



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-201-865, A-549-854, A-552-849]

Certain Chassis and Subassemblies Thereof from Mexico, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations

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

DATES: Applicable March 18, 2025.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Petitions

On February 26, 2025, the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) received antidumping duty (AD) petitions concerning imports of certain chassis and subassemblies thereof (chassis) from Mexico, Thailand, and Vietnam filed in proper form on behalf of the U.S. Chassis Manufacturers Coalition (the petitioner),¹ the members of which are domestic producers of chassis.² The AD Petitions were accompanied by countervailing duty (CVD) petitions concerning imports of chassis from Mexico and Thailand.³

¹ The members of the U.S. Chassis Manufacturers Coalition are Cheetah Chassis Corporation and Stoughton Trailers, LLC.

² See Petitioner's Letter, "Petitions for the Imposition of Antidumping and Countervailing Duties," dated February 26, 2025 (Petitions).

³ *Id.*

Between February 28 and March 11, 2025, Commerce requested supplemental information pertaining to certain aspects of the Petitions in supplemental questionnaires.⁴ Between March 4 and 11, 2025, the petitioner filed timely responses to these requests for additional information.⁵

In accordance with section 732(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), the petitioner alleges that imports of chassis from Mexico, Thailand, and Vietnam are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV) within the meaning of section 731 of the Act, and that imports of such products are materially injuring, or threatening material injury to, the chassis industry in the United States. Consistent with section 732(b)(1) of the Act, the Petitions were accompanied by information reasonably available to the petitioner to support its allegations.

Commerce finds that the petitioner filed the Petitions on behalf of the domestic industry because the petitioner is an interested party, as defined in section 771(9)(F) of the Act.⁶ Commerce also finds that the petitioner demonstrated sufficient industry support for the initiation of the requested LTFV investigations.⁷

Periods of Investigation

Because the Petitions were filed on February 26, 2025, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.204(b)(1), the period of investigation (POI) for the Mexico and Thailand LTFV

⁴ See Commerce's Letters, "Supplemental Questions," dated February 28, 2025 (First General Issues Questionnaire); see also Country-Specific Supplemental Questionnaires: Mexico Supplemental, Thailand Supplemental, and Vietnam Supplemental, dated February 28, 2025; Memorandum, "Phone Call with Counsel to the Petitioner," dated March 7, 2025; Memorandum, "Phone Call with Counsel to the Petitioner," dated March 7, 2025 (March 7, 2025, Scope Memorandum); and Commerce's Letter, "Supplemental Questions," dated March 10, 2025.

⁵ See Petitioner's Letters, "Petitioner Response to 1st Supplemental Questionnaire Regarding Common Issues and Injury Volume I of the Petition," dated March 4, 2025 (First General Issues Supplement); see also Country-Specific AD Supplemental Responses: Mexico AD Supplement, Thailand AD Supplement, and Vietnam AD Supplement, dated March 4, 2025; Second Thailand AD Supplement, dated March 10, 2025; "Petitioners Response to 2nd Supplemental Questionnaire Regarding Common Issues and Injury Volume I of the Petition," dated March 10, 2025 (Second General Issues Supplement); and "Petitioner Response to 3rd Supplemental Questionnaire Regarding Common Issues and Injury Volume I of the Petition," dated March 11, 2025 (Third General Issues Supplement). The petitioner also filed a supplement correcting a clerical error and providing a complete replacement of Exhibit I-13 of Volume I of the Petitions. See Petitioner's Letter, "Supplement to Exhibit I-13 of Volume I General Issues Petition," dated February 27, 2025 (Revised Exhibit I-13).

⁶ The members of the petitioning coalition are interested parties under section 771(9)(C) of the Act.

⁷ See section on "Determination of Industry Support for the Petitions," *infra*.

investigations is January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. Because Vietnam is a non-market economy (NME) country, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.204(b)(1), the POI for the Vietnam LTFV investigation is July 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024.

Scope of the Investigations

The products covered by these investigations are chassis from Mexico, Thailand, and Vietnam. For a full description of the scope of these investigations, *see* the appendix to this notice.

Comments on the Scope of the Investigations

On February 28 and March 7, 2025, Commerce requested information and clarification from the petitioner regarding the proposed scope to ensure that the scope language in the Petitions is an accurate reflection of the products for which the domestic industry is seeking relief.⁸ On March 4 and 10, 2025, the petitioner provided clarifications and revised the scope.⁹ The description of merchandise covered by these investigations, as described in the appendix to this notice, reflects these clarifications.

As discussed in the *Preamble* to Commerce's regulations, we are setting aside a period for interested parties to raise issues regarding product coverage (*i.e.*, scope).¹⁰ Commerce will consider all scope comments received from interested parties and, if necessary, will consult with interested parties prior to the issuance of the preliminary determinations. If scope comments include factual information,¹¹ all such factual information should be limited to public information. Commerce requests that interested parties provide at the beginning of their scope comments a public executive summary for each comment or issue raised in their submission. Commerce further requests that interested parties limit their public executive summary of each comment or issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. Commerce intends to use

⁸ *See* First General Issues Questionnaire; *see also* March 7, 2025, Scope Memorandum.

⁹ *See* First General Issues Supplement at 2-6 and Exhibit I-Supp-4 through I-Supp-6; *see also* Second General Issues Supplement at 1-8 and Exhibits I-Supp2-1 and I-Supp2-2.

¹⁰ *See Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties, Final Rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*); *see also* 19 CFR 351.312.

¹¹ *See* 19 CFR 351.102(b)(21) (defining "factual information").

the public executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the analysis of scope comments. To facilitate preparation of its questionnaires, Commerce requests that scope comments be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on April 7, 2025, which is 20 calendar days from the signature date of this notice. Any rebuttal comments, which may include factual information, and should also be limited to public information, must be filed by 5:00 p.m. ET on April 17, 2025, which is 10 calendar days from the initial comment deadline.

Commerce requests that any factual information that parties consider relevant to the scope of these investigations be submitted during that period. However, if a party subsequently finds that additional factual information pertaining to the scope of the investigations may be relevant, the party must contact Commerce and request permission to submit the additional information. All scope comments must be filed simultaneously on the records of the concurrent LTFV and CVD investigations.

Filing Requirements

All submissions to Commerce must be filed electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS), unless an exception applies.¹² An electronically filed document must be received successfully in its entirety by the time and date it is due.

Comments on Product Characteristics

Commerce is providing interested parties an opportunity to comment on the appropriate physical characteristics of chassis to be reported in response to Commerce's AD questionnaires. This information will be used to identify the key physical characteristics of the subject merchandise in order to report the relevant factors of production (FOP) or cost of production (COP) accurately, as well as to develop appropriate product comparison criteria.

¹² See *Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings: Electronic Filing Procedures; Administrative Protective Order Procedures*, 76 FR 39263 (July 6, 2011); see also *Enforcement and Compliance: Change of Electronic Filing System Name*, 79 FR 69046 (November 20, 2014) for details of Commerce's electronic filing requirements, effective August 5, 2011. Information on using ACCESS can be found at <https://access.trade.gov/help.aspx> and a handbook can be found at https://access.trade.gov/help/Handbook_on_Electronic_Filing_Procedures.pdf.

Interested parties may provide any information or comments that they feel are relevant to the development of an accurate list of physical characteristics. Specifically, they may provide comments as to which characteristics are appropriate to use as: (1) general product characteristics; and (2) product comparison criteria. We note that it is not always appropriate to use all product characteristics as product comparison criteria. We base product comparison criteria on meaningful commercial differences among products. In other words, although there may be some physical product characteristics utilized by manufacturers to describe chassis, it may be that only a select few product characteristics take into account commercially meaningful physical characteristics. In addition, interested parties may comment on the order in which the physical characteristics should be used in matching products. Generally, Commerce attempts to list the most important physical characteristics first and the least important characteristics last.

In order to consider the suggestions of interested parties in developing and issuing the AD questionnaires, all product characteristics comments must be filed by 5:00 p.m. ET on April 7, 2025, which is 20 calendar days from the signature date of this notice. Any rebuttal comments must be filed by 5:00 p.m. ET on April 17, 2025, which is 10 calendar days from the initial comment deadline. All comments and submissions to Commerce must be filed electronically using ACCESS, as explained above, on the record of the each of the LTFV investigations.

Determination of Industry Support for the Petitions

Section 732(b)(1) of the Act requires that a petition be filed on behalf of the domestic industry. Section 732(c)(4)(A) of the Act provides that a petition meets this requirement if the domestic producers or workers who support the petition account for: (i) at least 25 percent of the total production of the domestic like product; and (ii) more than 50 percent of the production of the domestic like product produced by that portion of the industry expressing support for, or opposition to, the petition. Moreover, section 732(c)(4)(D) of the Act provides that, if the petition does not establish support of domestic producers or workers accounting for more than 50 percent of the total production of the domestic like product, Commerce shall: (i) poll the

industry or rely on other information in order to determine if there is support for the petition, as required by subparagraph (A); or (ii) determine industry support using a statistically valid sampling method to poll the “industry.”

Section 771(4)(A) of the Act defines the “industry” as the producers as a whole of a domestic like product. Thus, to determine whether a petition has the requisite industry support, the statute directs Commerce to look to producers and workers who produce the domestic like product. The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC), which is responsible for determining whether “the domestic industry” has been injured, must also determine what constitutes a domestic like product in order to define the industry. While both Commerce and the ITC must apply the same statutory definition regarding the domestic like product,¹³ they do so for different purposes and pursuant to a separate and distinct authority. In addition, Commerce’s determination is subject to limitations of time and information. Although this may result in different definitions of the like product, such differences do not render the decision of either agency contrary to law.¹⁴

Section 771(10) of the Act defines the domestic like product as “a product which is like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the article subject to an investigation under this title.” Thus, the reference point from which the domestic like product analysis begins is “the article subject to an investigation” (*i.e.*, the class or kind of merchandise to be investigated, which normally will be the scope as defined in the petition).

With regard to the domestic like product, the petitioner does not offer a definition of the domestic like product distinct from the scope of the investigations.¹⁵ Based on our analysis of the information submitted on the record, we have determined that chassis, as defined in the

¹³ See section 771(10) of the Act.

¹⁴ See *USEC, Inc. v. United States*, 132 F. Supp. 2d 1, 8 (CIT 2001) (citing *Algoma Steel Corp., Ltd. v. United States*, 688 F. Supp. 639, 644 (CIT 1988), *aff’d* 865 F.2d 240 (Fed. Cir. 1989)).

¹⁵ See Petitions at Volume I (pages 22-26 and Exhibits I-3, I-17, and I-18); see also Third General Issues Supplement at 1-4 and Exhibits I-Supp3-1 and I-Supp3-2.

scope, constitute a single domestic like product, and we have analyzed industry support in terms of that domestic like product.¹⁶

In determining whether the petitioner has standing under section 732(c)(4)(A) of the Act, we considered the industry support data contained in the Petitions with reference to the domestic like product as defined in the “Scope of the Investigations,” in the appendix to this notice. To establish industry support, the petitioner provided the 2024 production of the domestic like product for the supporters of the Petitions and compared this to the estimated total production of the domestic like product for the entire domestic industry.¹⁷ We relied on data provided by the petitioner for purposes of measuring industry support.¹⁸

Our review of the data provided in the Petitions, the First General Issues Supplement, and other information readily available to Commerce indicates that the petitioner has established industry support for the Petitions.¹⁹ First, the Petitions established support from domestic producers (or workers) accounting for more than 50 percent of the total production of the domestic like product and, as such, Commerce is not required to take further action in order to evaluate industry support (*e.g.*, polling).²⁰ Second, the domestic producers (or workers) have met the statutory criteria for industry support under section 732(c)(4)(A)(i) of the Act because the domestic producers (or workers) who support the Petitions account for at least 25 percent of the total production of the domestic like product.²¹ Finally, the domestic producers (or workers) have met the statutory criteria for industry support under section 732(c)(4)(A)(ii) of the Act because the domestic producers (or workers) who support the Petitions account for more than 50

¹⁶ For a discussion of the domestic like product analysis as applied to these cases and information regarding industry support, *see* Checklists, “Antidumping Duty Investigation Initiation Checklists: Certain Chassis and Subassemblies Thereof from Mexico, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam,” dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Country-Specific AD Initiation Checklists), at Attachment II, Analysis of Industry Support for the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Petitions Covering Certain Chassis and Subassemblies Thereof from Mexico, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Attachment II). These checklists are on file electronically via ACCESS.

¹⁷ For further discussion, *see* Attachment II of the Country-Specific AD Initiation Checklists.

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ *Id.*

²⁰ *Id.*; *see also* section 732(c)(4)(D) of the Act.

²¹ *See* Attachment II of the Country-Specific AD Initiation Checklists.

percent of the production of the domestic like product produced by that portion of the industry expressing support for, or opposition to, the Petitions.²² Accordingly, Commerce determines that the Petitions were filed on behalf of the domestic industry within the meaning of section 732(b)(1) of the Act.²³

Allegations and Evidence of Material Injury and Causation

The petitioner alleges that the U.S. industry producing the domestic like product is being materially injured, or is threatened with material injury, by reason of the imports of the subject merchandise sold at LTFV. In addition, the petitioner alleges that subject imports exceed the negligibility threshold provided for under section 771(24)(A) of the Act.²⁴

The petitioner contends that the industry's injured condition is illustrated by a significant increase in the volume of subject imports; reduced market share; underselling and price depression and/or suppression; lost sales and revenues; declines in domestic producers' U.S. shipments, production, and capacity utilization; decline in employment variables; adverse impact on financial performance; negative impact on the existing development and production efforts of the domestic industry; and the magnitude of the alleged dumping margins.²⁵ We assessed the allegations and supporting evidence regarding material injury, threat of material injury, causation, as well as negligibility, and we have determined that these allegations are properly supported by adequate evidence, and meet the statutory requirements for initiation.²⁶

Allegations of Sales at LTFV

The following is a description of the allegations of sales at LTFV upon which Commerce based its decision to initiate LTFV investigations of imports of chassis from Mexico, Thailand, and Vietnam. The sources of data for the deductions and adjustments relating to U.S. price and

²² *Id.*

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ For further discussion, see Country-Specific AD Initiation Checklists at Attachment III, Analysis of Allegations and Evidence of Material Injury and Causation for the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Petitions Covering Certain Chassis and Subassemblies Thereof from Mexico, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

²⁵ *Id.*

²⁶ *Id.*

normal value (NV) are discussed in greater detail in the Country-Specific AD Initiation Checklists.

U.S. Price

For Mexico and Vietnam, the petitioner based export price (EP) on pricing information for chassis produced in each country and sold or offered for sale in the U.S. market during the POI.²⁷ For Thailand, because the petitioner had reason to believe the sale or sales offer was made through a U.S. affiliate, the petitioner based constructed export price (CEP) on pricing information for chassis produced in Thailand and sold or offered for sale in the U.S. market during the POI.²⁸ For each country, the petitioner made certain adjustments to U.S. price to calculate a net ex-factory U.S. price, where applicable.²⁹

Normal Value³⁰

For Mexico, the petitioner based NV on home market pricing information obtained for chassis produced in and sold or offered for sale in Mexico during the POI.³¹

For Thailand, the petitioner stated that it was unable to obtain home market or third-country pricing information for chassis in Thailand to use as a basis for NV.³² Therefore, for Thailand, the petitioner calculated NV based on CV. For further discussion of CV, *see* the section “Normal Value Based on Constructed Value.”

Commerce considers Vietnam to be an NME country.³³ In accordance with section 771(18)(C)(i) of the Act, any determination that a foreign country is an NME country shall remain in effect until revoked by Commerce. Therefore, we continue to treat Vietnam as an NME country for purposes of the initiation of this LTFV investigation. Accordingly, we base

²⁷ *See* Country-Specific AD Initiation Checklists.

²⁸ *See* Thailand AD Initiation Checklist.

²⁹ *See* Country-Specific AD Initiation Checklists.

³⁰ In accordance with section 773(b)(2) of the Act, for the Mexico and Thailand LTFV investigations, Commerce will request information necessary to calculate the constructed value (CV) and COP to determine whether there are reasonable grounds to believe or suspect that sales of the foreign like product have been made at prices that represent less than the COP of the product.

³¹ *See* Mexico AD Initiation Checklist.

³² *See* Thailand AD Initiation Checklist.

³³ *See, e.g., Raw Honey from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review*, 89 FR 64411 (August 7, 2024), and accompanying NME Analysis Memorandum at 5.

NV on FOPs valued in a surrogate market economy country in accordance with section 773(c) of the Act.

The petitioner claims that Indonesia is an appropriate surrogate country for Vietnam because it is a market economy that is at a level of economic development comparable to that of Vietnam and is a significant producer of comparable merchandise.³⁴ The petitioner provided publicly available information from Indonesia to value all FOPs.³⁵ Based on the information provided by the petitioner, we believe it is appropriate to use Indonesia as a surrogate country for Vietnam to value all FOPs for initiation purposes.

Interested parties will have the opportunity to submit comments regarding surrogate country selection and, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.301(c)(3)(i), will be provided an opportunity to submit publicly available information to value FOPs within 30 days before the scheduled date of the preliminary determination.

Factors of Production

Because information regarding the volume of inputs consumed by Vietnamese producers/exporters was not reasonably available, the petitioner used the production experience and product-specific consumption rates of a U.S. producer of chassis as a surrogate to value Vietnamese manufacturers' FOPs.³⁶ Additionally, for Vietnam, the petitioner calculated factory overhead, selling, general, and administrative expenses (SG&A), and profit based on the experience of an Indonesian producer of comparable merchandise.³⁷

Normal Value Based on Constructed Value

As noted above for Thailand, the petitioner stated that it was unable to obtain home market or third-country prices for chassis to use as a basis for NV. Therefore, for Thailand, the petitioner calculated NV based on CV.³⁸

³⁴ See Vietnam AD Initiation Checklist.

³⁵ *Id.*

³⁶ *Id.*

³⁷ *Id.*

³⁸ See Thailand AD Initiation Checklist.

Pursuant to section 773(e) of the Act, the petitioner calculated CV as the sum of the cost of manufacturing, SG&A expenses, financial expenses, and profit.³⁹ For Thailand, in calculating the cost of manufacturing, the petitioner relied on the production experience and input consumption rates of a U.S. producer of chassis, valued using publicly available information applicable to Thailand.⁴⁰ In calculating SG&A expenses, financial expenses, and profit ratios, the petitioner relied on the 2024 financial statements of a producer of comparable merchandise domiciled in Thailand.⁴¹

Fair Value Comparisons

Based on the data provided by the petitioner, there is reason to believe that imports Chassis from Mexico, Thailand, and Vietnam are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at LTFV. Based on comparisons of EP or CEP to NV in accordance with sections 772 and 773 of the Act, the estimated dumping margins for chassis from each of the countries covered by this initiation are as follows: (1) Mexico – 32.37 percent; (2) Thailand – 181.57 percent; (3) and Vietnam – 302.52 percent.⁴²

Initiation of LTFV Investigations

Based upon the examination of the Petitions and supplemental responses, we find that they meet the requirements of section 732 of the Act. Therefore, we are initiating LTFV investigations to determine whether imports of chassis from Mexico, Thailand, and Vietnam are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at LTFV. In accordance with section 733(b)(1)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(b)(1), unless postponed, we will make our preliminary determinations no later than 140 days after the date of these initiations.

Respondent Selection

Mexico and Thailand

³⁹ *Id.*

⁴⁰ *Id.*

⁴¹ *Id.*

⁴² See Country-Specific AD Initiation Checklists.

In the Petitions, the petitioner identified 13 companies in Mexico and three companies in Thailand as producers and/or exporters of chassis.⁴³ Following standard practice in AD investigations involving market economy countries, Commerce would normally select respondents based on U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) entry data for imports under the appropriate Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading(s) listed in the “Scope of the Investigations” in the Appendix. However, for this investigation, the main HTSUS subheadings under which the subject merchandise would enter (8716.39.0090 and 8716.90.5060) are basket categories under which non-subject merchandise may also enter. Therefore, instead of relying on CBP entry data in selecting respondents, we intend to issue Q&V questionnaires to each potential respondent for which there is complete address information on the record.

Commerce will also post the Q&V questionnaires along with filing instructions on Commerce’s website at <https://www.trade.gov/ec-adcvd-case-announcements>. Exporters/producers of chassis from Mexico and Thailand that do not receive Q&V questionnaires may still submit a response to the Q&V questionnaire and can obtain a copy of the Q&V questionnaire from Commerce’s website. Responses to the Q&V questionnaire must be submitted by the relevant producers/exporters no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 1, 2025, which is two weeks from the signature date of this notice. An electronically filed document must be received successfully, in its entirety, by ACCESS no later than 5:00 p.m. ET on the deadline noted above.

Interested parties must submit applications for disclosure under an administrative protective order (APO) in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(b). As stated above, instructions for filing such applications may be found on Commerce’s website at <https://www.trade.gov/administrative-protective-orders>.

⁴³ See Petitions at Volume I (page 17 and Exhibit I-13); see also Revised Exhibit I-13; and First General Issues Supplement at 1-2 and Exhibits I-Supp-1 and I-Supp-17.

Vietnam

In the Petitions, the petitioner identified four companies in Vietnam as producers and/or exporters of chassis.⁴⁴ Our standard practice for respondent selection in AD investigations involving NME countries is to select respondents based on Q&V questionnaires in cases where Commerce has determined that the number of companies is large, and it cannot individually examine each company based upon its resources. Therefore, considering the number of producers and/or exporters identified in the Petitions, Commerce will solicit Q&V information that can serve as a basis for selecting exporters for individual examination in the event that Commerce determines that the number is large and decides to limit the number of respondents individually examined pursuant to section 777A(c)(2) of the Act. Because there are four Vietnamese producers and/or exporters identified in the Petitions, Commerce has determined that it will issue Q&V questionnaires to each potential respondent for which there is complete address information on the record.

Commerce will post the Q&V questionnaires along with filing instructions on Commerce's website at <https://www.trade.gov/ec-adcvd-case-announcements>. Producers/exporters of chassis from Vietnam that do not receive Q&V questionnaires may still submit a response to the Q&V questionnaire and can obtain a copy of the Q&V questionnaire from Commerce's website. Responses to the Q&V questionnaire must be submitted by the relevant Vietnamese producers/exporters no later than 5:00 p.m. ET on April 1, 2025, which is two weeks from the signature date of this notice. All Q&V questionnaire responses must be filed electronically via ACCESS. An electronically filed document must be received successfully, in its entirety, by ACCESS no later than 5:00 p.m. ET on the deadline noted above.

⁴⁴ See Petitions at Volume I (page 27 and Exhibit I-13); see also Revised Exhibit I-13; and First General Issues Supplement at 1 and Exhibit I-Supp-1.

Interested parties must submit applications for disclosure under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(b). As stated above, instructions for filing such applications may be found on Commerce's website at <https://www.trade.gov/administrative-protective-orders>.

Separate Rates

In order to obtain separate rate status in an NME investigation, exporters and producers must submit a separate rate application. The specific requirements for submitting a separate rate application in an NME investigation are outlined in detail in the application itself, which is available on Commerce's website at <https://access.trade.gov/Resources/nme/nme-sep-rate.html>. Note that Commerce recently promulgated new regulations pertaining to separate rates, including the separate rate application deadline and eligibility for separate rate status, in 19 CFR 351.108.⁴⁵ Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.108(d)(1), the separate rate application will be due 21 days after publication of this initiation notice.⁴⁶ Exporters and producers must file a timely separate rate application if they want to be considered for individual examination. In addition, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.108(e), exporters and producers who submit a separate rate application and have been selected as mandatory respondents will be eligible for consideration for separate rate status only if they fully respond to all parts of Commerce's AD questionnaire and participate in the LTFV proceeding as mandatory respondents.⁴⁷ Commerce requires that companies from Vietnam submit a response both to the Q&V questionnaire and to the separate rate application by the respective deadlines to receive consideration for separate rate status. Companies not filing a timely Q&V questionnaire response will not receive separate rate consideration.

⁴⁵ See *Regulations Enhancing the Administration of the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Trade Remedy Laws*, 89 FR 101694, 101759-60 (December 16, 2024).

⁴⁶ See 19 CFR 351.108(d)(1).

⁴⁷ See 19 CFR 351.108(e).

Use of Combination Rates

Commerce will calculate combination rates for certain respondents that are eligible for a separate rate in an NME investigation. The Separate Rates and Combination Rates Bulletin states:

{w}hile continuing the practice of assigning separate rates only to exporters, all separate rates that {Commerce} will now assign in its NME investigation will be specific to those producers that supplied the exporter during the period of investigation. Note, however, that one rate is calculated for the exporter and all of the producers which supplied subject merchandise to it during the period of investigation. This practice applies both to mandatory respondents receiving an individually calculated separate rate as well as the pool of non-investigated firms receiving the {weighted average} of the individually calculated rates. This practice is referred to as the application of “combination rates” because such rates apply to specific combinations of exporters and one or more producers. The cash-deposit rate assigned to an exporter will apply only to merchandise both exported by the firm in question *and* produced by a firm that supplied the exporter during the period of investigation.⁴⁸

Distribution of Copies of the Petitions

In accordance with section 732(b)(3)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.202(f), a copy of the public version of the Petitions has been provided to the governments of Mexico, Thailand, and Vietnam via ACCESS. To the extent practicable, we will attempt to provide a copy of the public version of the Petitions to each exporter named in the Petitions, as provided under 19 CFR 351.203(c)(2).

ITC Notification

Commerce will notify the ITC of our initiation, as required by section 732(d) of the Act.

Preliminary Determinations by the ITC

The ITC will preliminarily determine, within 45 days after the date on which the Petitions were filed, whether there is a reasonable indication that imports of chassis from Mexico, Thailand, and/or Vietnam are materially injuring, or threatening material injury to, a U.S.

⁴⁸ See Enforcement and Compliance’s Policy Bulletin No. 05.1, regarding, “Separate-Rates Practice and Application of Combination Rates in Antidumping Investigation involving NME Countries,” (April 5, 2005), at 6 (emphasis added), available on Commerce’s website at <https://access.trade.gov/Resources/policy/bull05-1.pdf>.

industry.⁴⁹ A negative ITC determination for any country will result in the investigation being terminated with respect to that country.⁵⁰ Otherwise, these LTFV investigations will proceed according to statutory and regulatory time limits.

Particular Market Situation Allegation

Section 773(e) of the Act addresses the concept of particular market situation (PMS) for purposes of CV, stating that “if a particular market situation exists such that the cost of materials and fabrication or other processing of any kind does not accurately reflect the cost of production in the ordinary course of trade, the administering authority may use another calculation methodology under this subtitle or any other calculation methodology.” When an interested party submits a PMS allegation pursuant to section 773(e) of the Act (*i.e.*, a cost-based PMS allegation), the submission must be filed in accordance with the requirements of 19 CFR 351.416(b), and Commerce will respond to such a submission consistent with 19 CFR 351.301(c)(2)(v). If Commerce finds that a cost-based PMS exists under section 773(e) of the Act, then it will modify its dumping calculations appropriately.

Neither section 773(e) of the Act, nor 19 CFR 351.301(c)(2)(v), sets a deadline for the submission of cost-based PMS allegations and supporting factual information. However, in order to administer section 773(e) of the Act, Commerce must receive PMS allegations and supporting factual information with enough time to consider the submission. Thus, should an interested party wish to submit a cost-based PMS allegation and supporting new factual information pursuant to section 773(e) of the Act, it must do so no later than 20 days after submission of a respondent’s initial section D questionnaire response.

We note that a PMS allegation filed pursuant to sections 773(a)(1)(B)(ii)(III) or 773(a)(1)(C)(iii) of the Act (*i.e.*, a sales-based PMS allegation) must be filed within 10 days of

⁴⁹ See section 733(a) of the Act.

⁵⁰ *Id.*

submission of a respondent's initial section B questionnaire response, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.301(c)(2)(i) and 19 CFR 351.404(c)(2).

Submission of Factual Information

Factual information is defined in 19 CFR 351.102(b)(21) as: (i) evidence submitted in response to questionnaires; (ii) evidence submitted in support of allegations; (iii) publicly available information to value factors under 19 CFR 351.408(c) or to measure the adequacy of remuneration under 19 CFR 351.511(a)(2); (iv) evidence placed on the record by Commerce; and (v) evidence other than factual information described in (i)-(iv). Section 351.301(b) of Commerce's regulations requires any party, when submitting factual information, to specify under which subsection of 19 CFR 351.102(b)(21) the information is being submitted⁵¹ and, if the information is submitted to rebut, clarify, or correct factual information already on the record, to provide an explanation identifying the information already on the record that the factual information seeks to rebut, clarify, or correct.⁵² Time limits for the submission of factual information are addressed in 19 CFR 351.301, which provides specific time limits based on the type of factual information being submitted. Interested parties should review the regulations prior to submitting factual information in these investigations.

Time Limits for Submission of Factual Information in Response to Questionnaires

Section 351.301(c) of Commerce's regulations states that during a proceeding, Commerce may issue to any person questionnaires, which includes both and initial and supplemental questionnaires. For all investigations initiated after January 15, 2025, the following time limits apply:⁵³

- (i) Initial questionnaire responses are due 30 days from the date of receipt of such questionnaire. The time limit for response to individual sections of the questionnaire, if Commerce requests a separate response to such sections, may be less than the 30

⁵¹ See 19 CFR 351.301(b).

⁵² See 19 CFR 351.301(b)(2).

⁵³ See 19 CFR 351.301(c)(1)(i)-(v).

days allotted for response to the full questionnaire. In general, the date of receipt will be considered to be seven days from the date on which the initial questionnaire was transmitted.

- (ii) Supplemental questionnaire responses are due on the date specified by Commerce.
- (iii) A notification by an interested party, under section 782(c)(1) of the Act, of difficulties in submitting information in response to a questionnaire issued by Commerce is to be submitted in writing within 14 days after the date of the questionnaire or, if the questionnaire is due in 14 days or less, within the time specified by Commerce.
- (iv) A respondent interested party may request in writing that Commerce conduct a questionnaire presentation. Commerce may conduct a questionnaire presentation if Commerce notifies the government of the affected country and that government does not object.
- (v) Factual information submitted to rebut, clarify, or correct questionnaire responses. Within 14 days after an initial questionnaire response and within 10 days after a supplemental questionnaire response has been filed with Commerce, an interested party other than the original submitter is permitted one opportunity to submit factual information to rebut, clarify, or correct factual information contained in the questionnaire response. Within seven days of the filing of such rebuttal, clarification, or correction to a questionnaire response, the original submitter of the questionnaire response is permitted one opportunity to submit factual information to rebut, clarify, or correct factual information submitted in the interested party's rebuttal, clarification or correction. Commerce will reject any untimely filed rebuttal, clarification, or correction submission and provide, to the extent practicable, written notice stating the reasons for rejection. If insufficient time remains before the due date for the final

determination or final results of review, Commerce may specify shorter deadlines under this section.

Extensions of Time Limits

Parties may request an extension of time limits before the expiration of a time limit established under 19 CFR 351.301, or as otherwise specified by Commerce. In general, an extension request will be considered untimely if it is filed after the expiration of the time limit established under 19 CFR 351.301, or as otherwise specified by Commerce.⁵⁴ For submissions that are due from multiple parties simultaneously, an extension request will be considered untimely if it is filed after 10:00 a.m. ET on the due date. Under certain circumstances, Commerce may elect to specify a different time limit by which extension requests will be considered untimely for submissions which are due from multiple parties simultaneously. In such a case, we will inform parties in a letter or memorandum of the deadline (including a specified time) by which extension requests must be filed to be considered timely. An extension request must be made in a separate, standalone submission; under limited circumstances we will grant untimely filed requests for the extension of time limits, where we determine, based on 19 CFR 351.302, that extraordinary circumstances exist. Parties should review Commerce's regulations concerning the extension of time limits and the *Time Limits Final Rule* prior to submitting factual information in these investigations.⁵⁵

Certification Requirements

Any party submitting factual information in an AD or CVD proceeding must certify to the accuracy and completeness of that information.⁵⁶ Parties must use the certification formats provided in 19 CFR 351.303(g).⁵⁷ Commerce intends to reject factual submissions if the submitting party does not comply with the applicable certification requirements.

⁵⁴ See 19 CFR 351.301; see also *Extension of Time Limits; Final Rule*, 78 FR 57790 (September 20, 2013) (*Time Limits Final Rule*), available at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-09-20/html/2013-22853.htm>.

⁵⁵ See 19 CFR 351.302; see also, e.g., *Time Limits Final Rule*.

⁵⁶ See section 782(b) of the Act.

⁵⁷ See *Certification of Factual Information to Import Administration During Antidumping and Countervailing Duty*

Notification to Interested Parties

Interested parties must submit applications for disclosure under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305. Parties wishing to participate in these investigations should ensure that they meet the requirements of 19 CFR 351.103(d) (e.g., by filing the required letter of appearance). Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).⁵⁸

This notice is issued and published pursuant to sections 732(c)(2) and 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.203(c).

Dated: March 18, 2025.

Christopher Abbott,
*Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Policy and Negotiations,
performing the non-exclusive functions and duties
of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.*

Proceedings, 78 FR 42678 (July 17, 2013) (*Final Rule*). Additional information regarding the *Final Rule* is available at <https://access.trade.gov/Resources/filing/index.html>.

⁵⁸ See *Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings*, 88 FR 67069 (September 29, 2023).

Appendix

Scope of the Investigations

The merchandise covered by these investigations consists of chassis and subassemblies thereof, whether finished or unfinished, whether assembled or unassembled, whether coated or uncoated, regardless of the number of axles, for carriage of containers, or other payloads (including self-supporting payloads) for road, marine roll-on/roll-off (RORO) and/or rail transport. Chassis are typically, but are not limited to, rectangular framed trailers with a suspension and axle system, wheels and tires, brakes, a lighting and electrical system, a coupling for towing behind a truck tractor, and a locking system or systems to secure the shipping container or containers to the chassis using twistlocks, slide pins or similar attachment devices to engage the corner fittings on the container or other payload.

Subject merchandise includes, but is not limited to, the following subassemblies:

- Chassis frames, or sections of chassis frames, including kingpin assemblies, bolsters consisting of transverse beams with locking or support mechanisms, goosenecks, drop assemblies, extension mechanisms and/or rear impact guards;
- Running gear assemblies or axle assemblies for connection to the chassis frame, whether fixed in nature or capable of sliding fore and aft or lifting up and lowering down, which may or may not include suspension(s) (mechanical or pneumatic), wheel end components, slack adjusters, dressed axles, brake chambers, locking pins, and tires and wheels; and
- Assemblies that connect to the chassis frame or a section of the chassis frame, such as but not limited to, pintle hooks or B-trains (which include a fifth wheel), which are capable of connecting a chassis to a converter dolly or another chassis.

Importation of any of these subassemblies, whether assembled or unassembled, constitutes an unfinished chassis for purposes of these investigations.

Subject merchandise also includes chassis, whether finished or unfinished, entered with components such as, but not limited to: hub and drum assemblies, brake assemblies (either drum or disc), bare axles, brake chambers, suspensions and suspension components, wheel end components, landing gear legs, spoke or disc wheels, tires, brake control systems, electrical harnesses and lighting systems.

Processing of finished and unfinished chassis and components such as trimming, cutting, grinding, notching, punching, drilling, painting, coating, staining, finishing, assembly, or any other processing either in the country of manufacture of the in-scope product or in a third country does not remove the product from the scope. Inclusion of other components not identified as comprising the finished or unfinished chassis does not remove the product from the scope.

Individual components entered and sold by themselves are not subject to the investigations, but components entered with a finished or unfinished chassis are subject merchandise. A finished chassis is ultimately comprised of several different types of subassemblies. Within each subassembly there are numerous components that comprise a given subassembly.

This scope excludes dry van trailers, refrigerated van trailers and flatbed trailers. Dry van

trailers are trailers with a wholly enclosed cargo space comprised of fixed sides, nose, floor and roof, with articulated panels (doors) across the rear and occasionally at selected places on the sides, with the cargo space being permanently incorporated in the trailer itself. Refrigerated van trailers are trailers with a wholly enclosed cargo space comprised of fixed sides, nose, floor and roof, with articulated panels (doors) across the rear and occasionally at selected places on the sides, with the cargo space being permanently incorporated in the trailer and being insulated, possessing specific thermal properties intended for use with self-contained refrigeration systems. Flatbed (or platform) trailers consist of load carrying main frames and a solid, flat or stepped loading deck or floor permanently incorporated with and supported by frame rails and cross members.

The finished and unfinished chassis subject to these investigations are typically classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) at subheadings: 8716.39.0090 and 8716.90.5060. Imports of finished and unfinished chassis may also enter under HTSUS subheading 8716.90.5010. While the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise under investigation is dispositive.

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