

Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey (MWTS). The MWTS canvasses firms primarily engaged in merchant wholesale trade, except manufacturing sales branches and offices, that are located in the United States. This survey provides the only continuous measures of monthly wholesale sales, end-of-month inventories, method of inventory valuation, and inventories/sales ratios. The sales and inventory estimates produced from the MWTS provide current trends of economic activity by kind of business for the United States. Also, the estimates compiled from this survey provide valuable information for economic policy decisions by the government and are widely used by private businesses, trade organizations, professional associations, and other business research and analysis organizations.

The estimates produced by the MWTS are critical to the accurate measurement of total economic activity of the United States. The estimates of sales made by wholesale locations represent only merchant wholesalers, except manufacturing sales branches and offices, who take title to goods bought for resale to other companies. Wholesalers normally sell to industrial distributors, retail operations, cooperatives, and other businesses. The sales estimates include sales made on credit as well as on a cash basis, but exclude receipts from sales taxes and interest charges from credit sales.

The estimates of merchandise inventories represent all merchandise owned and held in wholesale locations, warehouses, and offices, as well as goods owned by wholesalers but held by others for sale on consignment, in third-party warehouses, or in transit for distribution to wholesale establishments or their customers. The estimates of merchandise inventories exclude fixtures and supplies not for resale, as well as merchandise held on consignment which are owned by others. Inventories are an important component in the Bureau of Economic Analysis' (BEA) calculation of the investment portion of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

We publish wholesale sales and inventory estimates based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) which has been widely adopted throughout both the public and private sectors.

The Census Bureau tabulates the collected data to provide, with measurable reliability, statistics on U.S. merchant wholesale, except manufacturing sales branches and offices, sales, end-of-month inventories,

methods of inventory valuation, and inventories/sales ratios.

The BEA is the primary Federal user of data collected in the MWTS. The BEA uses this information to prepare the national income and product accounts (NIPA), input-output accounts (I-O), and gross domestic product (GDP) by industry.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) uses the data as input to its Producer Price Indexes and in developing productivity measurements. Private businesses use the wholesale sales and inventory data in computing business activity indexes. Other government agencies and businesses use this information for market research, product development, and business planning to gauge the current trends of the economy.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Frequency: Monthly.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C. Section 182.

OMB Desk Officer: Susan Schechter, (202) 395-5103.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dhynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Susan Schechter, OMB Desk Officer either by fax (202-395-7245) or e-mail susan_schechter@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: March 22, 2005.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-5988 Filed 3-25-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-553-809]

Forged Stainless Steel Flanges From India: Extension of Time Limit for Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty New Shipper Review

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 28, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Fred Baker or Robert James, AD/CVD

Operations, Office 7, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2924 or (202) 482-0649, respectively.

Background

On August 31, 2004, the Department of Commerce (the Department) received a timely request from Hilton Forge to conduct a new shipper review of the antidumping duty order on certain forged stainless steel flanges from India, sold in, or exported to the United States. On October 6, 2004, the Department published a notice of initiation of this new shipper review, covering the period of February 1, 2004 through July 31, 2004 (69 FR 59897). The preliminary results are currently due no later than March 29, 2005.

Extension of Time Limits for Preliminary Results

Section 751(a)(2)(B)(iv) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Tariff Act), requires the Department to complete the preliminary results of a new shipper review within 180 days after the date on which the new shipper review was initiated. However, if it is not practicable to complete the review within these time periods because the review is extraordinarily complicated, section 751(a)(2)(B)(iv) of the Tariff Act allows the Department to extend the time limit for the preliminary results to a maximum of 300 days after the date of initiation of a new shipper review. We are extending the deadline for the preliminary results of this review an additional 120 days, as a result of the complicated issues in this review. In order to accurately complete our analysis, we need to gather additional information from Hilton concerning its U.S. and home market selling activities. Additionally, we need to gather information concerning the role, if any, that related parties may have played in Hilton's manufacture and sale of flanges. This makes it impracticable to complete the preliminary results of this review within the originally anticipated time limit. Accordingly, the Department is extending the time limit for completion of the preliminary results of this new shipper review until no later than July 27, 2005, which is 300 days after the date of initiation. We intend to issue the final results no later than 90 days after publication of the preliminary results notice.

Dated: March 21, 2005.

Barbara E. Tillman,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. E5-1368 Filed 3-25-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

(A-428-825)

Stainless Steel Sheet and Strip in Coils From Germany: Extension of Time Limit for Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 28, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Deborah Scott, Tyler Weinhold, or Robert James, AD/CVD Operations, Office 7, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2657, (202) 482-1121, or (202) 482-0649, respectively.

Background

On July 30, 2004, the Department of Commerce (the Department) received timely requests to conduct an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on stainless steel sheet and strip in coils from Germany. On August 30, 2004, the Department published a notice of initiation of this administrative review, covering the period of July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004. (69 FR 52857). The preliminary results are currently due no later than April 2, 2005.

Extension of Time Limits for Preliminary Results

Section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), requires the Department to complete the preliminary results of an administrative review within 245 days after the last day of the anniversary month of an order for which a review is requested. However, if it is not practicable to complete the review within these time periods because the review is extraordinarily complicated, section 751(a)(2)(B)(iv) of the Act allows the Department to extend the time limit for the preliminary results to a maximum of 365 days after the last day of the anniversary month of an order for which a review is requested.

The Department has determined it is not practicable to complete this review

within the statutory time limit, because of the complicated issues in this review, including the reporting of home market downstream sales and the reporting of physical product characteristics. Analysis of these issues requires additional time and makes it impracticable to complete the preliminary results of this review within the originally anticipated time limit. Accordingly, the Department is extending the time limit for completion of the preliminary results of this administrative review until no later than August 1, 2005, which is the next business day after 365 days from the last day of the anniversary month. We intend to issue the final results no later than 120 days after publication of the preliminary results notice.

March 22, 2005.

Barbara E. Tillman,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. E5-1367 Filed 3-25-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 050317077-5077-01; I.D. 032205A]

Environmental Literacy Grants

AGENCY: Office of Education and Sustainable Development (OESD), Office of the Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere (USEC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC)

ACTION: Notice and request for proposals.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that OESD is soliciting 1- to 3-year proposals for environmental literacy projects. Funded projects will further NOAA's education goals articulated in the NOAA Education Plan http://www.oesd.noaa.gov/NOAA_Ed_Plan.pdf. Funding is available to encourage the development of partnerships and to support existing, or foster growth of new, environmental literacy projects. This program has two funding priorities for FY05: (1) Partnerships that promote systemic change in NOAA-related science education, and (2) Innovative presentation of NOAA science and earth observing data through educational data visualizations and other educational tools. Within priority two, NOAA has committed to funding the installation of up to four "Science on a Sphere" (SOS)

data systems at informal education venues. These "Science on a Sphere" installations will be funded by way of one- to three-year cooperative agreements. It is anticipated that final recommendations for funding under this announcement will be made in mid Calendar Year 2005, and that projects funded under this announcement will have a start date no earlier than September 30, 2005.

DATES: The deadline for receipt of proposals is 5 p.m. EDT on May 12, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Applications should be submitted through the following website: (<http://www.grants.gov>). The full text of the funding opportunity announcement for this OESD program can be accessed via the same website. If an applicant does not have Internet access, hard copies of full proposals should be sent to Sarah Schoedinger, DOC/NOAA, Office of Education and Sustainable Development, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, HCHB 6863, Washington, DC 20230. Application kits may be requested from Sarah Schoedinger at 202-482-2893 or Beth Day at 301-713-2431 x 148. This announcement will also be available at the NOAA Web site: <http://www.ofa.noaa.gov/%7Eamd/SOLINDEX.HTML> or by contacting the program officials identified in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sarah Schoedinger at sarah.schoedinger@noaa.gov, telephone 202-482-2893, or Beth Day at elizabeth.day@noaa.gov, telephone 301-713-2431 x 148.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice announces that OESD is soliciting 1- to 3-year proposals for environmental literacy projects. Funded projects will further NOAA's education goals articulated in the NOAA Education Plan http://www.oesd.noaa.gov/NOAA_Ed_Plan.pdf. Funding is available to encourage the development of partnerships and to support existing, or foster growth of new, environmental literacy projects. This program has two funding priorities for FY05: (1) Partnerships that promote systemic change in NOAA-related science education, and (2) innovative presentation of NOAA science and earth observing data through educational data visualizations and other educational tools. Within priority two, NOAA has committed to funding the installation of up to four "Science on a Sphere" (SOS) data systems at informal education venues. These "Science on a Sphere" installations will be funded by way of