CBP Successfully Enforces Antidumping Order on Glycine

U.S Customs and Border Protection (CBP) seized three large shipments of glycine valued at approximately $1.7 million and recovered $723,000 in unpaid duties after a comprehensive effort to identify violators of the antidumping order on glycine from China. CBP collected the duties as a result of an incorrect country of origin claim which circumvented the duties owed. Anti-smuggling statutes were used to enact the seizure, as the glycine was concealed in a container with non-infringing glucosamine.

Glycine is an amino acid commonly found in proteins with its uses ranging from an additive in pet food and animal feed to an anti-aging treatment. The antidumping order has been in place since 1995 and, due to continued evasion and efforts by the industry, the antidumping duty rate increased throughout the period to the current 453.79 percent. An additional order was created in 2012 to capture glycine classified as Indian, but with raw materials originating from China.

CBP’s approach to enforcing the glycine order has been multi-pronged, including extensive coordination with the industry to understand the industry and issues, targeting and exams at the port, a comprehensive survey by Regulatory Audit, and an in-depth review of potentially violative shipments.

“Collaboration across CBP entities is critical to ensure effective enforcement of anti-dumping orders,” said JoAnne Colonnello, Director of the Pharmaceutical, Health, and Chemical Center of Excellence and Expertise. “By leveraging resources, we can identify importers who willfully circumvent the law, interdict goods at the border, recover revenue and protect U.S. businesses from fraudulent trade practices.”

Audit of Antidumping Duties

CBP’s Regulatory Audit division completed an audit and found an importer underpaid antidumping duties of $5.6 million as the company claimed an antidumping rate of 71.71 percent instead of the actual 128.32 percent. The company was referred for audit based on concerns about the company importing xanthan gum from China without paying the correct duties.

AD/CVD Outreach to Chicago

CBP staff from the AD/CVD Division, Consumer Products Mass Merchandising Center, Regulatory Audit, and Laboratory and Scientific Services visited Edsal Manufacturing Co., Inc, the Chicago-based petitioner in the AD/CVD orders on Boltless Steel Shelving (A-570-018/C-570-019). Edsal officials provided insights regarding the commodity, world production, transport modes and extended their offer of assistance with CBP’s enforcement goals. The relief provided by the AD/CVD cases is assisting the company during its expansion of operations at a new Gary, Indiana facility.

CBP Steel Seminar in Laredo, Texas

U.S. steel industry representatives provided a steel seminar for CBP staff and customs brokers in Laredo Texas on February 24 and 25, 2016. These seminars are a joint initiative of the U.S. steel industry and CBP in which steel industry representatives provide two day seminars on steel manufacturing, classification and AD/CVD Orders at CBP ports of entry. They are intended for customs brokers, importers, and CBP, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other U.S. government trade agency personnel (including Commerce Department and U.S. International Trade Commission). The seminars also include meetings between steel industry representatives and U.S. government personnel on steel import compliance concerns. Following the seminar, CBP provided a tour of the port of Laredo’s cargo processing facility for the steel industry representatives.

CSMS Messages

CSMS #16-000169 Announcement of Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations: Stainless Steel Sheet and Strip from the People’s Republic of China.

On March 4, 2016, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) initiated its less-than-fair-value and countervailing duty investigations on “Stainless Sheet and Strip from China” (Initiation Notices). These investigations have been assigned the following case numbers: A-70-042 and C-570-043.