UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.

In the Matter of

CERTAIN FLOCKED SWABS, PRODUCTS CONTAINING FLOCKED SWABS, AND METHODS OF USING SAME

Investigation No. 337-TA-1279

NOTICE OF A COMMISSION DETERMINATION NOT TO REVIEW AN INITIAL DETERMINATION TERMINATING INVESTIGATION AS TO RESPONDENT STATLAB


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission has determined not to review an initial determination ("ID") (Order No. 46) of the presiding Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") terminating the investigation as to respondent Slmp, LLC dba StatLab Medical Products ("StatLab").

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Liberman, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20436, telephone (202) 205-2392. Copies of non-confidential documents filed in connection with this investigation may be viewed on the Commission’s electronic docket (EDIS) at https://edis.usitc.gov. For help accessing EDIS, please email EDIS3Help@usitc.gov. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server at https://www.usitc.gov. Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission’s TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 2, 2021, the Commission instituted this investigation under section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337, based on a complaint filed by Copan Italia S.p.A. and Copan Industries, Inc. (“Complainants”). 86 FR 49343-44 (Sept. 2, 2021). The complaint alleged a violation of section 337 in the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or the sale within the United States after importation of certain flocked swabs, products containing flocked swabs, and methods of using same by reason of infringement of claims 1, 6-9, 11-14, 16-19, and 21-22 of U.S. Patent No. 9,011,358 (“the ’358 patent”); claims 1, 4-6, 8, 9, 11-13, 16-20, and 22-24 of U.S. Patent No. 9,173,779 (“the ’779 patent”); and claims 1, 3, 5, 7-10, 18, and 20 of U.S. Patent No. 10,327,741 (“the ’741 patent”). The complaint also alleged the existence of a domestic
industry.

The notice of investigation named Han Chang Medic of Chungnam, Republic of Korea ("HCM"); Wuxi NEST Biotechnology Co., Ltd. of Wuxi, Jiangsu, China; NEST Scientific Inc. and NEST Scientific USA, both of Rahway, New Jersey; Miraclean Technology Co., Ltd. of Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; Vectornate Korea Ltd. of Jangseong, Republic of Korea and Vectornate USA, Inc. of Mahwah, New Jersey (collectively, “Vectornate”); Innovative Product Brands, Inc. of Highland, California (“IPB”); Thomas Scientific, Inc. of Swedesboro, New Jersey ("Thomas Inc."); Thomas Scientific, LLC (“Thomas LLC”) and Stellar Scientific, LLC (“Stellar”), both of Owings Mills, Maryland; Cardinal Health, Inc. of Dublin, Ohio (“Cardinal”); KSL Biomedical, Inc. and KSL Diagnostics, Inc., both of Williamsville, New York (collectively, “KSL”); Jiangsu Changfeng Medical Industry Co., Ltd. of Yangzhou, Jiangsu, China; No Borders Dental Resources, Inc., dba MediDent Supplies of Queen Creek, Arizona (“MediDent”); BioTeke Corporation (Wuxi) Co., Ltd. of Wuxi, Jiangsu, China; Fosun Pharma USA Inc. of Princeton, New Jersey; Hunan Runmei Gene Technology Co., Ltd. of Changsha, Hunan, China (“Runmei”); VWR International, LLC of Radnor, Pennsylvania (“VWR”); and StatLab of McKinney, Texas as respondents.  Id. at 49343-44.  The Commission’s Office of Unfair Import Investigations (“OUII”) is also named as a party in this investigation.  Id. at 49344.

Huanchenyang (Shenzhen) Technology Co., Ltd. (“HCY”) and HCY USA, LLC were allowed to intervene as respondents in this investigation.  Order No. 30 (Dec. 7, 2021), unreviewed by Notice (Jan. 6, 2021).

Subsequently, the investigation was terminated as to the KSL respondents, Thomas Inc., Thomas LLC, Cardinal, VWR, Vectornate, IPB, Stellar, and HCY.  Order No. 20 (Nov. 15, 2021), unreviewed by Comm’n Notice (Dec. 6, 2021); Order Nos. 21-25 (all issued on Nov. 15, 2021), unreviewed by Comm’n Notice (Dec. 6, 2021); Order No. 33, unreviewed by Comm’n Notice (Jan. 10, 2022); Order No. 35 (Jan. 24, 2022), unreviewed by Notice (Feb. 16, 2022).  Furthermore, respondents Runmei; HCM; and MediDent were found in default.  Order No. 27 (Nov. 15, 2021), unreviewed by Comm’n Notice (Dec. 6, 2021); Order No. 31, unreviewed by Comm’n Notice (Jan. 10, 2022).

The Commission also subsequently terminated the investigation as to claim 7 of the ’358 patent, claims 5 and 19 of the ’779 patent, and claim 8 of the ’741 patent.  Order No. 32 (Dec. 15, 2021), unreviewed by Comm’n Notice (Jan. 10, 2022).  The Commission also terminated the investigation as to claims 9 and 21 of the ’358 patent and claim 11 of the ’779 patent.  Order No. 37 (Jan. 28, 2022), unreviewed by Notice (Feb. 16, 2022).

On March 29, 2022, complainants Copan and respondent StatLab filed a joint motion to terminate the investigation as to StatLab based on settlement.  On April 8, 2022, OUII filed a response supporting the motion.  No other party filed a response to the motion.

On May 3, 2022, the ALJ issued the subject ID granting the motion.  The ID found that the joint motion complies with Commission Rule 210.21.  ID at 2.  The ID also found
that termination of this investigation as to StatLab does not impose any undue burdens on the
public health and welfare, competitive conditions in the United States economy, production
of like or directly competitive articles in the United States, or United States consumers.  Id.
at 2-3. No party petitioned for review of the ID.

The Commission has determined not to review the subject ID. Accordingly, the
investigation is terminated as to respondent StatLab based on settlement.

The Commission vote for this determination took place on May 27, 2022.

The authority for the Commission’s determination is contained in section 337 of the
Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337, and in Part 210 of the Commission’s Rules of

By order of the Commission.

Lisa R. Barton
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: May 27, 2022