



FACT SHEET

Department of Commerce Finds Unfair Dumping of Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags from Taiwan

- On March 19, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced its affirmative final determination in the antidumping duty (AD) investigation on imports of polyethylene retail carrier bags (plastic bags) from Taiwan.
- Dumping occurs when a foreign company sells a product in the United States at less than fair value.
- Commerce determined that producers/exporters from Taiwan have sold plastic bags in the United States at 36.54 to 95.81 percent less than fair value.
- Two mandatory respondents, Ipsido Corporation and TCI Plastic Co., Ltd., received final dumping rates of 95.81 and 36.54 percent, respectively. All other producer/exporters from Taiwan received a final dumping rate of 36.54 percent.
- The petitioners for this investigation are Hilex Poly Co., LLC, of Hartsville, SC, and Superbag Corporation of Houston, TX.
- The products subject to this investigation are plastic bags, which also may be referred to as t-shirt sacks, merchandise bags, grocery bags, or checkout bags. Plastic bags are classifiable under subheading 3923.21.0085 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). While the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and customs purposes, Commerce's written description of the subject merchandise governs the scope of this investigation.
- In 2009, imports of plastic bags from Taiwan were valued at an estimated \$19 million.

NEXT STEPS

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to issue its final injury determination on or about May 3.
- If the ITC makes an affirmative determination that imports of plastic bags from Taiwan materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, Commerce will issue an antidumping duty order. If the ITC makes a negative injury determination, the investigation will be terminated.

FINAL DUMPING MARGINS:

	PRODUCER/EXPORTER	DUMPING MARGIN
TAIWAN	Ipsido Corporation	95.81%
	TCI Plastic Co., Ltd.	36.54%
	All Others	36.54%

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	DATE
Petition Filed	March 31, 2009
Commerce Initiation	April 20, 2009
ITC Preliminary Determination	May 15, 2009
Commerce Preliminary Determination	October 19, 2009
Commerce Final Determination	March 18, 2010
ITC Final Determination*	May 3, 2010
Issuance of Order**	May 10, 2010

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

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

IMPORT STATISTICS:

TAIWAN	2007	2008	2009
Volume (Thousand Units)	3,988,867	4,575,499	2,323,000
Value (USD)	38,546,248	51,250,854	18,623,000

Source: Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, accessed through Global Trade Atlas (HTSUS 3923.21.0085).

* One unit equals one thousand bags.