



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-851-806]

Certain Freight Rail Couplers and Parts Thereof from the Czech Republic: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that certain freight rail couplers and parts thereof (freight rail couplers) from the Czech Republic are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

DATES: Applicable [Insert date of publication in the *Federal Register*].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Hart, AD/CVD Operations, Office II, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-1058.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On May 6, 2026, Commerce published in the *Federal Register* its preliminary affirmative determination in the LTFV investigation of freight rail couplers from the Czech Republic.¹ In the *Preliminary Determination*, Commerce postponed the final determination until September 18, 2026, and invited interested parties to comment on the *Preliminary Determination*. A summary of the events that occurred since Commerce published its *Preliminary Determination*,

¹ See *Certain Freight Rail Couplers and Parts Thereof from the Czech Republic: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Postponement of Final Determination, and Extension of Provisional Measures*, 91 FR 24506 (May 6, 2026) (*Preliminary Determination*), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

as well as a full discussion of the issues raised by parties for this final determination, may be found in the Issues and Decision Memorandum.²

The Issues and Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System, which is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://access.trade.gov/frnotices>.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is freight rail couplers from the Czech Republic. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

Scope Comments

Commerce received comments from interested parties on the scope of the investigation as it appeared in the *Preliminary Determination*.³ For the final determination, Commerce made no changes to the scope of the investigation from that published in the *Preliminary Determination*.⁴

Verification

As provided in section 782(i)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), in June 2026, Commerce verified the sales and cost information submitted by mandatory respondent CKD Kutná Hora A.S. (CKD) for use in the final determination. We used standard verification procedures, including an examination of relevant sales and accounting records, and original source documents provided by CKD.⁵

² See Memorandum, "Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Affirmative Determination in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Certain Freight Rail Couplers and Parts Thereof from the Czech Republic," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

³ See Memorandum, "Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations of Certain Freight Couplers and Parts Thereof from the Czech Republic and India and Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain Freight Rail Couplers and Parts Thereof from India: Final Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ See Memoranda, "Verification of the Sales Responses of CKD Kutná Hora A.S. in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Freight Rail Couplers and Parts Thereof from the Czech Republic," dated July 10, 2026; and "Verification of the Cost Response of CKD Kutná Hora A.S. (CKD) in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Certain Freight Rail Couplers and Parts Thereof from the Czech Republic," dated August 3, 2026.

Analysis of Comments Received

All issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs submitted by interested parties in this investigation are addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. A list of the issues addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum is attached to this notice as Appendix II.

Changes Since the Preliminary Determination

We made certain changes to the margin calculations for CKD, since the *Preliminary Determination*.⁶ For a discussion of these changes, *see* the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

All-Others Rate

Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that Commerce shall determine an estimated weighted-average dumping margin, *i.e.*, the all-others rate, for all exporters and producers not individually examined. This rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

In this investigation, Commerce calculated an individual estimated weighted-average dumping margin for CKD, the only individually examined producer in this investigation. Because the only individually calculated estimated weighted-average dumping margin is not zero, *de minimis*, or based entirely on facts otherwise available, the estimated weighted-average dumping margin calculated for CKD is the estimated weighted-average dumping margin assigned to all other producers and exporters, pursuant to section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act.

Final Determination

Commerce determines that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist for the period, July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025:

⁶ *See* Memoranda, “Final Analysis Memorandum for CKD Kutná Hora A.S.,” and “Cost of Production and Constructed Value Calculation Adjustments for the Final Determination – CKD Kutná Hora A.S.,” dated concurrently with this notice.

Exporter or Producer	Weighted-Average Dumping Margin (percent)
CKD Kutná Hora A.S.	73.74
All Others	73.74

Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose the calculations and analysis performed in connection with this final determination to interested parties within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the publication of the notice in the *Federal Register*, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation and Cash Deposit Requirements

In accordance with section 735(c)(1)(B) of the Act, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to continue to suspend liquidation of all entries of freight rail couplers, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after May 6, 2026, the date of publication of the *Preliminary Determination* in the *Federal Register*. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Pursuant to section 735(c)(1)(B)(ii) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(d), upon the publication of this notice, we will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit for estimated antidumping duties for such entries as follows: (1) the cash deposit rate for subject merchandise exported by CKD is equal to the company-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margin listed in the table above; (2) if the exporter is not listed in the table above, but the producer is, then the cash deposit rate is equal to the company-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margin listed for the producer of the subject merchandise in the table above; and (3) the cash deposit rate for all other producers and exporters is equal to the all-others estimated weighted-average dumping margin listed in the table above.

These suspension of liquidation instructions and cash deposit requirements will remain in effect until further notice.

U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 735(d) of the Act, Commerce will notify the ITC of our final affirmative determination of sales at LTFV. Because the final determination in this proceeding is affirmative, in accordance with sections 735(b)(2) of the Act, the ITC will make its final determination as to whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of imports of freight rail couplers from the Czech Republic no later than 45 days after this final determination. If the ITC determines that such injury does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated, all cash deposits posted will be refunded, and suspension of liquidation will be lifted. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, Commerce will issue an antidumping duty order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, antidumping duties on all imports of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed in the “Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation” section above.

Administrative Protective Order (APO)

This notice serves as a final reminder to parties subject to an APO of their responsibility concerning the return or destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3), which continues to govern business proprietary information in this segment of the proceeding. Timely written notification of the return or destruction of APO materials, or conversion to judicial protective order, is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and the terms of an APO is a violation subject to sanction.

Notification to Interested Parties

This determination and this notice are issued and published in accordance with sections 735(d) and 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

Dated: September 18, 2026.

Steven Presing,
Executive Director
for Policy and Negotiations.

Appendix I

Scope of the Investigation

The scope of this investigation covers certain freight railcar couplers (also known as “fits” or “assemblies”) and parts thereof. Freight rail couplers are composed of two main parts, namely knuckles and coupler bodies but may also include other items (*e.g.*, coupler locks, lock lift assemblies, knuckle pins, knuckle throwers, and rotors). The parts covered by this investigation include: (1) E coupler bodies; (2) E/F coupler bodies; (3) F coupler bodies; (4) E knuckles; and (5) F knuckles; as set forth by the Association of American Railroads (AAR). The freight rail coupler parts are included within the scope of this investigation when imported individually. Coupler locks, lock lift assemblies, knuckle pins, knuckle throwers, and rotors are covered merchandise when imported in an assembly but are not covered by the scope when imported separately.

Subject freight rail couplers and parts are included within the scope whether finished or unfinished, whether imported individually or with other subject or nonsubject parts, whether assembled or unassembled, whether mounted or unmounted, or if joined with nonsubject merchandise, such as other nonsubject parts or a completed railcar. Finishing includes, but is not limited to, arc washing, welding, grinding, shot blasting, heat treatment, machining, and assembly of various parts. When a subject coupler or subject parts are mounted on or to other nonsubject merchandise, such as a railcar, only the coupler or subject parts are covered by the scope.

The finished products covered by the scope of this investigation meet or exceed the AAR specifications of M-211, “Foundry and Product Approval Requirements for the Manufacture of Couplers, Coupler Yokes, Knuckles, Follower Blocks, and Coupler Parts,” and/or AAR M-215 “Coupling Systems,” or other equivalent domestic or international standards (including any revisions to the standard(s)).

The country of origin for subject couplers and parts thereof, whether fully assembled, unfinished or finished, or attached to a railcar, is the country where the subject coupler parts were cast or forged. Subject merchandise includes coupler parts as defined above that have been further processed or further assembled, including those coupler parts attached to a railcar in third countries. Further processing includes, but is not limited to, arc washing, welding, grinding, shot blasting, heat treatment, painting, coating, priming, machining, and assembly of various parts. The inclusion, attachment, joining, or assembly of nonsubject parts with subject parts or couplers either in the country of manufacture of the in-scope product or in a third country does not remove the subject parts or couplers from the scope.

The couplers that are the subject of this investigation are currently classifiable in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) statistical reporting number 8607.30.1010, 8607.30.1050, and 8607.30.1090. Subject merchandise attached to finished railcars may also enter under HTSUS statistical reporting numbers 7326.90.8688, 8606.10.0000, 8606.91.0000, 8606.92.0000, 8606.99.0130, or under subheading 8606.99.0160. Subject merchandise may also be imported under HTSUS statistical reporting number 7325.99.5000. These HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope of this investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II

List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Changes Since the *Preliminary Determination*
- IV. Discussion of the Issues
 - Comment 1: CKD's Revised Sales and Cost Data
 - Comment 2: Affiliation of CKD and Wabtec Corporation LLC and Whether to Use Constructed Export Price
 - Comment 3: Whether to Revise CKD's Reported Costs
- V. Recommendation

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