## U.S. PURCHASERS' QUESTIONNAIRE

## HARDWOOD PLYWOOD FROM CHINA

#### This questionnaire must be received by the Commission by no later than July 29, 2013

#### See page 4 of the Instruction Booklet for filing instructions.

The information called for in this questionnaire is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its countervailing duty/antidumping investigation(s) concerning hardwood plywood from China (Inv. Nos. 701-TA-490 and 731-TA-1204 (Final)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII. This report is mandatory and failure to reply as directed can result in a subpoena or other order to compel the submission of records or information in your possession (19 U.S.C. § 1333(a)). Further information on this questionnaire can be obtained from James Fetzer (202-708-5403, james.fetzer@usitc.gov).

Name of fi	rm					
			Zip Code			
World Wi	de Web address					
•	m purchased hardwood plywood (a ny time since January 1, 2010?	s defined in the ir	struction booklet) from any source (domestic or			
<b>NO</b>	(Sign the certification below and pr	comptly return only	this page of the questionnaire to the Commission)			
<b>YES</b>	(Read the instruction booklet carefully, complete all parts of the questionnaire, and return the entire questionnaire to the Commission so as to be received by the date indicated above)					
Return questionnaire via the U.S. International Trade Commission <i>Drop Box</i> by clicking on the following link: <u>https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/</u> . (use the following PIN: HPFC)						

## CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information herein supplied in response to this questionnaire is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and understand that the information submitted is subject to audit and verification by the Commission.

By submitting this certification I also grant consent for the Commission, and its employees and contract personnel, to use the information provided in this questionnaire and throughout this proceeding in any other import-injury proceedings conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise.

I acknowledge that information submitted in this questionnaire response and throughout this proceeding may be used by the Commission, its employees, and contract personnel who are acting in the capacity of Commission employees, for developing or maintaining the records of this proceeding or related proceedings for which this information is submitted, or in internal audits and proceedings relating to the programs and operations of the Commission pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3. I understand that all contract personnel will sign non-disclosure agreements.

Name of Authorized Official	Title of Authorized Official	Date	
	Phone:		
Signature		Email address	
	Fax		

### PART I.—<u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u>

The questions in this questionnaire have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible. Public reporting burden for this questionnaire is estimated to average 25 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering the data needed, and completing and reviewing the questionnaire. Send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436.

I-1a. <u>**OMB statistics.--**</u>Please report the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of preparing the reply to this questionnaire and completing the form.

\_\_\_\_\_hours \_\_\_\_\_dollars

- I-1b. <u>**OMB feedback.--**</u>We are interested in any comments you may have for improving this questionnaire in general or the clarity of specific questions. Please attach such comments to your response or send them to the above address.
- I-2. **Establishments covered.--**Provide the name and address of establishment(s) covered by this questionnaire (see page 3 of the instruction booklet for reporting guidelines). If your firm is publicly traded, please specify the stock exchange and trading symbol.
- I-3. **Ownership.--**Is your firm owned, in whole or in part, by any other firm? No Yes--List the following information. Extent of Firm name Address ownership I-4. Related SUBJECT importers/exporters.--Does your firm have any related firms, either domestic or foreign, which are engaged in importing hardwood plywood from China into the United States or which are engaged in exporting hardwood plywood from China to the United States? No Yes--List the following information. Address Affiliation Firm name

# PART I.--<u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u>--Continued

<b>Related NONSUBJECT importers/exporters</b> Does your firm have any related firms, eithe domestic or foreign, which are engaged in importing hardwood plywood from countries other than China into the United States or which are engaged in exporting hardwood plywood from countries other than China to the United States?					
🗌 No	YesList th	ne following information.			
<u>Firm name a</u>	nd country	Address	Affiliation		
		r firm have any related firms, eit f hardwood plywood?	her domestic or foreign, which		
No No	YesList th	ne following information.			
Firm name		Address	Affiliation		
Firm name		Address	<u>Affiliation</u>		
Firm name		Address	<u>Affiliation</u>		

## PART II.--PURCHASES

<u>**Contact information.**</u>-- Please identify the responsible individual and the manner by which Commission staff may contact that individual regarding the confidential information submitted in this questionnaire.

Name	
Title	
Email	
Telephone	
Fax	

II-1. **<u>Purchases</u>.-**Report, as indicated below, your firm's purchases (either directly or through a sales agent or broker) of hardwood plywood. Report based on delivery date, not order date.

ltem	2010	2011	2012	January- June 2012
Purchases of hardwood plywood produced in The United States: Quantity (1,000 square feet)				
China: Quantity (1,000 square feet)				
All other countries: <sup>1</sup> Quantity (1,000 square feet)				
<sup>1</sup> Please identify these countries:				

II-2. <u>Changes in purchasing patterns</u>.—Please indicate how the relative levels of your firm's purchases of hardwood plywood from different sources have changed in the last three years.

Source of purchases	Did not purchase	Decreased	Increased	Constant	Fluctuated	Explanation for trend
United States						
China						
All other countries						

## PART II.--<u>PURCHASES</u>--Continued

- II-3. **<u>Purchases from one country only</u>**.--If your firm has purchased hardwood plywood from only one country, please explain the reasons for doing so.
- II-4. **Supplier identification.-**-Please list your firm's **FIVE** largest suppliers for hardwood plywood since 2010. Also, provide the share of the quantity of your firm's total purchases of hardwood plywood that each of these suppliers accounted for in 2012.

No.	Supplier's name	City and state	Share of quantity of 2012 purchases
1			%
2			%
3			%
4			%
5			%

### PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES

III-1. **<u>Firm type</u>.--**Which of the following best describes your firm as a purchaser of hardwood plywood (check all that apply)?

End user	
Distributor	
Other (Describe:	

III-3.

III-2. <u>Competition for sales</u>.--If you are a <u>distributor</u> or <u>reseller</u> of hardwood plywood, do you compete for sales to your customers with the manufacturers or importers from which you purchase hardwood plywood?

🗌 No	YesPlease describe.
	<b>mers</b> If your firm is a <u>distributor</u> or <u>reseller</u> of hardwood plywood, what are the consumers to which you sell hardwood plywood?

## If your firm is an end user of PRODUCT, please answer questions III-4 and III-5.

III-4. <u>End uses</u>.--List the top 3 products you make using hardwood plywood **and** estimate the percent of your <u>total production cost</u> that is accounted for by hardwood plywood and by other inputs (such as labor, energy, and other raw materials).

	Share of total cost in each of the product(s) you produce accounted for by				
Product(s) you produce	Hardwood plywood		Other inputs		Total
	%	+	%	=	100%
	%	+	%	=	100%
	%	+	%	=	100%

# PART III.--<u>MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES</u>--Continued

# III-5. Demand for end use products.--

	(a)	If your firm is an end user of hardwood plywood, has the demand for your firm's f products incorporating hardwood plywood changed since 2010?					
		Increased No change Decreased Fluctuated					
	(b)	Has this had any effect on your firm's demand for hardwood ply	wood?				
		No YesPlease describe.					
III-6.	<u>Substi</u>	bstitutesCan other products be substituted for hardwood plywood?					
		No YesPlease fill out the table below.					

		End use in which this		Have changes in the prices of this substitute affected the price for hardwood plywood?			
Substitute		substitute is used	No	Yes	Explanation		
1.							
2.							
3.							

## PART III.--<u>MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES</u>--Continued

III-7. <u>Demand trends</u>.-- Indicate how demand within the United States and outside of the United States (if known) for hardwood plywood has changed since January 1, 2010. Describe the principal factors that have affected these changes in demand.

Market	Increase	No change	Decrease	Fluctuate	Factors
Within the United States					
Outside the United States					

III-8. <u>Importance of purchasing domestic product</u>.--Is buying a product that is produced in the United States an important factor in your firm's purchases of hardwood plywood (check ALL that apply)?

🗌 No

- Yes--Purchases of domestic product are required by law or regulation (for example, government purchases under "Buy American" provisions). This involves \_\_\_\_\_ percent of all purchases of hardwood plywood.
- Yes--Purchases of domestic product are not required by law or regulation, but are by your customers. This involves \_\_\_\_\_ percent of all purchases of hardwood plywood.
- Yes--Purchases of domestic product are required for other reasons (please specify these reasons below). This involves \_\_\_\_\_ percent of all purchases of hardwood plywood.

### PART III.--<u>MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES</u>--Continued

#### III-9. Conditions of competition.--

a) Is the hardwood plywood market subject to business cycles (other than general economy-wide conditions) and/or other conditions of competition distinctive to hardwood plywood?

Yes-Business cycles (e.g. seasonal business).

Yes-Other distinctive conditions of competition.

If yes, describe below.

Business cycles	
Other conditions of competition	

(b) Have there been any changes in the business cycles or conditions of competition for hardwood plywood since January 1, 2010?

No

Yes-- Please describe.

III-10. **Decisions based on producer.--**Does your firm, and to the extent that you know, do your customers make purchasing decisions involving hardwood plywood based on the producer of the hardwood plywood you purchase?

	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Never	If at least sometimes, discuss how your firm/customers determine the producer and why this information is important
Your firm					
Your customers					

#### PART III.--<u>MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES</u>--Continued

III-11. <u>Decisions based on country-of-origin</u>.--Does your firm, and to the extent that you know, do your customers make purchasing decisions involving hardwood plywood based on the country of origin of the hardwood plywood you purchase?

	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Never	If at least sometimes, discuss how your firm/customers determine the source and why this information is important
Your firm					
Your customers					

#### III-12. Purchasing frequency.--

(a) How frequently do you make purchases of hardwood plywood (check one)?

Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually	Other	If other, specify

(b) Have you made significant changes in your purchasing patterns (e.g., frequency) since 2010?

No Yes—Please describe.

III-13. <u>Number of suppliers contacted</u>.--How many suppliers do you generally contact before making a purchase? \_\_\_\_\_ firms

# PART III.--<u>MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES</u>--Continued

# III-14. Supplier negotiations.--

	(a)	Do purchases of hardwood plywood usually involve negotiations between supplier and purchaser?
		No YesPlease describe these negotiations, noting whether purchasers generally quote competing prices as part of the negotiation process.
	(b)	Does your firm tend to vary its purchases from a given supplier within a specified time period based on the price offered for that period?
		No YesSpecify the time period.
III-15.	<u>Chang</u>	e in suppliersHave you changed suppliers since 2010?
	🗌 No	YesPlease list the supplier(s), whether the firm was added or dropped, the reasons for the change, and how frequently you change suppliers.
III-16.		<b>ppliers</b> Are you aware of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have the market since 2010?
	🗌 No	YesPlease identify the firms and indicate how you became aware of them.

### PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued

#### III-17. Supplier qualification

No

(a) Do you require your suppliers to be or to become certified or qualified to sell hardwood plywood to your firm?

No Yes	percent of purchases in 2012
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Yes--all purchases

(b) Please provide a general description of the certification or qualification process. Briefly describe the factors that you consider when qualifying a new supplier (e.g., quality of product, reliability of supplier, etc.)

(c) How long does it take to a	qualify a new supplier?	days
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III-18. **Failure to certify.--**Since 2010, have any domestic or foreign producers failed in their attempts to certify or qualify their hardwood plywood with your firm or have any producers lost their approved status?

Yes--Please identify these firms, the countries where they are located, and the reasons why they failed the certification/qualification process.

## PART III.--<u>MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES</u>--Continued

III-19. **Purchasing factors.--**For the factors listed below, please rate each in terms of its importance in your purchase decision for hardwood plywood.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
Availability			
Core material species (hardwood vs. softwood)			
Delivery time			
Discounts offered			
Extension of credit			
Minimum qty requirements			
Packaging			
Panel thickness			
Price			
Product consistency			
Quality exceeds industry standards			
Quality meets industry standards			
Product range			
Reliability of supply			
Technical support/service			
U.S. transportation costs			
Veneer thickness			

## PART III.--<u>MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES</u>--Continued

III-20. <u>Major purchasing factors</u>.--Please list, in order of their importance, the three major factors generally considered by your firm in deciding from whom to purchase hardwood plywood for any one order (examples include availability, extension of credit, contracts, price, quality, range of supplier's product line, traditional supplier, etc.).

1.	
2.	
3.	
Ot	her factors or comments:

III-21. <u>**Quality characteristics.--**</u>What characteristics does your firm consider when determining the quality of hardwood plywood?

III-22. **Frequency of decisions based on price.--**How often does your firm purchase the hardwood plywood that is offered at the lowest price?

Always	Usually	Sometimes	Never

III-23. <u>Price leaders</u>.— A price leader is defined as (1) one or more firms that initiate a price change, either upward or downward, that is followed by other firms, or (2) one or more firms that have a significant impact on prices. *A price leader is not necessarily the lowest priced supplier*.

Please list the names of any firms you considered price leaders in the hardwood plywood market since 2010. Describe how the firm(s) exhibited price leadership.

### PART III.--<u>MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES</u>--Continued

III-24. <u>Lacey Act procedures</u>.— Please describe any procedures you have instituted or implemented regarding your purchases of hardwood plywood to ensure compliance with the Lacey Act.

## III-25. Chain of custody certification and forest certification claim.

(a) Do you require your suppliers of hardwood plywood to have a chain of custody certification (ex. FSC, PEFC, SFI, etc.)? Explain if necessary below.

No Yes

(b) What percentage (in terms of volume) of the hardwood plywood that you purchase carries a formal certified forest content certification claim (ex. FSC, PEFC, SFI, etc.)?

\_\_\_\_\_ percent of purchases in 2012. Explain if necessary below.

# PART III.--<u>MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES</u>--Continued

III-26.	<b>Supply constraints.</b> Has any supplier refused, declined, or been unable to supply hardwood plywood to your firm since January 1, 2010 (examples include being placed on allocation or "controlled order entry," suppliers declining to accept you as a new customer or renewing your firm as an existing customer, suppliers delivering less than the quantity promised, suppliers being unable to meet timely shipment commitments, etc.)?
	No     Yes Please describe.
III-27.	<u>Veener and panel thickness</u> .—Is the thickness of the veneer an important factor in your purchases of hardwood plywood or is the thickness of the entire panel an important purchasing factor? Please explain below. (check all that apply)
	<ul> <li>The thickness of the veneer is an important factor</li> <li>The thickness of the entire panel is an important factor</li> <li>Neither the thickness of the veneer nor the thickness of the entire panel are important factors</li> </ul>
III-28.	<u>Veener thickness substitutability</u> .—In any applications where a thicker face veneer product could physically be substituted with a thin face veneer product (less than 0.4 mm), are there any additional product or utilization-related considerations that would limit such a substitution (e.g. suitability for sanding, exposed surfaces, lamination, staining/varnishing, painting, decorative applications, workability etc.) ?
	No Yes-Explain

## PART IV.—PRODUCT COMPARISONS

IV-1. <u>**Country knowledge.--**</u>Please indicate the countries of origin for hardwood plywood for which your firm has actual marketing/pricing knowledge.

United States

China

Other countries (specify \_\_\_\_\_\_

IV-2. **Interchangeability by country-pair.--**Is hardwood plywood produced in the United States and in other countries interchangeable (*i.e.*, can they physically be used in the same applications, such as cabinet fronts versus backs)?

Please indicate A, F, S, N, or 0 in the table below:

A = the products from a specified country-pair are *always* interchangeable

F = the products are *frequently* interchangeable

S = the products are *sometimes* interchangeable

N = the products are *never* interchangeable

0 = no familiarity with products from a specified country-pair

Country-pair	ountry-pair China Canada		Canada Indonesia Russia			
United States						
China						
Canada		$\ge$				
Indonesia						
Russia		$\searrow$				
			bod that is <i>sometir</i> .		hangeable,	

\_)

### PART IV.—<u>PRODUCT COMPARISONS</u>--Continued

IV-3. **Factors other than price.--**Are differences other than price (*i.e.*, quality, availability, transportation network, product range, technical support, *etc.*) between hardwood plywood produced in the United States and in other countries a significant factor in your firm's purchases of the products?

Please indicate A, F, S, N, or 0 in the table below:

A = such differences are *always* significant

F = such differences are *frequently* significant

S = such differences are *sometimes* significant

N = such differences are *never* significant

0 = no familiarity with products from a specified country-pair

United States			
China			
Canada			
Indonesia			
Russia		$\searrow$	
For any country-pair for which facto your firm's sales of hardwood plywo disadvantages imparted by such fac	ood, identify the country-pai		

# PART IV.—<u>PRODUCT COMPARISONS</u>--Continued

IV-4.	<u><b>Country preferences</b></u> Do you or your customers ever specifically order hardwood plywood from one country in particular over other possible sources of supply?								
	No YesPlease identify all relevant countries (including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries) from which you or your customers prefer to order, and indicate why hardwood plywood from these countries is preferred over product from other countries (please note the specific product in your response).								
IV-5.	<u>Availability of merchandise</u> Are certain grades/types/sizes of hardwood plywood available from only a single source (domestic or foreign, including both subject and nonsubject countries)?								
	No YesPlease identify the source and the grade/type/size.								
IV-6.	<u>Choice of product not based on price</u> If you purchased hardwood plywood from one source although a comparable product was available from another source at a lower price, please explain your reasons for doing so (please specify by country, including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries). Possibilities might include transaction characteristics such as length of time to fill orders, minimum order size, reliability of supply, etc.								

### PART IV.—PRODUCT COMPARISONS--Continued

IV-7. **Factor country comparisons.-**For the factors listed below, please rate how hardwood plywood produced in each country you identified in your response to the first question in Part IV compares with hardwood plywood produced in each of the other countries you identified (including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries).

	United cor	compared to compared to product from product from		product from <u>United States</u> compared to product from <u>Indonesia</u>					
	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability									
Core material species (hardwood vs. softwood)									
Delivery terms									
Delivery time									
Discounts offered									
Extension of credit									
Minimum quantity requirements									
Packaging									
Panel thickness									
Price <sup>1</sup>									
Product consistency									
Quality exceeds industry standards									
Quality meets industry standards									
Product range									
Reliability of supply									
Technical support/service									
U.S. transportation costs <sup>1</sup>									
Veneer thickness									

<sup>1</sup> A rating of superior on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second country.

## IV-7. *Continued.*

IV-7. <u>Continued.</u>	compared to compared to product from product from		product from China compared to product from <u>Canada</u>						
	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability									
Core material species (hardwood vs. softwood)									
Delivery terms									
Delivery time									
Discounts offered									
Extension of credit									
Minimum quantity requirements									
Packaging									
Panel thickness									
Price <sup>1</sup>									
Product consistency									
Quality exceeds industry standards									
Quality meets industry standards									
Product range									
Reliability of supply									
Technical support/service									
U.S. transportation costs <sup>1</sup>									
Veneer thickness									

<sup>1</sup> A rating of superior on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second country.

## PART IV.—<u>PRODUCT COMPARISONS</u>--Continued

# IV-7. *Continued.*

IV-7. <u>Commutu.</u>	product from China compared to product from Indonesia		product from <u>China</u> compared to product from <u>Russia</u>			product from China compared to product from Other			
	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability									
Core material species (hardwood vs. softwood)									
Delivery terms									
Delivery time									
Discounts offered									
Extension of credit									
Minimum quantity requirements									
Packaging									
Panel thickness									
Price <sup>1</sup>									
Product consistency									
Quality exceeds industry standards									
Quality meets industry standards									
Product range									
Reliability of supply									
Technical support/service									
U.S. transportation costs <sup>1</sup>									
Veneer thickness									

<sup>1</sup> A rating of superior on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second country.

# PART IV.—<u>PRODUCT COMPARISONS</u>--Continued

IV-8. <u>Minimum quality</u>.--How often does hardwood plywood from the following countries meet minimum quality specifications for your uses or your customers' uses?

Source	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely or never	Don't know
United States					
China					
Canada					
Indonesia					
Russia					
Other:					
Other:					