

for PC strand through April 2003, as reported on the ITC's DataWeb site. Due to our application of total AFA to Cablesa, we relied on U.S. import data provided by BCBP to conduct our surge analysis. Since this import information is only currently available through the end of April 2003, we have decided that three-month base periods and three-month comparison periods are the most appropriate. Therefore, we have concluded that the comparison period should be February 2003 to April 2003, while the base period should be November 2002 to January 2003.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.206(h), we will not consider imports to be massive unless imports in the comparison period have increased by at least 15 percent over imports in the base period. For Camesa, we found the volume of shipments of PC strand increased by less than 15 percent; for Cablesa, according to import information obtained from BCBP, we found the volume of shipments of PC strand increased by more than 15 percent. We therefore find that imports of subject merchandise were massive in the comparison period for Cablesa, but not for Camesa. See Memorandum from Salim Bhabrawla and Carol Henninger, International Trade Compliance Analysts, to Constance Handley, Program Manager, Re: Antidumping Duty Investigation of Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from Mexico and Thailand—Preliminary Affirmative and Negative Determinations of Critical Circumstances (Critical Circumstances Memo), dated July 10, 2003.

It is also the Department's practice to conduct its critical circumstances analysis of companies in the "All Others" category based on the experience of the investigated companies. Because we are determining that critical circumstances did not exist for Camesa, and Camesa is the only respondent that has received a margin not based on AFA in this investigation, we are concluding that critical circumstances did not exist for companies covered by the "All Others" rate.

In summary, we find there is a reasonable basis to believe or suspect importers had knowledge of dumping and the likelihood of material injury with respect to PC strand from Mexico. We further find there have been massive imports of PC strand over a relatively short period from respondent Cablesa. However, imports from Camesa have been found to be not massive over a relatively short period. In addition, we find that imports of PC strand have not been massive over a relatively short period from companies covered by the

"All-Other" rate. Given the analysis summarized above, and described in more detail in the Critical Circumstances Memo, we preliminarily determine critical circumstances exist for imports of PC strand produced and exported by Cablesa.

In accordance with section 733(e)(2) of the Act, upon issuance of an affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV in the investigation with respect to PC strand produced and exported by Cablesa, the Department will direct the BCBP to suspend liquidation of all entries of PC strand from Mexico that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after 90 days prior to the date of publication in the **Federal Register** of our preliminary determination in this investigation. BCBP shall require a cash deposit or posting of a bond equal to the estimated preliminary dumping margins reflected in the preliminary determinations published in the **Federal Register**. The suspension of liquidation to be issued after our preliminary determination will remain in effect until further notice. We will make a final determination concerning critical circumstances for all producers and exporters of subject merchandise from Mexico when we make our final determinations in this investigation, which will be 135 days after the date of publication of the preliminary determination.

Verification

In accordance with section 782(i) of the Act, we intend to verify all information relied upon in making our final determination for Camesa. Verification of Cablesa's data is contingent upon the sufficiency of the company's response to our July 10, 2003, request, and any subsequent requests, for additional information.

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, we are directing the BCBP to suspend liquidation of all entries of PC strand from Mexico, that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Additionally, for Cablesa, we are instructing the BCBP to suspend liquidation of entries made on or after 90 days prior to the publication of this notice. We are also instructing the BCBP to require a cash deposit or the posting of a bond equal to the weighted-average dumping margin as indicated in the chart below. These instructions suspending liquidation will remain in effect until further notice.

The weighted-average dumping margins are provided below:

Producer/exporter	Weighted-average margin (percentage)
Aceros Camesa S.A. de C.V. ...	57.64
Cablesa S.A. de C.V.	77.20
All Others	57.64

Disclosure

The Department will disclose calculations performed within five days of the date of publication of this notice to the parties in this proceeding in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we have notified the ITC of the Department's preliminary affirmative determination. If the final determination in this proceeding is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after the final determination whether imports of PC strand from Mexico are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

Public Comment

Interested parties are invited to comment on the preliminary determination. Interested parties may submit case briefs on the later of 50 days after the date of publication of this notice or one week after the issuance of the verification reports. See 19 CFR 351.309(c)(1)(i). Rebuttal briefs, the content of which is limited to the issues raised in the case briefs, must be filed within five days after the deadline for the submission of case briefs. See 19 CFR 351.309(d). A list of authorities used, a table of contents, and an executive summary of issues should accompany any briefs submitted to the Department. Executive summaries should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. Further, we request that parties submitting briefs and rebuttal briefs provide the Department with a copy of the public version of such briefs on diskette.

In accordance with section 774 of the Act, we will hold a public hearing, if requested, to afford interested parties an opportunity to comment on arguments raised in case or rebuttal briefs. If a request for a hearing is made, we will tentatively hold the hearing two days after the deadline for submission of rebuttal briefs at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230, at a time and in a room to be determined.