

Department published a notice in the **Federal Register** which informed domestic interested parties of their right under section 753(a) of the Act to request an injury investigation by the International Trade Commission (the Commission) with respect to certain outstanding countervailing duty orders issued pursuant to former section 303 of the Act. See Countervailing Duty Order: Opportunity to Request a Section 753 Injury Investigation, 60 FR 27963 (May 26, 1995), amended 60 FR 32942 (June 26, 1995).

On June 30, 1995, North American Rubber Thread Company timely requested that the Commission conduct an investigation under section 753(a) with regard to the outstanding countervailing duty order on extruded rubber thread from Malaysia. On December 15, 1997, the Commission initiated its investigation (62 FR 67406; December 24, 1997). On June 25, 1998, the Commission notified the Department of its negative determination with regard to the outstanding countervailing duty order on extruded rubber thread from Malaysia (63 FR 35945; July 1, 1998).

Scope of Countervailing Duty Order

The product covered by this determination is extruded rubber thread. Extruded rubber thread is defined as vulcanized rubber thread obtained by extrusion of stable or concentrated natural rubber latex of any cross sectional shape, measuring from 0.18 mm, which is 0.007 inch or 140 gauge, to 1.42 mm, which is 0.056 inch or 18 gauge, in diameter. Extruded rubber thread is currently classified under subheading 4007.00.00 of the *Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States* (HTSUS). The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and U.S. Customs purposes. Our written description of the scope of this review remains dispositive.

Determination

As a result of the determination of the Commission that an industry in the United States is not likely to be materially injured by reason of imports of the subject merchandise if the order is revoked, the Department hereby revokes the countervailing duty order on extruded rubber thread from Malaysia pursuant to section 753(b)(3)(B) of the Act. The revocation is effective January 1, 1995, the date Malaysia became a Subsidies Agreement country.

Suspension of Liquidation

The Department will instruct the United States Customs Service (Customs) to terminate the suspension of liquidation and liquidate all unliquidated entries of extruded rubber thread from Malaysia entered or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption on or after January 1, 1995, without regard to countervailing duties. The Department will also instruct Customs to refund, with interest, any cash deposits of countervailing duties collected since January 1, 1995, when liquidation was suspended pursuant to section 753(a)(4) of the Act.

Dated: July 28, 1998.

Joseph A. Spetrini,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 98-20797 Filed 8-3-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Notice of Scope Rulings

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

ACTION: Notice of scope rulings and anticircumvention inquiries.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce hereby publishes a list of scope rulings and anticircumvention inquiries completed by Import Administration between April 1, 1998 and June 30, 1998. In conjunction with this list, the Department of Commerce is also publishing a list of pending requests for scope clarifications and anticircumvention inquiries. We intend to publish future lists within 30 days of the end of each quarter.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 4, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ronald M. Trentham, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4793.

Background

The regulations of the Department of Commerce (the Department) (19 CFR 351.22(o)) provide that on a quarterly basis the Secretary will publish in the **Federal Register** a list of scope rulings completed within the last three months.

This notice lists scope rulings and anticircumvention inquiries completed by Import Administration, between April 1, 1998, and June 30, 1998, and pending scope clarification and anticircumvention inquiry requests. The Department intends to publish in October 1998 a notice of scope rulings and anticircumvention inquiries completed between July 1, 1998, and September 30, 1998, as well as pending scope clarification and anticircumvention inquiry requests.

The following lists provide the country, case reference number, requester(s), a brief description of either the ruling or product subject to the request, and the date of rulings made.

I. SCOPE RULINGS COMPLETED BETWEEN APRIL 1, 1998 and JUNE 30, 1998

Country	Finland.
A-405-071	<i>Viscose Rayon Fiber.</i> Kemira Fibres Oy—Short-cut (LK) fiber and fire retardant (VISIL) fiber are within the scope of the order. 6/8/98.
Country	People's Republic of China.
A-570-504	<i>Petroleum Wax Candles.</i> Polardreams Inc.—Granular petroleum wax candle kits are within the scope of the order. 5/6/98. Meijer, Inc.—Sweetheart tapers and wax-filled glass containers with decorative hearts are within the scope of the order. A wax-filled porcelain bunny, an Easter taper with a chick attached, an Easter bunny head teal light, a valentine heart teal light, a heart-shaped candle on wax heart base, a "candy kiss" candle, and a "bunny long ears" flame candle are outside the scope of the order. 6/11/98.
Country	South Korea
A-580-601	<i>Certain Stainless Steel Cooking Ware.</i>
C-580-802	Samuel Shapiro & Company—certain stainless steel Pasta and steamer inserts are within the scope of the order. 4/15/98.
Country	Japan
A-588-802	<i>3.5 Inch Microdisks and Coated Media Thereof.</i>

Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd., Fuji Photo Film U.S.A., Inc., Sony Corporation and Sony Electronics, Inc.—High Capacity Floppy Disk (HIFD) is outside the scope of the order. 4/16/98.

II. ANTICIRCUMVENTION RULINGS COMPLETED BETWEEN APRIL 1, 1998 AND JUNE 30, 1998

None

III. SCOPE INQUIRIES TERMINATED BETWEEN APRIL 1, 1998 AND JUNE 30, 1998

Country People's Republic of China.
A-570-504 *Petroleum Wax Candles.*
Sun-It Corporation—Clarification to determine whether taper candles containing oil of citronella are within the scope of the order. Scope inquiry was terminated on 5/14/98.

IV. ANTICIRCUMVENTION INQUIRIES TERMINATED BETWEEN APRIL 1, 1998 AND JUNE 30, 1998

None

V. PENDING SCOPE CLARIFICATION REQUESTS AS OF JUNE 30, 1998

Country Mexico.
A-201-805 *Circular Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe.*
Cierra Pipe, Inc.—Clarification to determine whether line pipe “shorts,” or “old line pipe” which has rusted and pitted after sitting in storage, constitute line pipe of a kind used for oil and gas pipelines or is pipe and tube covered by the order.

Country Sweden.
A-401-040 *Stainless Steel Plate.*
Avesta Sheffield AB and Avesta Sheffield NAD, Inc.—Clarification to determine whether stainless steel slabs that are manufactured in Great Britain and rolled into hot bands in Sweden are within the scope of the order.

Country Germany.
A-428-801 *Antifriction Bearings (Other Than Tapered Roller Bearings), and Parts Thereof.*
FAG Aerospace & Superprecision Bearings GmbH—Clarification to determine whether certain aerospace bearings which have entered the United States but have been returned to Germany for repair or refurbishing, and which then reenter the United States, are within the scope of the order.

Country Italy.
C-475-819 *Certain Pasta.*
A-475-818 Joseph A. Sidari Company, Inc.—Clarification to determine whether a shrink wrapped package containing six one-pound packages, each of which would first be individually packaged in a cellophane wrapper (cello) with “Not Labeled for Retail Sale” written across the entire length of each of the individual packages on both sides, is within the scope of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders.

Country People's Republic of China.
A-570-504 *Petroleum Wax Candles.*
Ocean State Jobbers—Clarification to determine whether taper candles consisting of a blend of petroleum wax and beeswax are within the scope of the order.
Et Al Imports—Clarification to determine whether candles consisting of an 80/20 beeswax/petroleum wax blend are within the scope of the order.
Et Al Imports—Clarification to determine whether a bamboo shaped candle is within the scope of the order.

A-570-808 *Chrome-Plated Lug Nuts.*
Wheel Plus, Inc.—Clarification to determine whether imported zinc-plated lug nuts which are chrome-plated in the United States are within the scope of the order.

Country Japan.
A-588-804 *Antifriction Bearings (Other Than Tapered Roller Bearings), and Parts Thereof.*
Koyo Seiko Co., Ltd.—Clarification to determine whether a cylindrical roller bearing, allegedly without a precision rating, for use as an axle bearing in cars and trucks is within the scope of the order.

A-588-813 *Light-Scattering Instruments and Parts Thereof.*
Thermo Capillary Electrophoresis, Inc.—Clarification to determine whether diode array detectors and cell flow units are within the scope of the order.

A-588-837 Large Newspaper Printing Presses from Germany.
Nireco Corporation—Clarification to determine whether Calagraph Systems are within the scope of the order.
Komori American Corporation—Clarification to determine whether the System 20 is within the scope of the order.

VI. PENDING ANTICIRCUMVENTION INQUIRIES AS OF JUNE 30, 1998

Country Mexico.
A-201-805 *Certain Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe.*
Allied Tube & Conduit Corp., Sawhill Tubular Division of Tex-Tube Co., Century Tube Corp., Laclede Steel Co., LTV Tubular Products Co., Sharon Tube Co., Western Tube & Conduit Co., Wheatland Tube Co., and CSI Tubular Products, Inc. (Petitioners)—Anticircumvention inquiry to determine whether imports of (i) pipe certified to the American Petroleum Institute (API) 5L line pipe specifications (API 5L or line pipe) and (ii) pipe certified to both the API 5L line pipe specifications and the less stringent American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) A-53 standard pipe specifications (dual certified pipe), falling within the physical dimensions outlined in the scope of the order, are circumventing the antidumping duty order.

Country United Kingdom.
A-412-810 *Lead and Bismuth Carbon Steel Products.*
C-412-811 Inland Steel Bar Company and USS/Kobe Steel Company (Petitioners)—Anticircumvention inquiry to determine whether British Steel PLC is circumventing the order by shipping leaded steel billets to the United States, where they are converted into the hot-rolled carbon steel products covered by the order.

Country Germany.

A-428-811	<i>Lead and Bismuth Carbon Steel Products.</i>
C-429-812	Inland Steel Bar Company and USS/Kobe Steel Company (Petitioners)—Anticircumvention inquiry to determine whether Saarlust A.G. and Thyssen Stahl A.G. are circumventing the order by shipping leaded steel billets to the United States, where they are converted into the hot-rolled carbon steel products covered by the order.
Country	Italy
A-475-818	<i>Certain Pasta.</i>
	Borden, Inc., Hershey Foods Corp., Gooch Foods, Inc., (Petitioners)—Anticircumvention inquiry to determine whether Barilla S.r.L. is importing pasta in the United States in bulk (defined as packages of greater than five pounds) and repackaging the pasta into packages of five pounds or less for sale in the retail market; and whether such repackaging constitutes circumvention of the antidumping duty order.

Interested parties are invited to comment on the accuracy of the list of pending scope clarification requests. Any comments should be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Room B-099, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Dated: July 28, 1998.

Maria Harris Tildon,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Import Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

[Docket No. 980212036-8172-03]

Request for Comments on the Enhancement of the .us Domain Space

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice, Request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce requests comments on future expansion and administration of the .us domain space. The registry for .us domain space, administered by the Information Sciences Institute at the University of California, is currently administered as a locality based hierarchy in which second level domain space is allocated to states and U.S. territories. The .us domain space has typically been used by branches of state and local government, although some commercial names have been assigned. This notice, through a series of questions, requests public comment on issues relating to future administration, and possible expansion, of the .us domain space.

DATES: Comments must be received by September 3, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The Department invites the public to submit written comments in paper or electronic form. Comments may be mailed to Karen Rose, Office of

International Affairs (OIA), National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Room 4701, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230. Paper submissions should include a version on diskette in ASCII, Word Perfect (please specify version), or Microsoft Word (please specify version) format.

Comments submitted in electronic form may be sent to usdomain@ntia.doc.gov. Electronic comments should be submitted in the formats specified above.

Comments received will be posted on the NTIA website at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov>. Detailed information on electronic filing is available at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/efiling/>.

Comments should be numbered and organized in response to the questions set forth in this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Rose, NTIA/OIA, (202) 482-0365.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On February 20, 1998, NTIA published "Improvement of Technical Management of Internet Names and Addresses; Proposed Rule," 63 Fed. Reg. 8825 (1998) (also posted at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/domainname/domainname130.htm>). The notice analyzed issues of generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs), including the future of gTLD registries and the possible creation of new gTLDs. Section VII. D. briefly addressed the national or "country-code" domain (ccTLD) for the United States, .us as follows:

At present, the IANA (Internet Assigned Numbers Authority) at the University of Southern California administers .us as a locality based hierarchy in which second-level domain space is allocated to states and US territories. This name space is further subdivided into localities. General registration under localities is performed on an exclusive basis by private firms that have requested delegation from IANA. The .us name space has typically been used by branches of state and local governments, although some commercial names have been assigned. Where registration for a locality has not been delegated, the IANA itself serves as the registrar.

Some in the Internet community have suggested that the pressure for unique identifiers in the .com gTLD could be relieved if commercial use of the .us space was encouraged. Commercial users and trademark holders, however, find the current locality-based system too cumbersome and complicated for commercial use. Expanded use of the .us TLD could alleviate some of the pressure for new generic TLDs and reduce conflicts between American companies and others vying for the same domain name.

Clearly, there is much opportunity for enhancing the .us domain space, and the .us domain could be expanded in many ways without displacing the current geopolitical structure. Over the next few months, the U.S. government will work with the private sector and state and local governments to determine how best to make the .us domain more attractive to commercial users. It may also be appropriate to move the gTLDs traditionally reserved for U.S. government use (i.e. .gov and .mil), into a reformulated .us ccTLD.

The U.S. government will further explore and seek public input on these issues through a separate Request for Comment on the evolution of the .us name space. However, we welcome any preliminary comments at this time.¹

On June 10, 1998, NTIA published a Statement of Policy on DNS administration, "Management of Internet Names and Addresses," 63 Fed. Reg. 31741 (1998) (also posted at http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/domainname/6_5_98dns.htm). The document summarized the responses to the .us comment solicitation as follows:

Many commenters suggested that the pressure for unique identifiers in the .com gTLD could be relieved if commercial use of the .us space was encouraged. Commercial users and trademark holders, however, find the current locality-based system too cumbersome and complicated for commercial use. They called for expanded use of the .us TLD to alleviate some of the pressure for new generic TLDs and reduce conflicts between American companies and others vying for the same domain name. Most commenters support an evolution of the .us domain designed to make this name space more attractive to commercial users.²

The document also restated the U.S. Government's intent to request public comment on the future of .us.³

¹ 63 Fed. Reg. at 8831.

² 63 Fed. Reg. at 31798.

³ 63 Fed. Reg. at 31798.