

This matter concerns advertising, packaging, labeling, and promotional practices related to the sale of fishing line. The Commission's complaint charges that respondent misrepresented on packaging that its Super Mono fishing line is made in the United States of America and Japanese components. In addition, the complaint charges that respondent misrepresented in advertising that its Super Mono fishing line is all or virtually all made in the United States. In truth and in fact, the Super Mono fishing line is totally made in Japan with Japanese labor and components. Only the spool on which the fishing line is wrapped and the package, labeling, and package inserts contain American labor or components.

The proposed consent order contains a provision that is designed to remedy the charges and to prevent the respondent from engaging in similar acts and practices in the future. Part I of the proposed order prohibits the respondent from misrepresenting the extent to which any fishing product is made in the United States. The order defines fishing products as any product that is intended to be used for fishing, including but not limited to fishing rods, fishing reels, fishing line, fishing lures, and fishing spoons. The proposed order would allow respondent to represent that such fishing products are made in the United States as long as all, or virtually all, of the components of the products are of U.S.A. origin and all, or virtually all, of the labor in manufacturing them is performed in the United States.

The proposed order also provides that respondent shall not make a general U.S. origin claim, whether or not accompanied by qualifying information (e.g., "Made in U.S.A. of U.S. and imported parts" or "Manufactured in U.S. with imported materials") unless the fishing product was last substantially transformed in the United States, as the term "substantially transformed" is defined by regulations or administrative rulings issued by the U.S. Customs Service under section 304 of the Tariff Act of 1930, 19 U.S.C. 1304.

Part II of the proposed order requires the respondent to maintain materials relied upon in disseminating any representation covered by the order. Part III of the proposed order requires the respondent to distribute copies of the order to certain company officials and employees. Part IV of the proposed order requires the respondent to notify the Commission of any change in the corporation that may affect compliance obligations under the order. Part V of the proposed order requires the respondent to file one or more

compliance reports. Part VI of the proposed order is a provision whereby the order, absent certain circumstances, terminates twenty years from the date of issuance.

The purpose of this analysis is to facilitate public comment on the proposed consent order. It is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the agreement and proposed order or to modify in any way their terms.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,

Secretary.

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FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[File No. 9823591]

Kubota Tractor Corporation, Analysis To Aid Public Comment

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Proposed consent agreement.

SUMMARY: The consent agreement in this matter settles alleged violations of federal law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices or unfair methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the draft complaint that accompanies the consent agreement and the terms of the consent order—embodied in the consent agreement—that would settle these allegations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 29, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be directed to: FTC/Office of the Secretary, Room 159, 600 Pa. Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elaine Kolish or Laura Koss, FTC/S-4302, 601 Pa. Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580, (202) 326-3042 or 326-2890.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 38 Stat. 721, 15 U.S.C. 46 and Section 2.34 of the Commission's Rules of Practice (16 CFR 2.34), notice is hereby given that the above-captioned consent agreement containing a consent order to cease and desist, having been filed with and accepted, subject to final approval, by the Commission, has been placed on the public record for a period of sixty (60) days. The following Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes the terms of the consent agreement, and the allegations in the complaint. An electronic copy of the

full text of the consent agreement package can be obtained from the FTC Home Page (for January 19, 1999), on the World Wide Web, at "http://www.ftc.gov/os/actions97.htm." A paper copy can be obtained from the FTC Public Reference Room, Room H-130, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580, either in person or by calling (202) 326-3627. Public comment is invited. Such comments or views will be considered by the Commission and will be available for inspection and copying at its principal office in accordance with Section 4.9(b)(6)(ii) of the Commission's Rules of Practice (16 CFR 4.9(b)(6)(ii)).

Analysis of Proposed Consent Order To Aid Public Comment

The Federal Trade Commission has accepted an agreement, subject to final approval, to a proposed consent order from respondent Kubota Tractor Corporation.

The proposed consent order has been placed on the public record for sixty (60) days for reception of comments by interested persons. Comments received during this period will become part of the public record. After sixty (60) days, the Commission will again review the agreement and the comments received and will decide whether it should withdraw from the agreement and take other appropriate action or make final the agreement's proposed order.

This matter concerns advertising, labeling and promotional practices related to the sale of lawn tractors and lawn and garden tractors. The Commission's complaint charges that respondent misrepresented that certain of its lawn tractors or lawn and garden tractors were all or virtually all made in the United States when, in truth and in fact, these products had significant foreign parts. In addition, the complaint charges that respondent misrepresented that entire product lines of lawn tractors and lawn and garden tractors were all or virtually all made in the United States. In truth and in fact, in one product line, one of the three lawn tractor models in the product line contained significant foreign part; in a second product line, both of the lawn and garden tractor models in that line contained significant foreign parts.

The proposed consent order contains a provision that is designed to remedy the charges and to prevent the respondent from engaging in similar acts and practices in the future. Part I of the proposed order prohibits the respondent from misrepresenting the extent to which a lawn tractor or lawn and garden tractor, or entire product line of lawn tractors or lawn and garden

tractors, is made in the United States. The proposed consent order defines the terms "lawn tractor" and "lawn and garden tractor" as products manufactured, labeled, advertised, promoted, offered for sale, sold, or distributed primarily for consumers to mow grass, including but not limited to respondent's T-Series lawn tractors and TG-Series lawn and garden tractors. It states that such products may be sold with or without attachments such as grass catchers, front blades, or snowblades. The proposed order would allow respondent to represent that any lawn tractor or lawn and garden tractor, or lawn tractor or lawn and garden tractor product line, is made in the United States so long as all, or virtually all, of the component parts of such product, or of all products in such product line, are made in the United States and all, or virtually all, of the labor in manufacturing such product, or of all products in such product line, is performed in the United States.

Part II of the proposed order requires the respondent to maintain materials relied upon in disseminating any representation covered by the order. Part III of the proposed order requires the respondent to distribute copies of the order to certain company officials and employees. Part IV of the proposed order requires the respondent to notify the Commission of any change in the corporation that may affect compliance obligations under the order. Part V of the proposed order requires the respondent to file one or more compliance reports. Part VI of the proposed order is a provision whereby the order, absent certain circumstances, terminates twenty years from the date of issuance.

The purpose of this analysis is to facilitate public comment on the proposed consent order. It is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the agreement and proposed order or to modify in any way their terms.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,
Secretary.

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FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[File No. 9923006]

Rand International Leisure Products, Ltd.; Analysis To Aid Public Comment

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Proposed consent agreement.

SUMMARY: The consent agreement in this matter settles alleged violations of federal law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices or unfair methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the draft complaint that accompanies the consent agreement and the terms of the consent order—embodied in the consent agreement—that would settle these allegations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 29, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be directed to: FTC/Office of the Secretary, Room 159, 600 Pa. Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elaine Kolish or Laura Koss, FTC/S-4302, 601 Pa. Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580, (202) 326-3042 or 326-2890.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 38 Stat. 721 15 U.S.C. 46 and Section 2.34 of the Commission's Rules of Practice (16 CFR 2.34), notice is hereby given that the above-captioned consent agreement containing a consent order to cease and desist, having been filed with and accepted, subject to final approval by the Commission, has been placed on the public record for a period of sixty (60) days. The following Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes the terms of the consent agreement, and the allegations in the complaint. An electronic copy of the full text of the consent agreement package can be obtained from the FTC Home Page (for January 19, 1999), on the World Wide Web, at "<http://www.ftc.gov/os/actions97.htm>." A paper copy can be obtained from the FTC Public Reference Room, Room H-130, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580, either in person or by calling (202) 326-3627. Public comment is invited. Such comments or views will be considered by the Commission and will be available for inspection and copying at its principal office in accordance with Section 4.9(b)(6)(ii) of the Commission's Rules of Practice (16 CFR 4.9(b)(6)(ii)).

Analysis of Proposed Consent Order To Aid Public Comment

The Federal Trade Commission has accepted an agreement, subject to final approval, to a proposed consent order from respondent Rand International Leisure Products, Ltd.

The proposed consent order has been placed on the public record for sixty (60) days for reception of comments by interested persons. Comments received during this period will become part of

the public record. After sixty (60) days, the Commission will again review the agreement and the comments received and will decide whether it should withdraw from the agreement and take other appropriate action or make final the agreement's proposed order.

This matter concerns packaging and promotional practices related to the sale of bicycle tire tubes. The Commission's complaint charges that respondent misrepresented on its packaging for its "self-sealing" bicycle tire tubes that these tubes are made in the United States, when, in truth and in fact, the tubes were finished in the United States from imported tubes that were, or are, manufactured in Taiwan.

The proposed consent order contains a provision that is designed to remedy the charges and to prevent the respondent from engaging in similar acts and practices in the future. Part I of the proposed order prohibits the respondent from misrepresenting the extent to which any product is made in the United States. The proposed order would allow respondent to represent that a product is made in the United States so long as all, or virtually all, of the component parts of the product are made in the United States and all, or virtually all, of the labor in manufacturing the product is performed in the United States.

Part II of the proposed order requires the respondent to maintain materials relied upon in disseminating any representation covered by the order. Part III of the proposed order requires the respondent to distribute copies of the order to certain company officials and employees. Part IV of the proposed order requires the respondent to notify the Commission of any change in the corporation that may affect compliance obligations under the order. Part V of the proposed order requires the respondent to file one or more compliance reports. Part VI of the proposed order is a provision whereby the order, absent certain circumstances, terminates twenty years from the date of issuance.

The purpose of this analysis is to facilitate public comment on the proposed consent order. It is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the agreement and proposed order or to modify in any way their terms.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,
Secretary.

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