



## FACT SHEET

### **Commerce Initiates Antidumping Duty Investigation of Diffusion-Annealed, Nickel-Plated Flat-Rolled Steel Products from Japan**

- On April 17, 2013, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced the initiation of an antidumping duty (AD) investigation of imports of diffusion-annealed, nickel-plated flat-rolled steel products from Japan.
- The AD law provides U.S. businesses and workers with a transparent and internationally approved mechanism to seek relief from the market distorting effects caused by injurious dumping of imports into the United States, establishing an opportunity to compete on a level playing field.
- For the purpose of AD investigations, dumping occurs when a foreign company sells a product in the United States at less than its fair value.
- The petitioner for this investigation is Thomas Steel Strip Corporation (OH).
- The products covered by the scope of this investigation are flat-rolled, cold-reduced steel products, regardless of chemistry; whether or not in coils; either plated or coated with nickel or nickel-based alloys and subsequently annealed (*i.e.*, “diffusion-annealed”); whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastics or other metallic or nonmetallic substances; and less than or equal to 2.0 mm in nominal thickness. For purposes of this investigation, “nickel-based alloys” include all nickel alloys with other metals in which nickel accounts for at least 80 percent of the alloy by volume.

Imports of merchandise included in the scope of this investigation are classified primarily under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (“HTSUS”) subheadings 7212.50.0000 and 7210.90.6000, but may also be classified under HTSUS subheadings 7210.70.6090, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7219.90.0020, 7219.90.0025, 7219.90.0060, 7219.90.0080, 7220.90.0010, 7220.90.0015, 7225.99.0090, or 7226.99.0180. The foregoing HTSUS subheadings are provided only for convenience and customs purposes. The written description of the scope is dispositive.

- In 2012, imports of diffusion-annealed, nickel-plated flat-rolled steel products from Japan were valued at an estimated \$24.1 million.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to make its preliminary injury determination on or before May 13, 2013.
- If the ITC determines that there is a reasonable indication that imports from Japan materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, the investigation will continue, and Commerce will be scheduled to make its preliminary determination in September 2013, unless the statutory deadline is extended.

**ALLEGED DUMPING MARGINS:**

COUNTRY	DUMPING MARGINS
Japan	56.50 to 77.70 percent

**CASE CALENDAR:**

EVENT	DATE
Petition Filed	March 27, 2013
DOC Initiation Date	April 16, 2013
ITC Preliminary Determination*†	May 13, 2013
DOC Preliminary Determination	September 3, 2013
DOC Final Determination†	November 18, 2013
ITC Final Determination**†	January 2, 2014
Issuance of Order***	January 9, 2014

NOTE: Commerce preliminary and final determination deadlines are governed by statute. For AD investigations, the deadlines are set forth in sections 732(b) and 735(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended. These deadlines may be extended under certain circumstances.

†Where the deadline falls on a weekend/holiday, the appropriate date is the next business day.

\*If the ITC makes a negative preliminary determination of injury, the investigation is terminated.

\*\*This will take place only in the event of a final affirmative determination from Commerce.

\*\*\*This will take place only in the event of final affirmative determinations from Commerce and the ITC.

**IMPORT STATISTICS:**

Japan	2010	2011	2012
Volume (metric tons)	10,400	9,100	11,400
Value (USD)	19,775,000	19,543,000	24,082,000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas. (HTSUS 7212.50.0000). This HTSUS subheading may cover both subject and non-subject merchandise.

Subject merchandise may also enter under HTSUS 7210.90.6000, 7210.70.6090, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7219.90.0020, 7219.90.0025, 7219.90.0060, 7219.90.0080, 7220.90.0010, 7220.90.0015, 7225.99.0090, or 7226.99.0180, which cover significant amounts of non-subject merchandise. Therefore, these HTSUS subheadings have not been used for purposes of reporting import statistics.