

Amendment to Final Results

The time period for appealing the CIT's decision sustaining the Department's remand results has expired and no party has appealed this decision. Therefore, pursuant to section 516 A(c) of the Tariff Act, (19 U.S.C. 1516a(c)), we are amending our final results of review for the period August 1, 1997 through July 1, 1998, to reflect the findings in the remand results.

The revised weighted-average margin for AHMSA is as follows:

Manufacturer/Exporter	Margin (percent)
AHMSA	0.07 (<i>de minimis</i>)

The Department will issue appraisal instructions directly to Customs to liquidate without regard to antidumping duties all entries of AHMSA's subject merchandise during the POR, as provided in 19 C.F.R. 351.106(c)(2). The above amended rate will not affect AHMSA's cash deposit rates currently in effect, which continue to be based on the margins found to exist in the most recently completed review.

We are issuing and publishing this determination in accordance with section 751(a)(1) of the Tariff Act, (19 U.S.C. 1675(a)(1)).

Dated: February 11, 2003.

Faryar Shirzad,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**International Trade Administration**

[A-588-861]

Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Polyvinyl Alcohol from Japan

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

ACTION: Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value.

SUMMARY: We preliminarily determine that polyvinyl alcohol from Japan is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value, as provided in section 733(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended.

Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination. We will make our final determination not later than 75 days

after the date of this preliminary determination.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 20, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mike Strollo or Gregory E. Kalbaugh, Office of AD/CVD Enforcement, Office 2, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-0629 or (202) 482-3693, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Preliminary Determination**

We preliminarily determine that polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) from Japan is being sold, or is 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 Act). The estimated margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the "Suspension of Liquidation" section of this notice.

Case History

Since the initiation of this investigation (*Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigations: Polyvinyl Alcohol from Germany, Japan, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea, and Singapore*, 67 FR 61591 (Oct. 1, 2002)) (*Initiation Notice*), the following events have occurred:

On September 30, 2002, we received scope comments from Celanese Ltd. and E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Co. (collectively, the petitioners), in which the petitioners requested that we revise the scope to exclude PVA used as, or in the manufacture of, excipients.

On October 11, 2002, the petitioners and two Japanese producers, Kuraray Co., Ltd. (Kuraray) and Marubeni Specialty Chemicals, Inc. (Marubeni), submitted comments on the model-matching criteria to be used by the Department. On October 15, 2002, Marubeni submitted an amendment to its model-matching comments.

On October 21, 2002, we received requests to exclude certain additional products from the scope of this investigation from Kuraray and two importers of PVA (*i.e.*, Oxyvinyls, LP and Ricoh Electronics, Inc.).

Also on October 21, 2002, the United States International Trade Commission (ITC) preliminarily determined that there is a reasonable indication that imports of PVA from Japan are materially injuring the United States industry. *See* ITC Investigation Nos. 731-TA-1014-1018 (Publication No. 3553, *Polyvinyl Alcohol from Germany, Japan, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea, and Singapore*, 67 FR 65597 (Oct. 25, 2002)).

On October 22, 2002, we issued antidumping questionnaires to Denki Kagaku Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha (Denki Kagaku), Japan VAM & POVAL Co., Ltd. (Japan VAM & POVAL), Kuraray, and the Nippon Synthetic Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. (Nippon Gohsei), the producers/exporters accounting for all known exports of subject merchandise from Japan during the period of investigation (POI). For further discussion, see the memorandum to Louis Apple, Director, Office 2, from the Team entitled "Antidumping Duty Investigation of Polyvinyl Alcohol from Japan - Selection of Respondents," dated October 22, 2002.

On November 19, 2002 and November 25, 2002, respectively, Kuraray and Nippon Gohsei submitted responses to Section A of the Department's questionnaire. Both Japan VAM & POVAL and Denki Kagaku failed to respond to the Department's questionnaire. For further discussion, see the "Facts Available (FA)" section of this notice.

On December 5, 2002, Kuraray notified the Department that it would no longer participate in this investigation, and it requested that the Department remove all of its business proprietary information from the record of this proceeding. On December 11, 2002, the Department destroyed Kuraray's business proprietary information and notified Kuraray of this action. For further discussion, see the "Facts Available (FA)" section of this notice.

On December 13, 2002, the petitioners and Nippon Gohsei submitted additional model-matching comments.

On December 23, 2002, the petitioners agreed to the exclusion requests made on October 21, 2002. On January 9, 2003, Kuraray requested that the Department modify the scope language in the petitioners' December 23, 2002, submission to avoid unnecessary restrictions on imports of certain of the products covered by that submission which are not manufactured in the United States. On January 22, 2003, the petitioners agreed to the majority of Kuraray's proposed revisions. Accordingly, certain exclusions have now been incorporated into the scope. For further discussion, see the "Scope Comments" section below.

On January 27, 2003, Japan VAM & POVAL requested that the Department revise the scope to exclude certain additional copolymers. Also on January 27, 2003, Nippon Gohsei requested that the Department modify the scope language in the petitioners' December 23, 2002, submission to avoid unnecessary restrictions on imports of the remaining copolymers covered by