

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## International Trade Administration

[A-570-112]

**Certain Collated Steel Staples From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Results of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review and Preliminary Determination of No Shipments; 2021-2022**

**AGENCY:** Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that Tianjin Hweschun Fasteners Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (Tianjin Hweschun) did not make sales of subject merchandise at less than normal value (NV), and that four companies had no shipments of subject merchandise during the period of review (POR) July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. We invite interested parties to comment on these preliminary results.

**DATES:** Applicable August 3, 2023.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brian Smith or Max Goldman, AD/CVD Operations, Office VIII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-1766 or (202) 482-0224, respectively.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

Commerce is conducting an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on certain collated steel staples from the People's Republic of China (China).<sup>1</sup> In addition to the mandatory respondent, Tianjin Hweschun,<sup>2</sup> this review also covers Zhejiang Best Nail Industrial Co., Ltd. (Best Nail)/Shaoxing Bohui Import & Export Co., Ltd. (Best Nail/Shaoxing Bohui),<sup>3</sup> China Staple (Tianjin) Co., Ltd. (China Staple), Shanghai Yueda Nails Co., Ltd. (Shanghai Yueda), Shijiazhuang Shuangming Trade Co., Ltd. (Shijiazhuang Shuangming), Tianjin Jinyifeng Hardware Co., Ltd. (Tianjin Jinyifeng), and Unicorn Fasteners Co., Ltd. (Unicorn Fasteners).<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews*, 87 FR 54463 (September 6, 2022) (*Initiation Notice*).

<sup>2</sup> See Memorandum, "Respondent Selection," dated October 21, 2022.

<sup>3</sup> See *Certain Collated Steel Staples from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Results of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review and Preliminary Determination of No Shipments; 2020-2021*, 87 FR 48153 (August 8, 2022).

<sup>4</sup> See *Initiation Notice*.

For events that occurred since the publication of the *Initiation Notice* and the analysis behind our preliminary results herein, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.<sup>5</sup> A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included in the appendix to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>.

**Scope of the Order**<sup>6</sup>

The products covered by the *Order* are certain collated steel staples from China. For a complete description of the scope of the *Order*, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

**Preliminary Determination of No Shipments**

Based on an analysis of information from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the no-shipment certifications, and other record information, we preliminarily determine that Best Nail/Shaoxing Bohui, Tianjin Jinyifeng, and Unicorn Fasteners had no shipments of subject merchandise during the POR. Consistent with our practice in non-market economy (NME) cases, we are not rescinding this review with respect to these companies but, rather, we intend to complete the review and issue appropriate instructions to CBP based on the final results of the review.<sup>7</sup>

**Separate Rates**

We preliminarily determine that Tianjin Hweschun is eligible for a separate rate in this administrative review.<sup>8</sup> Because China First, Shanghai Yueda, and Shijiazhuang Shuangming

<sup>5</sup> See Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Results of the Administrative Review of the Antidumping Duty Order on Certain Collated Steel Staples from the People's Republic of China; 2021-2022," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

<sup>6</sup> See *Certain Collated Steel Staples from the People's Republic of China: Antidumping Duty Order*, 85 FR 43815 (July 20, 2020) (*Order*).

<sup>7</sup> See *Non-Market Economy Antidumping Proceedings: Assessment of Antidumping Duties*, 76 FR 65694, 65694-95 (October 24, 2011) (*NME AD Assessment*); see also the "Assessment Rates" section, *infra*.

<sup>8</sup> See Preliminary Decision Memorandum at the "Separate Rate Determinations" section for more details.

did not submit either a separate rate application or a separate rate certification, they are not eligible for a separate rate.

**The China-Wide Entity**

Commerce's policy regarding conditional review of the China-wide entity applies to this administrative review.<sup>9</sup> Under this policy, the China-wide entity will not be under review unless a party specifically requests, or Commerce self-initiates, a review of the entity. Because no party requested a review of the China-wide entity, the entity is not under review, and the entity's rate (*i.e.*, 112.01 percent)<sup>10</sup> is not subject to change. See the Preliminary Decision Memorandum for further discussion.

Aside from Best Nail/Shaoxing Bohui, Tianjin Jinyifeng, and Unicorn Fasteners, for which we preliminarily find made no shipments of subject merchandise during the POR, Commerce considers all other companies for which a review was requested and which did not demonstrate separate rate eligibility, to be part of the China-wide entity.<sup>11</sup> For the preliminary results of this review, we consider three companies to be part of the China-wide entity: China First; Shanghai Yueda; and Shijiazhuang Shuangming.

**Methodology**

We are conducting this administrative review in accordance with section 751(a)(1)(B) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act) and 19 CFR 351.213. Commerce has calculated constructed export price in accordance with section 772(b) of the Act. Because China is an NME within the meaning of section 771(18) of the Act, we calculated NV in accordance with section 773(c) of the Act.

**Preliminary Results of Review**

We preliminarily determine that the following weighted-average dumping margin exists for the period July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022:

<sup>9</sup> See *Antidumping Proceedings: Announcement of Change in Department Practice for Respondent Selection in Antidumping Duty Proceedings and Conditional Review of the Nonmarket Economy Entity in NME Antidumping Duty Proceedings*, 78 FR 65963 (November 4, 2013).

<sup>10</sup> See *Order*, 85 FR at 43816.

<sup>11</sup> See *Initiation Notice* ("All firms listed below that wish to qualify for separate rate status in the administrative reviews involving NME countries must complete, as appropriate, either a separate rate application or certification, as described below.").

Exporter	Weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
Tianjin Hweschun Fasteners Manufacturing Co., Ltd .....	0.00

### Disclosure and Public Comment

We intend to disclose to interested parties the calculations performed for these preliminary results in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b). Interested parties may submit case briefs no later than 30 days after the date of publication of these preliminary results of review.<sup>12</sup> Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than seven days after the deadline date for case briefs.<sup>13</sup> Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this review are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) a statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities. Executive summaries should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice.<sup>14</sup> Requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; (3) whether any participant is a foreign national; and (4) a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a time and date to be determined.<sup>15</sup> Parties should confirm by telephone the date and time of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

All briefs and hearing requests must be filed electronically using ACCESS<sup>16</sup> and must be served on interested parties.<sup>17</sup> An electronically filed document must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Note that Commerce has

temporarily modified certain of its requirements for serving documents containing business proprietary information, until further notice.<sup>18</sup>

Unless the deadline is otherwise extended, we intend to issue the final results of this administrative review, which will include the results of our analysis of the issues raised by the parties in the case briefs, within 120 days of publication of these preliminary results in the **Federal Register**, pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.213(h).

### Assessment Rates

Upon issuance of the final results, Commerce will determine, and CBP shall assess, antidumping duties on all appropriate entries covered by this review, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(b). If Tianjin Hweschun's *ad valorem* weighted-average dumping margin is not zero or *de minimis* (i.e., less than 0.50 percent) in the final results of this review, Commerce will calculate importer-specific assessment rates for that respondent, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1).<sup>19</sup> Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1), where the respondent reported the entered value of its U.S. sales, we will calculate importer-specific *ad valorem* duty assessment rates based on the ratio of the total amount of dumping calculated for the examined sales to the total entered value of those sales. Where the respondent did not report entered value, we will calculate importer-specific per-unit duty assessment rates based on the ratio of the total amount of dumping calculated for the examined sales to the total quantity of those sales. To determine whether an importer-specific, per-unit assessment rate is *de minimis*, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.106(c)(2), we also will calculate an importer-specific *ad valorem* ratio based on estimated entered values.

If, in the final results, Tianjin Hweschun's weighted-average dumping margin continues to be zero or *de minimis* (i.e., less than 0.5 percent), Commerce will instruct CBP to liquidate the appropriate entries without regard to antidumping duties.<sup>20</sup> For entries that were not reported in the U.S. sales database submitted by Tianjin Hweschun during this review, and for

the three companies that do not qualify for a separate rate, Commerce will instruct CBP to liquidate such entries at the China-wide rate (i.e., 112.01 percent).<sup>21</sup> In addition, if we continue to find no shipments of subject merchandise for Best Nail, Shaoxing Bohui, Tianjin Jinyifeng, and/or Unicorn Fasteners in the final results, any suspended entries of subject merchandise associated with these companies will be liquidated at the China-wide rate.<sup>22</sup>

Commerce intends to issue appropriate assessment instructions to CBP 35 days after the publication of the final results in the **Federal Register**. If a timely summons is filed at the U.S. Court of International Trade, the assessment instructions will direct CBP not to liquidate relevant entries until the time for parties to file a request for a statutory injunction has expired (i.e., within 90 days of publication).

### Cash Deposit Requirements

The following cash deposit requirements will be effective upon publication of the final results of this review for all shipments of the subject merchandise from China entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the publication date, as provided for by section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act: (1) for Tianjin Hweschun, the cash deposit rate will be that rate established in the final results of this review (except, if the rate is *de minimis*, then a cash deposit rate of zero will be required); (2) for previously investigated or reviewed Chinese and non-Chinese exporters for which a review was not requested and that received a separate rate in a prior segment of this proceeding, the cash deposit rate will continue to be the existing exporter-specific rate; (3) for all Chinese exporters of subject merchandise that have not been found to be entitled to a separate rate, the cash deposit rate will be the rate for the China-wide entity (i.e., 112.01 percent); and (4) for all non-Chinese exporters of subject merchandise that have not received their own rate, the cash deposit rate will be the rate applicable to the Chinese exporter that supplied that non-Chinese exporter. These cash deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

<sup>21</sup> The China-wide rate determined in the investigation was 122.55 percent. See *Order*, 85 FR at 43816. This rate was adjusted for export subsidies to determine the cash deposit rate (112.01 percent) collected for companies in the China-wide entity.

<sup>22</sup> See *NME AD Assessment*.

<sup>12</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(c).

<sup>13</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(d); see also *Temporary Rule Modifying AD/CVD Service Requirements Due to COVID-19*, 85 FR 17006, 17007 (March 26, 2020) ("To provide adequate time for release of case briefs via ACCESS, {Enforcement and Compliance} intends to schedule the due date for all rebuttal briefs to be 7 days after case briefs are filed (while these modifications remain in effect.)").

<sup>14</sup> See 19 CFR 351.310(c).

<sup>15</sup> See 19 CFR 351.310(d).

<sup>16</sup> See 19 CFR 351.303.

<sup>17</sup> See 19 CFR 351.303(f).

<sup>18</sup> See *Temporary Rule Modifying AD/CVD Service Requirements Due to COVID-19; Extension of Effective Period*, 85 FR 41363 (July 10, 2020).

<sup>19</sup> In these preliminary results, Commerce applied the assessment rate calculation method adopted in *Antidumping Proceedings: Calculation of the Weighted-Average Dumping Margin and Assessment Rate in Certain Antidumping Proceedings: Final Modification*, 77 FR 8101 (February 14, 2012).

<sup>20</sup> See 19 CFR 351.106(c)(2).

## Notification to Importers

This notice also serves as a preliminary reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping and/or countervailing duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in Commerce's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping and/or countervailing duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of double antidumping duties, and/or increase in the amount of antidumping duties by the amount of the countervailing duties.

## Notification to Interested Parties

We are issuing and publishing the preliminary results of this review in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.221(b)(4).

Dated: July 28, 2023.

**Lisa W. Wang,**

*Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.*

## Appendix

### List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Review
- IV. Scope of the *Order*
- V. Preliminary Determination of No Shipments
- VI. Discussion of the Methodology
- VII. Recommendation

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[A-570-985]

### Xanthan Gum From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Results of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review, Partial Rescission of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review, and Preliminary Determination of No Shipments; 2021-2022

**AGENCY:** Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that the exporters subject to this antidumping duty (AD) administrative review made sales of subject merchandise at less than normal value, and that two companies (Beijing Rodia Auto Sport Ltd. and Zamp Inc.

dba Z Sports) had no shipments of subject merchandise during the period of review (POR) July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. In addition, we are rescinding this review with respect to Shandong Hiking International Commerce Group Co., Ltd. (Shandong Hiking). Interested parties are invited to comment on these preliminary results.

**DATES:** Applicable August 3, 2023.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Reginald Anadio, AD/CVD Operations, Office IV, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-3166.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### Background

On July 1, 2022, Commerce published in the *Federal Register* a notice of opportunity to request an administrative review of the AD order on xanthan gum from the People's Republic of China (China).<sup>1</sup> Commerce published the *Initiation Notice* of this administrative review on September 6, 2022.<sup>2</sup> For details regarding the events that occurred subsequent to the initiation of the review, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.<sup>3</sup> The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>. A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included in the appendix to this notice.

On March 3, 2023, Commerce extended the deadline for these preliminary results to July 28, 2023.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See *Xanthan Gum from the People's Republic of China: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Antidumping Duty Order*, 78 FR 43143 (July 19, 2013) (*Order*); and *Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation; Opportunity to Request Administrative Review and Join Annual Inquiry List*, 87 FR 39461 (July 1, 2022).

<sup>2</sup> See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews*, 87 FR 54463 (September 6, 2022) (*Initiation Notice*).

<sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Results of the Ninth Antidumping Duty Administrative Review of Xanthan Gum from the People's Republic of China," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

<sup>4</sup> See Memorandum, "Extension of Deadline for Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review," dated March 3, 2023.

## Scope of the Order

The product covered by the *Order* includes dry xanthan gum, whether or not coated or blended with other products. Xanthan gum is included in this *Order* regardless of physical form, including, but not limited to, solutions, slurries, dry powders of any particle size, or unground fiber. Merchandise covered by the scope of the *Order* is classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States at subheading 3913.90.20. This tariff classification is provided for convenience and customs purposes; however, the written description of the scope is dispositive.

A full description of the scope of the *Order* is contained in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

## Preliminary Determination of No Shipments

On September 22, 2022, Beijing Rodia Auto Sport Ltd. (Beijing Rodia) and Zamp Inc. dba Z Sports (Z Sports), on September 23, 2022, Shanghai Smart Chemicals Co. Ltd. (Shanghai Smart), and on October 6, 2022, Deosen Biochemical Ltd. and Deosen USA, Inc. (Deosen Biochemical), respectively, filed timely certifications that they had no exports, shipments, sales, or entries of subject merchandise to the United States during the POR.<sup>5</sup> Based on information obtained from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and on Beijing Rodia's, Z Sports', and Shanghai Smart's no shipment certifications, Commerce preliminarily determines that Beijing Rodia, Z Sports, and Shanghai Smart had no shipments of subject merchandise during the POR.<sup>6</sup>

However, Commerce preliminarily determines that Deosen Biochemical had reviewable transactions during the POR.<sup>7</sup> For additional information

<sup>5</sup> See Beijing Rodia's Letter, "Beijing Rodia Auto Sport Ltd. Notice of No Sales," dated September 22, 2022; Z Sports' Letter, "Zamp Inc. dba Z Sports Notice of No Sales," dated September 22, 2022; Shanghai Smart's Letter, "No Shipment Certification," dated September 23, 2022; and Deosen Biochemical's Letter, "No Shipment Certifications of Deosen Biochemical Ltd. and Deosen USA, Inc.," dated October 6, 2022.

<sup>6</sup> See Memorandum, "Xanthan Gum from the People's Republic of China (A-570-985, A-122-985)," dated April 4, 2023 (Zamp Inc. dba Z Sports); see also Memorandum, "Xanthan Gum from the People's Republic of China (A-570-985, A-122-985)," dated April 4, 2023 (Beijing Rodia Auto Sport Ltd.) and Memorandum, "No Shipment Inquiry for Shanghai Smart Chemicals Co. Ltd. during the period 07/01/2021 through 06/30/2022," dated June 7, 2023.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*; see also *Xanthan Gum from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Results of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review, and Preliminary Determination of No Shipments; 2017-2018*, 84 FR 26813 (June 10, 2019), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum