time. Requests would be made to the Board on a case-by-case basis.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ Staff has been designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

As part of the investigation, the Commerce examiner will hold a public hearing on June 15, 1995 at 9:00 a.m., City Council Chambers, Second Floor of City Hall, 151 SE Osceola Avenue, Ocala, Florida.

Public comment on the application is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is July 21, 1995. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to [75 days from date of publication]).

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available during this time for public inspection at the following locations:

Ocala Regional Library, Reference Section, 15 SE Osceola Avenue, Ocala, Florida 34471.

Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Room 3716, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

Dated: May 15, 1995.

John J. Da Ponte, Jr.,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 95–12498 Filed 5–19–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

International Trade Administration

[A–485–804, A–791–803]

Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigations: Circular Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe From Romania and South Africa

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 22, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Beck at (202) 482–3464 or Jennifer Stagner at (202) 482–1673, Office of Antidumping Investigations, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230.

INITIATION OF INVESTIGATIONS:

The Applicable Statute

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the statute are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments made to the Tariff Act of 1930 (the Act) by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (URAA).

The Petitions

On April 26, 1995, the Department of Commerce (the Department) received two petitions filed in proper form by Allied Tube and Conduit Corporation, Sawhill Tubular Division, LTV Steel Tubular Products Company, Sharon Tube Company, Laclede Steel Company, Wheatland Tube Company, and Century Tube Corporation (the petitioners), seven U.S. producers of circular welded non-alloy steel pipe. A supplement to the petitions was filed on May 8, 1995.

In accordance with section 732(b) of the Act, the petitioners allege that imports of circular welded non-alloy steel pipe from Romania and South Africa are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of section 731 of the Act, and that such imports are materially injuring, or threatening material injury to, a U.S. industry.

The petitioners state that they have standing to file the petitions because they are interested parties, as defined under section 771(9)(C) of the Act.

Determination of Industry Support for the Petitions

Section 732(c)(4)(A) of the Act requires the Department to determine, prior to the initiation of an investigation, that a minimum percentage of the domestic industry supports an antidumping petition. A petition meets these minimum requirements if (1) the domestic producers or workers who support the petition account for at least 25 percent of the total production of the domestic like product; and (2) the domestic producers or workers who support the petition account for 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.

A review of the production data provided in the petitions and other information readily available to the Department indicates that the petitioners account for more than 25 percent of the total production of the domestic like product and for more than 50 percent of that produced by companies expressing support for, or opposition to, the petitions. The Department received no expressions of opposition to the petitions from any interested party. Accordingly, the Department determines that these petitions are supported by the domestic industry.

Scope of the Investigations

For purposes of these investigations, circular welded non-alloy steel pipes (standard pipes) are all pipes and tubes, of circular cross-section, not more than 406.4 mm (16 inches) in outside diameter, regardless of wall thickness, surface finish (black, galvanized, or painted), end finish (plain end, bevelled end, threaded, or threaded and coupled), or industry specification (ASTM, proprietary, or other) used in, or intended for use in, standard or structural pipe applications.

The scope specifically includes, but is not limited to, all pipe produced to the ASTM A–53, ASTM A–120, ASTM A–135, ASTM A–795, and BS–1387 specifications. It also includes any pipe multiple-stencilled or multiple-certified to one of the above-listed specifications and to any other specification such as API–5L and API–5L X–42 specifications. Pipe produced to proprietary specifications, the API–5L, the API–5L X–42, or to any other non-listed specification is included within the scope of these investigations if used or intended for use in a standard pipe application, regardless of the *Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States* (*HTSUS*) category into which it was classified.

Standard pipe uses include the low-pressure conveyance of water, steam, natural gas, air, and other liquids and gases in plumbing and heating systems, air conditioning units, automatic sprinkler systems, and other related uses. Standard pipe may carry liquids at elevated temperatures but may not be subject to the application of external heat. Standard or structural pipe uses also include load-bearing applications in construction and residential and industrial fence systems. Standard pipe uses also include shells for the production of finished conduit and pipe used for the production of scaffolding.

These investigations do not cover: API line pipe that is used in oil or gas pipelines; mechanical tubing, whether or not cold-drawn, that enters the United States classified under *HTSUS* 7306.30.10 or 7306.30.50; tube and pipe hollows for redrawing that enter the United States classified under *HTSUS* 7306.30.50.35; and finished electrical conduit that enters the United States classified under *HTSUS* 7306.30.50.28. The investigation does cover conduit

shells that enter the United States classified under *HTSUS* 7306.30.50 including *HTSUS* 7306.30.50.28.

The scope of these investigations also covers pipe used for the production of scaffolding, but does not cover finished scaffolding. Pipe produced to the API specifications for oil country tubular goods (API 5CT) is not covered by the scope of these investigations, unless also certified to a listed standard pipe specification and used or intended for use in a standard pipe application.

The merchandise under investigation is currently classifiable under items 7306.30.10.00, 7306.30.50.25, 7306.30.50.32, 7306.30.50.40, 7306.30.50.55, 7306.30.50.85, and 7306.30.50.90 of the *HTSUS*. Although the *HTSUS* subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, our written description of the scope of these investigations is dispositive.

Although the Department is including end-use language in the scope for purposes of initiation, the Department intends to further consider its appropriateness. The Department currently is conducting a scope inquiry with respect to the antidumping duty orders on certain circular welded non-alloy steel pipe from Brazil, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, and Venezuela (see Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Scope Inquiry on Antidumping Duty Orders on Certain Circular Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe From Brazil, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, and Venezuela (59 FR 1929, January 13, 1994)). The final determination of that scope inquiry will affect the scope determination in these investigations.

The Department invites comments from interested parties addressing ''end-use'' as a scope criterion. Parties interested in commenting on the scope of these investigations should submit their comments no later than close of business June 30, 1995. Rebuttal comments will be accepted no later than close of business July 7, 1995.

Export Price and Normal Value

Romania

The petitioners based export price on the reported customs value for circular welded non-alloy steel pipe imported into the United States from Romania during the fourth quarter of 1994. This information was specific to standard pipe and not to a basket category of merchandise. The petitioners made adjustments to the price for foreign inland freight.

The petitioners assert that Romania is a non-market economy (NME) within the meaning of section 771(18) of the Act. Accordingly, the normal value of the product should be based on the producers' factors of production, valued in a surrogate market economy country. In previous investigations, the Department has determined that Romania is an NME, and section 771(18)(C)(i) of the Act provides that the presumption of NME status continues for the initiation of this investigation. See, e.g., Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Circular Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe from Romania 57 FR 42957 (September 17, 1992) (Standard Pipe from Romania). In the course of this investigation, all parties will have the opportunity to provide relevant information related to the issues of Romania's NME status and the granting of separate rates to individual exporters. See, e.g., Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Silicon Carbide from the PRC 59 FR 22585 (May 2, 1994).

In accordance with section 773(c)(3) of the Act, the petitioners based the Romanian producers' factors of production (*e.g.*, raw materials, labor, energy) on adjusted data from the public version of the information on the record in Standard Pipe from Romania. For the valuation of certain factors (steel coil, labor, electricity, water, and methane), the petitioners used surrogate information from Colombia pursuant to section 773(c)(4) of the Act. The petitioners contend that Colombia is the most appropriate surrogate country because it is similar to Romania in terms of per-capita gross national product trends and population levels and is a significant producer of steel pipe.

To value certain other minor factors, the petitioners used information from Thailand because they could not obtain information from Colombia. The petitioners used public surrogate information from Thailand that was used in Standard Pipe from Romania because this information was reasonably available to them. Where necessary, these values were adjusted for inflation.

Based on a comparison of the export price to normal value, the calculated dumping margin based on public information is 39.58 percent.

South Africa

The petitioners based export price on the reported customs value for circular welded non-alloy steel pipe imported into the United States from South Africa during the fourth quarter of 1994. This information was specific to standard pipe and not to a basket category of merchandise. The petitioners made no adjustments for foreign movement charges and other selling expenses.

The petitioners based normal value on actual home market price quotations from a South African distributor provided by a market researcher. The petitioners converted the unit price quotes in South African rand to U.S. dollars using the average exchange rate for the fourth quarter of 1994 and then adjusted the dollar unit price, where appropriate, for standard and early payment discounts.

Based on comparisons of export price to normal value, the calculated dumping margins for circular welded non-alloy steel pipe from South Africa range from 107.87 percent to 127.81 percent.

Fair Value Comparisons

Based on the data provided by the petitioners, there is reason to believe that imports of circular welded non-alloy steel pipe from Romania and South Africa are being, or likely to be, sold at less than fair value. If it becomes necessary at a later date to consider these petitions as a source of facts available under section 776 of the Act, we may review further the calculations.

Initiation of Investigations

We have examined the petitions on circular welded non-alloy steel pipe and have found that they meet the requirements of section 732 of the Act, including the requirements concerning allegations of the material injury or threat of material injury to the domestic producers of a domestic like product by reason of the complained-of imports, allegedly sold at less than fair value. Therefore, we are initiating antidumping duty investigations to determine whether imports of circular welded non-alloy steel pipe from Romania and South Africa are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value. Unless extended, we will make our preliminary determinations by October 5, 1995.

Distribution of Copies of the Petitions

In accordance with section 732(b)(3)(A) of the Act, copies of the public versions of the petitions have been provided to the representatives of the governments of Romania and South Africa. We will attempt to provide copies of the public versions of the petitions to all the exporters named in the petitions.

International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

We have notified the ITC of our initiations, as required by section 732(d) of the Act.

Preliminary Determination by the ITC

The ITC will determine by June 12, 1995, whether there is a reasonable indication that imports of circular welded non-alloy steel pipe from Romania and South Africa are causing material injury, or threatening to cause material injury, to a U.S. industry. A negative ITC determination on either investigation will result in the respective investigation being terminated; otherwise, these investigations will proceed according to statutory and regulatory time limits.

This notice is published pursuant to section 732(c)(2) of the Act.

Susan G. Esserman,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Dated: May 16, 1995.

[FR Doc. 95–12499 Filed 5–19–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

[C–557–806]

Extruded Rubber Thread From Malaysia; Preliminary Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of preliminary results of countervailing duty administrative review.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) is conducting an administrative review of the countervailing duty order on extruded rubber thread from Malaysia. We preliminarily determine the net bounty or grant to be 1.00 percent *ad valorem* for all manufacturers and exporters of Malaysian extruded rubber thread for the period January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1993. If the final results remain the same as these preliminary results of administrative review, we will instruct the U.S. Customs Service to assess countervailing duties as indicated above. Interested parties are invited to comment on these preliminary results.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 22, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Judy Kornfeld or Richard Herring, Office of Countervailing Compliance, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482–2786.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On August 25, 1992, the Department published in the **Federal Register** (57 FR 38472) the countervailing duty order on extruded rubber thread from Malaysia. On August 3, 1994, the Department published a notice of ''Opportunity to Request an Administrative Review'' (59 FR 39543) of this countervailing duty order. We received a timely request for review from respondents Heveafil Sdn. Bhd.(Heveafil), Filmax Sdn. Bhd.(Filmax), Rubberflex Sdn. Bhd.(Rubberflex), Filati Lastex Elastofibre Sdn. Bhd.(Filati), and Rubfil Sdn. Bhd.(Rubfil).

We initiated the review, covering the period January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1993, on September 16, 1994 (59 FR 47609). The review covers 5 manufacturers/exporters of the subject merchandise and 12 programs.

Applicable Statute and Regulations

The Department is conducting this administrative review in accordance with section 751(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the statute and to the Department's regulations are in reference to the provisions as they existed on December 31, 1994. However, references to the Department's Countervailing Duties; Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Request for Public Comments, 54 FR 23366 (May 31, 1989) (*Proposed Regulations*), are provided solely for further explanation of the Department's countervailing duty practice. Although the Department has withdrawn the particular rulemaking proceeding pursuant to which the Proposed Regulations were issued, the subject matter of these regulations is being considered in connection with an ongoing rulemaking proceeding which, among other things, is intended to conform the Department's regulations to the Uruguay Round Agreements Act. See 60 FR 80 (Jan. 3, 1995).

Scope of Review

Imports covered by this review are shipments of extruded rubber thread from Malaysia. Extruded rubber thread is defined as vulcanized rubber thread obtained by extrusion of stable or concentrated natural rubber latex of any cross sectional shape, measuring from 0.18 mm, which is 0.007 inch or 140 gauge, to 1.42 mm, which is 0.056 inch or 18 gauge, in diameter. Such merchandise was classifiable under item number 4007.00.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS). The HTS item number is provided for convenience and Customs purposes. The written description remains dispositive.

Calculation Methodology for Assessment and Deposit Purposes

We calculated the net bounty or grant on a country-wide basis by first calculating the bounty or grant rate for each company subject to the administrtative review. We then weight-averaged the rate received by each company, including those with *de minimis* and zero rates, using as the weight its share of total Malaysian exports to the United States of subject merchandise. We then summed the individual companies' weighted-average rates to determine the bounty or grant rate from all programs benefitting exports of subject merchandise to the United States.

Since the country-wide rate calculated using this methodology was above *de minimis*, as defined by 19 CFR 355.7 (1994), we proceeded to the next step and examined the net bounty or grant rate calculated for each company to determine whether individual company rates differed significantly from the weighted-average country-wide rate, pursuant to 19 CFR 355.22(d)(3). In calculating the individual company rates described above, only one rate was calculated for Heaveafil and Filmax because Heveafil and Filmax are related parties.

None of the companies had net bounty or grant rates which were significantly different pursuant to 19 CFR 355.22(d)(3). Therefore, all companies are assigned the country-wide rate.

Analysis of Programs

I. Programs Conferring Subsidies

A. Export Credit Refinancing (ECR) Program

The ECR program was established in order to promote: (1) Exports of manufactured goods and agricultural food products that have significant value-added and high local content, (2) greater domestic linkages in export industries, and (3) easy access to credit facilities. In order to accomplish this, the Bank Negara Malaysia, the central bank of Malaysia, provides order-based and pre- and post-shipment financing of exports through commercial banks for periods of up to 120 and 180 days, respectively, and certificate of performance (CP)-based pre-shipment financing. Order-based financing is provided for specific sales to specific markets. CP-based financing is a line of credit based on the previous 12 months'