



## **INSTRUCTION BOOKLET**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS FOR COMMISSION FOREIGN PRODUCER/EXPORTER QUESTIONNAIRES**

**Certain Seamless Carbon and Alloy Steel Standard,  
Line, and Pressure Pipe From China  
Investigation Nos. 701-TA-469 and 731-TA-1168 (Preliminary)**

*Further information.--If you have any questions concerning the enclosed questionnaire(s) or other matters related to this investigation, you may contact the following member of the Commission's staff (Fax 202-205-3205):*

*Joanna Lo, investigator (202-205-1888; E-mail [joanna.lo@USITC.GOV](mailto:joanna.lo@USITC.GOV))*

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Background.**--These investigations were instituted in response to a petition filed on September 16, 2009, counsel on behalf of U.S. Steel Corp., Pittsburgh, PA and V&M Star L.P., Houston, TX. Countervailing and/or antidumping duties may be assessed on the subject imports as a result of these investigations if the Commission makes affirmative determination(s) of injury, threat, or material retardation, and if the U.S. Department of Commerce makes affirmative determination(s) of subsidization and/or dumping.

Questionnaires and other information pertinent to these investigations are available at [http://www.usitc.gov/trade\\_remedy/731\\_ad\\_701\\_cvd/investigations/2009/seamless\\_SLP\\_pipe/pr\\_elimphase.htm](http://www.usitc.gov/trade_remedy/731_ad_701_cvd/investigations/2009/seamless_SLP_pipe/pr_elimphase.htm). Address all correspondence to the United States International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired individuals can obtain information regarding these investigations 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 SEPTEMBER 30, 2009**. 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 September 30, 2009. If you do not use the enclosed envelope, please make sure the completed questionnaire is sent to the attention of **Joanna Lo**. **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 investigations.**

**Service of questionnaire response(s).**--In the event that your firm is a party to these investigations, 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.

**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).**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued**

**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 investigations, 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 these investigations or other import-injury investigations 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 these investigations (i.e., a producer, importer, and/or purchaser questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions in the questionnaires.

**Consolidate all establishments in China.**--Report the requested data for your establishment(s) located in China. **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/2009/seamless\\_SLP\\_pipe/prelimphase.htm](http://www.usitc.gov/trade_remedy/731_ad_701_cvd/investigations/2009/seamless_SLP_pipe/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. NOS. 701-TA-469 and 731-TA-1168**. *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 investigations, and service of the questionnaire is required, such service should be made in paper form.

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Certain Seamless Carbon and Alloy Steel Standard, Line, and Pressure pipe (“seamless SLP pipe”)**.--Seamless SLP pipe comprise seamless carbon and alloy (other than stainless) steel standard, line, and pressure pipes and redraw hollows produced, or equivalent, to the American Society for Testing and Materials ("ASTM") A-53, ASTM A-106, ASTM A-333, ASTM A-334, ASTM A-335, ASTM A-589, ASTM A-795, and the American Petroleum Institute ("API") 5L specifications and meeting the physical parameters described in appendix A. The scope of these investigations also includes all other products used in standard, line, or pressure pipe applications and meeting the physical parameters described below and in appendix A, regardless of specification, with the exception of the exclusions discussed below.

Specifically included within the scope are seamless pipes and redraw hollows, less than or equal to 16 inches (406.4 mm) in outside diameter, regardless of wall-thickness, manufacturing process (hot-finished or cold-drawn), end finish (plain end, beveled end, upset end, threaded, or threaded and coupled), or surface finish (bare, lacquered or coated).

Specifically excluded from the scope are: (a) boiler tubing and mechanical tubing, if such products are not produced to ASTM A-53, ASTM A-106, ASTM A-333, ASTM A-334, ASTM A-335, ASTM A-589, ASTM A-795, and API 5L specifications and are not used in standard, line, or pressure pipe applications, and (b) finished and unfinished oil country tubular goods ("OCTG"), if covered by the scope of an antidumping duty order from the same country. If not covered by such an OCTG order, finished and unfinished OCTG are included in the scope when used in standard, line, or pressure applications.

The merchandise covered by this proceeding is currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (“HTSUS”) under statistical reporting numbers: 7304.19.1020, 7304.19.1030, 7304.19.1045, 7304.19.1060, 7304.19.5020, 7304.19.5050, 7304.31.3000, 7304.31.6050, 7304.39.0016, 7304.39.0020, 7304.39.0024, 7304.39.0028, 7304.39.0032, 7304.39.0036, 7304.39.0040, 7304.39.0044, 7304.39.0048, 7304.39.0052, 7304.39.0056, 7304.39.0062, 7304.39.0068, 7304.39.0072, 7304.51.5005, 7304.51.5060, 7304.59.6000, 7304.59.8010, 7304.59.8015, 7304.59.8020, 7304.59.8025, 7304.59.8030, 7304.59.8035, 7304.59.8040, 7304.59.8045, 7304.59.8050, 7304.59.8055, 7304.59.8060, 7304.59.8065, and 7304.59.8070.

Prior to February 3, 2007, the merchandise covered by this proceeding was classified in the HTSUS under statistical reporting numbers: 7304.10.1020, 7304.10.1030, 7304.10.1045, 7304.10.1060, 7304.10.5020, 7304.10.5050, 7304.31.3000, 7304.31.6050, 7304.39.0016, 7304.39.0020, 7304.39.0024, 7304.39.0028, 7304.39.0032, 7304.39.0036, 7304.39.0040, 7304.39.0044, 7304.39.0048, 7304.39.0052, 7304.39.0056, 7304.39.0062, 7304.39.0068, 7304.39.0072, 7304.51.5005, 7304.51.5060, 7304.59.6000, 7304.59.8010, 7304.59.8015, 7304.59.8020, 7304.59.8025, 7304.59.8030, 7304.59.8035, 7304.59.8040, 7304.59.8045, 7304.59.8050, 7304.59.8055, 7304.59.8060, 7304.59.8065, and 7304.59.8070.

## **DEFINITIONS--Continued**

**Small diameter seamless SLP pipe.**--Small diameter seamless SLP pipe refer to subject seamless SLP pipes that are less than or equal to 114.3 mm (4.5 inches) in outside diameter, regardless of wall thickness.

**Large diameter seamless SLP pipe.**--Large diameter seamless SLP pipe refer to subject seamless SLP pipes that greater than 114.3 mm (4.5 inches) but less than or equal to 406.4 mm (16.0 inches) in outside diameter, regardless of wall thickness.

**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 involved in the production of seamless SLP pipe (as defined above), including auxiliary facilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate from) such facilities.

**United States.**--For purposes of this investigation, 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 seamless SLP pipe (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. 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, including production consumed internally within your firm.

**DEFINITIONS--Continued**

**Shipments**--Shipments of products produced in your establishment(s) in China. Quantities reported should be net of returns.

**Home market commercial shipments**--Shipments, other than internal consumption and transfers to related firms, within China.

**Home market internal consumption/transfers to related firms**--Shipments made to related firms in China, including product consumed internally by your firm.

**Export shipments**--Shipments to destinations outside China, including shipments to related firms.

**Inventories**--Finished goods inventory, not raw materials or work-in-progress.

**APPENDIX A**  
**SPECIFICATIONS, CHARACTERISTICS, AND USES**  
**OF SEAMLESS SLP PIPE**



## APPENDIX A

Seamless pressure pipes are intended for the conveyance of water, steam, petrochemicals, chemicals, oil products, natural gas, and other liquids and gasses in industrial piping systems. They may carry these substances at elevated pressures and temperatures and may be subject to the application of external heat. Seamless carbon steel pressure pipe meeting the ASTM A-106 standard may be used in temperatures of up to 1000 degrees Fahrenheit, at various American Society of Mechanical Engineers ("ASME") code stress levels. Alloy pipes made to ASTM A-335 standard must be used if temperatures and stress levels exceed those allowed for ASTM A-106. Seamless pressure pipes sold in the United States are commonly produced to the ASTM A-106 standard.

Seamless standard pipes are most commonly produced to the ASTM A-53 specification and generally are not intended for high temperature service. They are intended for the low temperature and pressure conveyance of water, steam, natural gas, air and other liquids and gasses in plumbing and heating systems, air conditioning units, automatic sprinkler systems, and other related uses. Standard pipes (depending on type and code) may carry liquids at elevated temperatures but must not exceed relevant ASME code requirements. If exceptionally low temperature uses or conditions are anticipated, standard pipe may be manufactured to ASTM A-333 or ASTM A-334 specifications.

Seamless line pipes are intended for the conveyance of oil and natural gas or other fluids in pipe lines. Seamless line pipes are produced to the API 5L specification.

Seamless water well pipe (ASTM A-589) and seamless galvanized pipe for fire protection uses (ASTM A-795) are used for the conveyance of water.

Seamless pipes are commonly produced and certified to meet ASTM A-106, ASTM A-53, API 5L-B, and API 5L-X42 specifications. To avoid maintaining separate production runs and separate inventories, manufacturers typically triple or quadruple certify the pipes by meeting the metallurgical requirements and performing the required tests pursuant to the respective specifications. Since distributors sell the vast majority of this product, they can thereby maintain a single inventory to service all customers.

The primary applications of ASTM A-106 pressure pipes and triple or quadruple certified pipes are: (1) use in oil and gas distribution lines for commercial applications; (2) use in pressure piping systems by refineries, petrochemical plants, and chemical plants; (3) use in power generation plants (electrical-fossil fuel or nuclear) and (4) use in some oil field uses (on shore and off shore) such as for separator lines, gathering lines, and metering runs. These applications constitute the majority of the market for the subject seamless pipe. However, ASTM A-106 pipes may be used in some boiler applications.

Redraw hollows are any unfinished pipe or "hollow profiles" of carbon or alloy steel transformed by hot rolling or cold drawing / hydrostatic testing or other methods to enable the material to be sold under ASTM A-53, ASTM A-106, ASTM A-333, ASTM A-334, ASTM A-335, ASTM A-589, ASTM A-795, and API 5L specifications.

## **APPENDIX A—Continued**

The scope of these investigations includes all seamless pipe meeting the physical parameters described above and produced to one of the specifications listed above, regardless of application, with the exception of the specific exclusions discussed below, whether or not also certified to a non-covered specification. Standard, line, and pressure applications and the above-listed specifications are defining characteristics of the scope of these investigations. Therefore, seamless pipes meeting the physical description above, but not produced to the ASTM A-53,

ASTM A-106, ASTM A-333, ASTM A-334, ASTM A-335, ASTM A-589, ASTM A-795, and API 5L specifications shall be covered if used in a standard, line, or pressure application, with the exception of the specific exclusions for boiler tubing, mechanical tubing, and OCTG discussed earlier in the product definition.

For example, there are certain other ASTM specifications of pipe which, because of overlapping characteristics, could potentially be used in ASTM A-106 applications. These specifications generally include ASTM A-161, ASTM A-192, ASTM A-210, ASTM A-252, ASTM A-501, ASTM A-523, ASTM A-524, and ASTM A-618. When such pipes are used in a standard, line, or pressure pipe application, with the exception of the specific exclusions for boiler tubing, mechanical tubing, and OCTG discussed earlier in the product definition, such products are covered by the scope of these investigations.