



INSTRUCTION BOOKLET

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

**Xanthan Gum from Austria and China
Investigation Nos. 731-TA-1202-03 (Preliminary)**

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

Cynthia Trainor, investigator (202-205-205-3354; E-mail cynthia.trainor@USITC.GOV)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.--This proceeding was instituted in response to a petition filed on June 5, 2012 by CP Kelco US, Atlanta, GA. Antidumping duties may be assessed on the subject imports as a result of this proceeding if the Commission makes an affirmative determination of injury, threat, or material retardation, and if the U.S. Department of Commerce makes an affirmative determination of dumping.

Questionnaires and other information pertinent to this proceeding are available at http://www.usitc.gov/trade_remedy/731_ad_701_cvd/investigations/2012/xanthan_gum/prelimphase.htm. Address all correspondence to the United States International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired individuals can obtain information regarding this proceeding via the Commission's TDD terminal (202-205-1810).

Due date of questionnaire(s).--**Please submit the completed questionnaire(s) to the United States International Trade Commission so as to be received by no later than June 19.** Because Commission staff might contact you with questions during the course of the proceeding, save the final version of the document(s) and retain all files and worksheets associated with the completed questionnaire(s). Please also retain a copy of any paper original document that you submit.

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

GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

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 files, worksheets, and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire response(s).

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

Consolidate all establishments in Austria and/or China.--Report the requested data for your establishment(s) located in Austria and/or China. **Firms operating more than one establishment should combine the data for all establishments into a single report.**

Electronic completion.--Your firm is encouraged to complete the questionnaire electronically in MS Word format. The MS Word versions of all the questionnaires in this proceeding are available online at the ITC web page or may be obtained directly from the **Commission's Investigator, Cynthia Trainor (cynthia.trainor@usitc.gov, or 202-205-3354).**

Electronic submission.--To the degree that it is possible and not overly burdensome, the Commission requests that responding firms submit their questionnaire responses electronically in MS Word format. The submission of questionnaire responses in the MS Word format allows the Commission to compile, assess, and analyze submitted data more promptly. There are three electronic submissions options detailed below. Paper submissions are also accepted.

INSTRUCTIONS--Continued

OPTIONS FOR FILING

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/2012/xanthan_gum/prelimphase.htm. *Please do not attempt to modify the format or permissions of the questionnaire document.* You may complete the questionnaire and submit it, electronically, or you may print it out and submit it in paper form, as described below:

- **Upload via Secure Drop Box.**—Upload the completed questionnaire in MS Word format along with a scanned copy of the signed certification page (page 1) through the Commission’s secure upload facility:

Web address: <https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/> *Pin:* XGUM

- **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. 731-TA- 1202-03.** *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.*

- **Fax.**—Fax to 202.205.3205.

- **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**

- **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.*

Note: If you are a party to the proceeding, and service of the questionnaire is required, such service should be made in paper form.

DEFINITIONS

Product.— Dry xanthan gum, whether or not coated, blended with other products (“blends”), regardless of physical form, including but not limited to solutions, slurries, dry powders of any particle size, or unground fiber. A blend is defined as a mix of xanthan gum and any other product(s) where the resulting mix contains 15 percent or more of xanthan gum by dry weight. Other products with which xanthan gum may be blended include, but are not limited to, sugars, minerals, and salts.

Xanthan gum is a polysaccharide produced by fermentation via *Xanthomonas campestris*, and is chemically described as an acidic heteropolymer made up of pentasaccharide repeat units, forming a cellulose backbone with trisaccharide side-chains composed of β -D-Manp-((1→4)- β -D-GlcpA-(1→2)- α -D-Manp-(1→ attached to alternate glucose residues in the backbone by α -1,3 linkages). While the structure of the xanthan carbohydrate components is highly conserved, the mannose residues of the repeat units can be acetylated and pyruvylated at varying degrees. Xanthan gum, whether or not coated, is classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) at subheading 3913.90.20. This tariff classification is provided for convenience and customs purposes; however, the written description of the scope is dispositive.

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 Austria and/or China involved in the production of xanthan gum (as defined above), including auxiliary facilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate from) such facilities.

United States.--For purposes of this proceeding, 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 xanthan gum (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).

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Production--All production in your establishment(s) in Austria and/or China, including production consumed internally within your firm.

Shipments--Shipments of products produced in your establishment(s) in Austria and/or China. Quantities reported should be net of returns.

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

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

Export shipments--Shipments to destinations outside Austria and/or China, including shipments to related firms.

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