canada are being sold, or are likely to be sold, in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV), as provided in section 733 of the Act. The estimated margins

are shown in the *Suspension of Liquidation* section of this notice.

Case History

This investigation was initiated on April 23, 2001. *See Notice of Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigation: Certain Softwood Lumber Products From Canada*, 66 FR 21328, April 30, 2001 (*Initiation Notice*). Since the initiation of the investigation, the following events have occurred:

On May 18, 2001, the United States International Trade Commission (the ITC) preliminarily determined that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is threatened with material injury by reason of imports from Canada of softwood lumber.

From the outset of this investigation, the Department has recognized that there is a large number of softwood lumber producers in Canada, who sell a myriad of different products through hundreds of thousands of individual transactions. The Department has sought to work with interested parties to appropriately limit the data reporting requirements, so as to make the proceeding more manageable for all concerned.

Accordingly, on April 25, 2001, in advance of issuing antidumping questionnaires, the Department issued a letter to interested parties, including the petitioners¹ and the 15 largest known producers/exporters of softwood lumber from Canada, soliciting comments on issues of respondent selection, fair value comparison methodology, and possible limitation of reporting of sales and cost data. We received comments from the interested parties on May 2, 2001, and rebuttal comments on May 8, 2001.

Upon consideration of the comments received with respect to respondent selection, on May 25, 2001, the Department selected as mandatory respondents the six largest producers/exporters of subject merchandise: Abitibi-Consolidated Inc. (Abitibi); Canfor Corporation (Canfor); Slocan Forest Products Ltd. (Slocan); Tembec Inc. (Tembec); West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd. (West Fraser), and Weyerhaeuser Company (Weyerhaeuser). The Department concluded also that, due to the vast workload entailed by the investigation of these six companies, it would not be able to examine voluntary respondents. *See Selection of Respondents*, below.

¹ The petitioners are the coalition for Fair Lumber Imports Executive Committee; the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners; and the Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers International Union.

On May 25, 2001, the Department issued an antidumping questionnaire to the selected respondents.² In view of the large number of transactions involved, the Department instructed respondents to limit the reporting of U.S. and home market sales to identical products sold in both markets, provided that such products accounted for at least 33 percent of all merchandise sold to the United States during the period of investigation.

On June 7, 2001, the Department was contacted by Abitibi, who inquired whether the Department would consider further limiting the reporting requirements to certain major product groups. The Department agreed to consider such a proposal, provided that there was unanimous agreement among the interested parties. On June 19, 2001, the six mandatory respondents agreed to limit the reporting of sales and costs to specific products. On June 20, 2001, the petitioners submitted a letter proposing that the Department adopt the proposal set forth by the mandatory respondents. *See Product Comparisons*, below. The Department agreed to this proposal.

Throughout June and July 2001, several meetings were held with counsel for the six mandatory respondents and the petitioners, to discuss a number of company-specific reporting issues, which resulted in the Department agreeing to exclude certain additional sales from the reporting requirements. These meetings are described in memoranda placed in the official file. *See, e.g.,* Memorandum from the Team to the File (June 15, 2001) and Memorandum from the Team to the File (July 10, 2001).

The respondents submitted their initial responses to the antidumping questionnaire in late June 2001. After analyzing these responses, we issued supplemental questionnaires to the respondents to clarify or correct the initial questionnaire responses. We received timely responses to these questionnaires.

On August 9, 2001, we requested that interested parties submit comments on the appropriateness and feasibility of matching sales of U.S. merchandise to home market sales of similar

² Section A of the questionnaire requests general information concerning a company's corporate structure and business practices, the merchandise under investigation that it sells, and the manner in which it sells that merchandise in all of its markets. Section B requests a complete listing of all home market sales, or, if the home market is not viable, of sales in the most appropriate third-country market. Section C requests a complete listing of U.S. sales. Section D requests information on the cost of production of the foreign like product and the constructed value of the merchandise under investigation.