



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 (Preliminary)**

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/prelimphase.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 April 15, 2011**. 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 April 15, 2011. 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.

INSTRUCTIONS--Continued

OPTIONS FOR FILING IN PAPER FORM

- **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**

- **Fax.**—Fax to 202.205.3205.
- **U.S. mail.**—Mail to the address above, but use zip code 20436. *This option is not recommended. U.S. mail sent to government offices undergoes additional processing to screen for hazardous materials; this additional processing results in substantial delays in delivery.*

OPTIONS FOR FILING ELECTRONICALLY

This questionnaire is available as a “fillable” form in MS Word format on the Commission’s website at

http://www.usitc.gov/trade_remedy/731_ad_701_cvd/investigations/2011/stilbenic_optical_brightening_agents/prelimphase.htm.

Please do not attempt to modify the format or permissions of the questionnaire document. You may complete the questionnaire electronically, print it out, and submit it in paper form as described above, or you may submit it electronically through one of the following means:

- **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.*
- **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. XXX**. *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.*

Note: If you are a party to the proceeding, and service of the questionnaire is required, such service should be made in paper form.

DEFINITIONS

Product.—The **certain stilbenic optical brightening agents (CSOBAs)** covered by this investigation are all forms whether free acid or salt of compounds known as triazinylaminostilbenes (i.e., all derivatives of 4'-bis[1,3,5-triazin-2-yl]amino-2,2'-stilbenedisulfonic acid), except for 4,4'-bis[4-anilino-6-morpholino-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl]amino-2,2'-stilbenedisulfonic acid, C₄₀H₄₀N₁₂O₈S₂ (“Fluorescent Brightener 71”). The certain stilbenic OBAs as covered by this investigation include final OBA products, as well as intermediate products that are themselves triazinylaminostilbenes produced during the synthesis of final OBA products. This investigation covers the above-described compounds in any state (including but not limited to powder, slurry, or solution), of any concentrations, as well as any compositions (i.e., mixtures or blends, whether of certain stilbenic OBAs with each other, or of certain stilbenic OBAs with other products), and in any type of packaging. Certain stilbenic OBAs are covered by subheadings 3204.20.80; 2921.59.40; and 2921.59.80.90 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS).

The compounds **excluded** from this investigation are all forms of the following, 4,4'-bis[4-anilino-6-morpholino-1,3,5-triazin-2yl]amino-2,2'-stilbenedisulfonic acid, C₄₀H₄₀N₁₂O₈S₂. This is also called “**Fluorescent Brightener 71**” and is not typically used as an optical brightener for paper products:

Certain stilbenic OBAs (CSOBAs) are characterized by (a) 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.

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.

DEFINITIONS--Continued

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. **Report quantities in both of two ways: in (1) 1,000 dry pounds (100 percent active ingredient basis) and (2) 1,000 pounds (in solution).** 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).

Production--All production in your establishment(s) in **CHINA AND/OR TAIWAN**, including production consumed internally within your firm. **Report quantities in both of two ways: in (1) 1,000 dry pounds (100 percent active ingredient basis) and (2) 1,000 pounds (in solution).** Quantities should be net of returns. To calculate dry pounds basis 100 percent active ingredient divide 95 by the percentage of active ingredient for each category of CSOBA: 20 for Di-category; 23 for Tetra-category; and 16 for Hexa-category. Follow similar methodology for the reporting of other CSOBAs and Fluorescent Brightener 71.

DEFINITIONS—*Continued*

Shipments.--Shipments of products produced in your establishment(s) in **CHINA AND/OR TAIWAN**. **Report quantities in both of two ways: in (1) 1,000 dry pounds (100 percent active ingredient basis) and (2) 1,000 pounds (in solution).** Quantities should be net of returns. To calculate dry pounds basis 100 percent active ingredient divide 95 by the percentage of active ingredient for each category of CSOBA: 20 for Di-category; 23 for Tetra-category; and 16 for Hexa-category. Follow similar methodology for the reporting of other CSOBAs and 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.