



INSTRUCTION BOOKLET

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS FOR COMMISSION FOREIGN PRODUCER/EXPORTER QUESTIONNAIRES

**Certain Stilbenic Optical Brightening Agents (CSOBAs) from
China and Taiwan
Investigations Nos. 731-TA-1186-1187 (Final)**

Further information.--If you have any questions concerning the enclosed questionnaire(s) or other matters related to this proceeding, you may contact the following member of the Commission's staff (Fax 202-205-3205):

Cynthia Trainor, investigator (202-205-3354; E-mail cynthia.trainor@USITC.GOV)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.--This proceeding was instituted in response to a petition filed on March 31, 2011 by Clariant Corp., Charlotte, NC. Antidumping duties may be assessed on the subject imports as a result of this proceeding if the Commission makes an affirmative determination of injury, threat, or material retardation, and if the U.S. Department of Commerce makes an affirmative determination of dumping.

Questionnaires and other information pertinent to this proceeding are available at http://www.usitc.gov/trade_remedy/731_ad_701_cvd/investigations/2011/stilbenic_optical_brightening_agents/finalphase.htm. Address all correspondence to the United States International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired individuals can obtain information regarding this proceeding via the Commission's TDD terminal (202-205-1810).

Due date of questionnaire(s).--Return the completed questionnaire(s) to the United States International Trade Commission by **no later than January 17, 2012**. Although the enclosed postpaid envelope may be used to return the completed questionnaire, use of an overnight mail service may be necessary to ensure that your response actually reaches the Commission by **January 17, 2012**. If you do not use the enclosed envelope, please make sure the completed questionnaire is sent to the attention of Cynthia Trainor. **Return only one copy of the completed questionnaire(s), but please keep a copy for your records so that you can refer to it if the Commission staff contacts you with any questions during the course of the proceeding.**

Service of questionnaire response(s).--In the event that your firm is a party to this proceeding, you are required to serve a copy of the questionnaire(s), once completed, on parties to the proceeding that are subject to administrative protective order (see 19 CFR § 207.7). A list of such parties is maintained by the Commission's Secretary and may be obtained by calling 202-205-1803. A certificate of service must accompany the copy of the completed questionnaire(s) you submit (see 19 CFR § 207.7).

Confidentiality.--The commercial and financial data furnished in response to the enclosed questionnaire(s) that reveal the individual operations of your firm will be treated as confidential by the Commission to the extent that such data are not otherwise available to the public and will not be disclosed except as may be required by law (see 19 U.S.C. § 1677f). Such confidential information will not be published in a manner that will reveal the individual operations of your firm; however, nonnumerical characterizations of numerical business proprietary information (such as discussion of trends) will be treated as confidential business information only at the request of the submitter for good cause shown.

GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

Verification.--The information submitted in the enclosed questionnaire(s) is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. To facilitate possible verification of data, please keep all your workpapers and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire response(s).

Release of information.--The information provided by your firm in response to the questionnaire(s), as well as any other business proprietary information submitted by your firm to the Commission in connection with the proceeding, may become subject to, and released under, the administrative protective order provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1677f) and section 207.7 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.7). This means that certain lawyers and other authorized individuals may temporarily be given access to the information for use in connection with this proceeding or other import-injury proceedings conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise; those individuals would be subject to severe penalties if the information were divulged to unauthorized individuals.

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer all questions.--Do not leave any question or section blank unless a questionnaire expressly directs you to skip over certain questions or sections. If the answer to any question is "none," write "none." **If information is not readily available from your records in exactly the form requested, furnish carefully prepared estimates--designated as such by the letter "E"--and explain the basis of your estimates.** Answers to questions and any necessary comments or explanations should be supplied in the space provided or on separate sheets attached to the appropriate page of the questionnaire(s). If your firm is completing more than one questionnaire in connection with this proceeding (i.e., a producer, importer, purchaser, and/or foreign producer questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions in the questionnaires.

Consolidate all establishments in CHINA AND/OR TAIWAN.--Report the requested data for your establishment(s) located in **CHINA AND/OR TAIWAN**. **Firms operating more than one establishment should combine the data for all establishments into a single report.**

Filing instructions.—Questionnaires may be filed either in paper form or electronically.

Electronic completion.--Your firm is encouraged (but not required) to complete the questionnaire electronically in MS Word format. The MS Word versions of all the questionnaires in this proceeding are available online at the ITC web page or may be obtained directly from the Commission's Investigator, **Cynthia Trainor (cynthia.trainor@usitc.gov, or 202-205-3354).**

INSTRUCTIONS--Continued

Electronic submission.--To the degree that it is possible and not overly burdensome, the Commission requests that responding firms submit their questionnaire responses electronically in MS Word format. The submission of questionnaire responses in the MS Word format allows the Commission to compile, assess, and analyze submitted data more promptly. There are three electronic submissions options detailed below. Paper submissions are also accepted.

SUBMISSION OPTIONS

• **Upload via Secure Drop Box.**—Upload the completed questionnaire in MS Word format along with a scanned copy of the signed certification page (page 1) through the Commission’s secure upload facility:

Web address: <https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/> *Pin:* CSOBA

• **E-mail.**—E-mail your questionnaire to the investigator identified on page 1 of the Instruction Booklet; include a scanned PDF of the signed certification page (page 1). Type the following in the e-mail subject line: BPI Questionnaire, **INV. NO. 1186**. *Please note that submitting your questionnaire by e-mail may subject your firm’s business proprietary information to transmission over an unsecure environment and to possible disclosure. If you choose this option, the Commission warns you that any risk involving possible disclosure of such information is assumed by the submitter and not by the Commission.*

• **Compact disc (CD).**—Copy your questionnaire onto a CD, include a signed certification page (page 1) (either in paper form or scanned PDF copied onto CD), and mail to the address above. *It is strongly recommended that you use an **overnight mail service**. U.S. mail sent to government offices undergoes additional processing which not only results in substantial delays in delivery but may also damage CDs.*

• **U.S. mail or overnight mail service.**—Mail to the following address:

**United States International Trade Commission
Office of Investigations, Room 615
500 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024 (overnight)
Washington, DC 20436 (U.S. mail)**

• **Fax.**—Fax to 202.205.3205.

Note: If you are a party to the proceeding, and service of the questionnaire is required, such service should be made in paper form. Pursuant to the applicable Commission rules for the purposes of service. However, all parties are instructed to encourage their clients to complete the questionnaires electronically and to forward any electronically completed questionnaires in the underlying MS Word format to the commission’s Investigator (email or upload) at the time of service.

DEFINITIONS

Product.— The **certain stilbenic optical brightening agents (CSOBAs)** covered by these investigations are all forms (whether free acid or salt) of compounds known as triazinylaminostilbenes (i.e., all derivatives of 4,4'-bis[1,3,5-triazin-2-yl]amino-2,2'-stilbenedisulfonic acid), except for compounds listed in the following paragraph. The certain stilbenic OBAs covered by these investigations include final stilbenic OBA products, as well as intermediate products that are themselves triazinylaminostilbenes produced during the synthesis of final stilbenic OBA products.

The compounds **excluded** from these investigations are all forms of 4,4'-bis[4-anilino-6-morpholino-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl]amino-2,2'-stilbenedisulfonic acid, C₄₀H₄₀N₁₂O₈S₂. (“**Fluorescent Brightener 71**”). These investigations cover the above-described compounds in any state (including but not limited to powder, slurry, or solution), of any concentrations of active certain stilbenic OBA ingredient, as well as any compositions regardless of additives (i.e., mixtures or blends, whether of certain stilbenic OBAs with each other, or of certain stilbenic OBAs with additives that are not certain stilbenic OBAs), and in any type of packaging.

These stilbenic OBAs (CSOBAs) are classifiable under subheading 3204.20.80 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS), but they may also enter under subheadings 2933.69.6050, 2921.59.40, and 2921.59.8090. Although the HTS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise is dispositive.

CSOBAs are characterized by (a) diamminostilbene disulfonic acid (“DAS”) as the central moiety in the chemical structure of the molecule; (b) 1,3,5-triazine moieties bonded to the amino groups at the 4 and 4' positions of the DAS moiety; and (c) variable atoms or moieties bonded to the 4 and 6 positions of the 1,3,5-triazine moieties. One of these positions, the 4 or 6, of the 1,3,5-triazine moieties is typically occupied by an aniline moiety with zero, one, or two sulfonate functional groups. The other position, the 6 or 4, of the 1,3,5-triazine moieties is typically occupied by an amino moiety. In triazinylaminostilbenes that are intermediate products produced during the synthesis of final OBAs, the 4 and/or 6 positions may be occupied by chlorine atoms. CSOBAs may be grouped into three categories depending on the number of sulfonate groups on the final molecule:

Di-category: a total of two sulfonate groups, which are located at the 2 and 2' positions of the DAS moiety; in solution, the Di-category has approximately 20 percent active ingredient.

Tetra-category: a total of four sulfonate groups, which are located at the 2 and 2' positions of the DAS moiety, and at one of the open positions on each of the two aniline moieties (typically at the 4 position); in solution, the Tetra-category has approximately 23 percent active ingredient.

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Hexa-category: a total of six sulfonate groups, which are located at the 2 and 2' positions of the DAS moiety, and at two of the open positions on each of the two aniline moieties (typically at the 2 and 5 positions); in solution, the Hexa-category has approximately 16 percent active ingredient.

Firm.--An individual proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, association, corporation (including any subsidiary corporation), business trust, cooperative, trustee in bankruptcy, or receiver under decree of any court.

Related firm.--A firm that your firm solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled; a firm that solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled your firm; and/or a firm that was solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled by a firm that also solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled your firm.

Establishment.--Each facility of a firm in **CHINA AND/OR TAIWAN** involved in the production of **CSOBAs** (as defined above), including auxiliary facilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate from) such facilities.

United States.--For purposes of this proceeding, the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia.

Importer.--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing **CSOBAs** (as defined above) into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Average production capacity.--The level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the specified periods. Assume normal operating conditions (i.e., using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate; normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year) and time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup; and a typical or representative product mix). **Report quantities in (1) 1,000 pounds (total, on a 100 percent active ingredient basis); (2) 1,000 pounds (in solution, as produced/sold); and (3) 1,000 pounds (in powder, as produced/sold). When reporting (2) and (3), report the corresponding weighted average percentage of active ingredients contained.** These quantities should reconcile as follows: total quantity on a 100 percent active ingredient basis should equal the sum of the quantity in solution as produced/sold multiplied by the weighted average percentage of active ingredients contained in solution, plus the quantity in powder as produced/sold multiplied by the weighted average percentage of active ingredients contained in powder. For example, 1,000 pounds of 93 percent active powder converts to 930 pounds on a 100 percent active basis and 1,000 pounds of 22 percent active solution converts to 220 pounds on a 100 percent active basis. Therefore, if you report 1,000 pounds of 93 percent active powder and 1,000 pounds of 22 percent active solution, you would also report a total quantity of 1,150 pounds on a 100 percent active ingredient basis. Follow the same methodology for the reporting Fluorescent Brightener 71.

DEFINITIONS—*Continued*

Production.--All production in your establishment(s) in **CHINA AND/OR TAIWAN**, including production consumed internally within your firm. Quantities should be net of returns. **Report quantities in (1) 1,000 pounds (total, on a 100 percent active ingredient basis); (2) 1,000 pounds (in solution, as produced/sold); and (3) 1,000 pounds (in powder, as produced/sold).** **When reporting (2) and (3), report the corresponding weighted average percentage of active ingredients contained.** These quantities should reconcile as follows: total quantity on a 100 percent active ingredient basis should equal the sum of the quantity in solution as produced/sold multiplied by the weighted average percentage of active ingredients contained in solution, plus the quantity in powder as produced/sold multiplied by the weighted average percentage of active ingredients contained in powder. For example, 1,000 pounds of 93 percent active powder converts to 930 pounds on a 100 percent active basis and 1,000 pounds of 22 percent active solution converts to 220 pounds on a 100 percent active basis. Therefore, if you report 1,000 pounds of 93 percent active powder and 1,000 pounds of 22 percent active solution, you would also report a total quantity of 1,150 pounds on a 100 percent active ingredient basis. Follow the same methodology for reporting Fluorescent Brightener 71.

Shipments.--Shipments of products produced in your establishment(s) in **CHINA AND/OR TAIWAN**. Quantities should be net of returns. **Report quantities in (1) 1,000 pounds (total, on a 100 percent active ingredient basis); (2) 1,000 pounds (in solution, as produced/sold); and (3) 1,000 pounds (in powder, as produced/sold).** **When reporting (2) and (3), report the corresponding weighted average percentage of active ingredients contained.** These quantities should reconcile as follows: total quantity on a 100 percent active ingredient basis should equal the sum of the quantity in solution as produced/sold multiplied by the weighted average percentage of active ingredients contained in solution, plus the quantity in powder as produced/sold multiplied by the weighted average percentage of active ingredients contained in powder. For example, 1,000 pounds of 93 percent active powder converts to 930 pounds on a 100 percent active basis and 1,000 pounds of 22 percent active solution converts to 220 pounds on a 100 percent active basis. Therefore, if you report 1,000 pounds of 93 percent active powder and 1,000 pounds of 22 percent active solution, you would also report a total quantity of 1,150 pounds on a 100 percent active ingredient basis. Follow the same methodology for reporting Fluorescent Brightener 71.

Home market commercial shipments.--Shipments, other than internal consumption and transfers to related firms, within **CHINA AND/OR TAIWAN**.

Home market internal consumption/transfers to related firms.--Shipments made to related firms in **CHINA AND/OR TAIWAN**, including product consumed internally by your firm.

Export shipments.--Shipments to destinations outside **CHINA AND/OR TAIWAN**, including shipments to related firms.

Inventories--Finished goods inventory, not raw materials or work-in-progress.