

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 TTR from Japan are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

#### Public Comments

Interested parties are invited to comment on the preliminary determination. Interested parties may submit case briefs within 50 days of the date of publication of this notice. *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. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing 48 hours before the scheduled date.

Interested parties who wish to request a hearing, or to participate in a hearing if one is requested, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 1870, within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain: (1) The party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. At the hearing, oral presentations will be limited to issues raised in the briefs. *See* 19 CFR 351.310(c). The Department will make its final determination no later than 75 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination.

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(f) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: December 16, 2003.

**James J. Jochum,**

*Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[A-580-853]

#### Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Not Less Than Fair Value: Wax and Wax/Resin Thermal Transfer Ribbons From the Republic of Korea

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

**ACTION:** Notice of preliminary determination of sales at not less than fair value.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 22, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Fred Baker at (202) 482-2924, or Robert James at (202) 482-0649; AD/CVD Enforcement, Group III, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Preliminary Determination

We preliminarily determine that wax and wax/resin thermal transfer ribbons (TTR) from the Republic of Korea (Korea) are not being, nor are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV), as provided in section 733 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Tariff Act).

Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination. Unless extended, we will make our final determination not later than 75 days after the date of this preliminary determination.

##### Case History

The Department initiated this investigation on June 19, 2003.<sup>1</sup> *See* Notice of Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigation: Thermal Transfer Ribbons From France, Japan and the Republic of Korea, 68 FR 38305 (June 27, 2003) (*Initiation Notice*). Since the initiation of the investigation, the following events have occurred.

On July 14, 2003, the United States International Trade Commission (the Commission) preliminarily determined that "there is a reasonable indication

that an industry in the United States is materially injured by reason of imports from France, Japan, and Korea of certain wax and wax/resin thermal transfer ribbons." *See Certain Wax and Wax/Resin Thermal Transfer Ribbons From France, Japan, and Korea*, 68 FR 42759 (July 18, 2003).

On July 21, 2003, the Department toured the petitioner's production facilities in New York, and met with petitioner to discuss product characteristics. *See* Memorandum to the File dated July 30, 2003, on file in room B-099 of the Department of Commerce building.

On July 28, 2003, and July 30, 2003, petitioner submitted comments regarding the scope of the investigation. On August 7, 2003, General Company Limited, an interested party, also commented on the scope of the investigation. On September 2, 2003, petitioner submitted a "test" description to the Department, for the purpose of determining whether a product should be classified as a wax, resin enhanced wax, or wax/resin ribbon. On September 9, 2003, Armor submitted comments on petitioner's September 2, 2003 test proposal. On September 11, 2003, the Department issued a clarification to the scope of this investigation. *See* Memorandum from Edward C. Yang, Office Director to Joseph A. Spetrini, Deputy Assistant Secretary; Antidumping Investigation on Certain Wax and Wax/Resin Thermal Transfer Ribbon from France, Japan and Korea: Scope Clarification, on file in room B-099 of the Department of Commerce building. The Department removed the word "pure" from the section discussing the exclusion of resin TTR in the scope language.

On November 4, 2003, petitioner submitted a letter to the Department correcting a typographical error in the color specification of the scope, as written in the petition and initiation notice: "- 20>a\*<35" should read, "- 20<a\*<35."

On July 21, 2003, Illinois Tool Works, Inc. (ITW), the only known Korean producer/exporter of TTR to the United States, submitted comments about model match criteria. On July 30, 2003 the Department sent a letter to interested parties soliciting comments on model match criteria. On August 4, 2003, August 18, 2003, and September 4, 2003 petitioner submitted comments regarding the model match criteria. On August 4, 2003, ITW submitted additional comments regarding the model match criteria. Additional model match comments were submitted by other interested parties on this record, as follows: Armor, S.A., on August 5,

<sup>1</sup> The petitioner in this investigation is International Imaging Materials, Inc. (IIMAK).