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## LOST SALES AND LOST REVENUE SURVEY

### CARTON CLOSING STAPLES FROM CHINA

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**This survey must be received by the Commission by April 14, 2017**  
***See last page for filing instructions.***

The information called for in this survey is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its Carton Closing Staples from China (Inv. No. 731-TA-1359 (Preliminary)). The information requested in the survey 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 survey can be obtained from Cindy Cohen (202-205-3230, cindy.cohen@usitc.gov).

**Name of firm** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Website** \_\_\_\_\_

Has your firm purchased carton closing staples (as defined on next page) at any time since January 1, 2014?

**NO** (Sign the certification below and promptly return **only** this page of the survey to the Commission)

**YES** (Complete all parts of the survey, and return the entire survey to the Commission)

**Return questionnaire via the U.S. International Trade Commission *Drop Box* by clicking on the following link: <https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/>. (PIN: **CCSC**)**

#### CERTIFICATION

*I certify that the information herein supplied in this survey 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 survey and throughout this proceeding in any other import-injury proceedings conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise.*

*I, the undersigned, acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this investigation or other proceeding may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. I understand that all contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of Authorized Official**                      **Title of Authorized Official**                      **Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**                      **Phone**                      **Email address**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Background.**--This proceeding was instituted in response to a petition filed on March 31, 2017, by North American Steel & Wire, Inc. /ISM Enterprises, Butler, PA. Antidumping duties may be assessed on the subject imports as a result of these proceedings if the Commission makes an affirmative determination of injury, threat, or material retardation, and if the U.S. Department of Commerce ("Commerce") makes an affirmative determination of dumping. Questionnaires and other information pertinent to this proceeding are available at [http://wwwadmin.usitc.gov/investigations/title\\_7/2017/carton\\_closing\\_staples\\_china/preliminary.htm](http://wwwadmin.usitc.gov/investigations/title_7/2017/carton_closing_staples_china/preliminary.htm)

**Carton closing staples** are fastening devices used to secure or close the flaps of corrugated and solid paperboard cartons and boxes. Carton-closing staples are manufactured from steel wire and commonly have a copper-coating or a zinc (galvanized) coating. Carton-closing staples manufactured from stainless steel wire are also covered.

Carton-closing staples include stick staple products, often referred to as staple strips, and roll staple products, often referred to as coils. Stick staples are lightly cemented or lacquered together to facilitate handling and loading into stapling machines. Roll staples are taped together along their crowns.

Carton-closing staples vary by the size of the wire, the width of the crown, and the length of a leg. The leg length ranges from 0.45 inch to 1.375 inches and the crown width ranges from 1.125 to 1.375 inches. The size of the wire used in the production of carton-closing staples varies from 0.033 to 0.058 inch (thickness) by 0.073 to 0.096 inch (width). Staples that deviate from these dimensions by 10 percent or less in any aspect are covered.

Two examples of basic carton-closing stick staples, although there are others, are the "A" staple and the "C" staple. The "A" staple has a crown of 1 3/8 inches (35 mm) and the "C" staple has a crown of 1 ¼ inches (32 mm). "A" staples are produced using wire that is 0.037" x 0.092" and are available with legs that are 5/8 inch, 3/4 inch, or 7/8 inch. "C" staples are produced using wire that is 0.037" x 0.074" and are available with legs that are 5/8 inch or 3/4 inch. Roll staples are produced in the same sizes and dimensions.

All carton-closing staples meeting the physical descriptions in this scope are covered, regardless of whether they are coated, uncoated, or the type of clothing, regardless of whether they are produced from steel wire or stainless steel wire, and regardless of whether they are imported in stick form or roll form.

Carton-closing staples subject to this investigation are currently imported under statistical reporting numbers 8305.20.0000 and 7317.00.6560 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTSUS"). The HTSUS provisions are for convenience and customs purposes; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

**Reporting of information.**-- If information is not readily available from your records, provide carefully prepared estimates.

**Confidentiality.**--The data furnished in response to this survey 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, general 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.

**Release of information.**--The information provided by your firm in response to this survey, as well as any other business proprietary information submitted by your firm to the Commission in connection with this 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. Please also retain a copy of the final document that you submit.

**Contact information.**--Please identify the responsible individual and the manner by which Commission staff may contact that individual regarding the confidential information submitted in this survey. This may or may not be the person whose signature is at the bottom of page 1.

Name	
Title	
Email	
Telephone	

**PURCHASE INFORMATION**

1. **Purchases.**—Report your firm’s total U.S. purchases of carton closing staples. Estimates are acceptable.

Item	2014	2015	2016
	Quantity (in 1,000s of staples)		
<b>Purchases of carton closing staples produced in--</b>			
United States			
China			
All other countries: <sup>1</sup>			
Sources unknown			
<b>Total purchases</b>	0	0	0
<sup>1</sup> Please identify these countries:			

2. **Changes in purchasing patterns.**--Please indicate how the shares of your firm’s purchases of carton closing staples from different sources have changed since January 1, 2014.

Source of purchases	Did not purchase	Decreased	Increased	Constant	Fluctuated	Explanation for trend
United States	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
All other countries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sources unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

3. **Major purchasing factors.**--Please list, in order of their importance, the main factors your firm considers in deciding from whom to purchase carton closing staples.

1.	
2.	
3.	
Please list any other factors that are very important in your purchase decisions:	

4. **Purchasing subject imports rather than domestic products.**—

(a) Since January 2014, did your firm purchase imports of carton closing staples from China instead of U.S.-produced carton closing staples?

Source	Yes (also respond to parts (b) and (c))	No (If “No”, skip to next question)
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If you responded “Yes” to part (a), was the imported product priced lower than the domestic product?

Source	Yes	No
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(c) If you responded “Yes” to part (a), was price a primary reason for purchasing subject imports rather than domestic product?

Source	Yes	If Yes, estimate the quantity of imports purchased instead of domestic product since January 2014 (in 1,000 staples)	No	If No, please indicate the reason your firm purchased imports instead of domestic product
China	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

5. **U.S. producers and import competition.**—

(a) Since January 1, 2014, in connection with a sale or offer to sell carton closing staples to your firm, did U.S. producers reduce their prices of domestically produced carton closing staples in order to compete with lower-priced imports of carton closing staples from the subject countries?

Source	Yes (also respond to question part (b))	No (If “No”, skip to next question)	Don’t know
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If your firm responded “yes” to any of the above countries, please provide an estimate of the reduction in U.S. producers’ prices, and any additional explanations, such as timing (e.g., months/years), frequency of price reductions, or other market/competitive factors.

Source	Estimated reduction in U.S. prices (percent)	Additional explanation, including such information as timing (e.g., months/years), frequency of price reductions, or other market/competitive factors
China	%	

6. **Method of purchase**--Please provide a general description of your firm’s method(s) of purchase (e.g., individual purchase, contract, bids, Internet purchases, etc.) for carton closing staples.

7. **Other explanations**--Please provide any additional comments in this box.

**OMB INFORMATION**

- 8. **OMB statistics.**--Please report the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of completing this survey.

Hours	Dollars

The questions in this survey 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 survey is estimated to average 4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering data, and completing and reviewing the survey.

We welcome comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate, suggestions for reducing the burden, and any suggestions for improving this survey. Please attach such comments to your response or send to the Office of Investigations, USITC, 500 E St. SW, Washington, DC 20436.

## HOW TO FILE YOUR SURVEY RESPONSE

***Please do not attempt to modify the format or permissions of the survey document.***

Please submit the completed survey using one of the methods noted below. If your firm is unable to complete the MS Word survey or cannot use one of the electronic methods of submission, please contact the Commission for further instructions.

- **Upload via Secure Drop Box.**—Upload the MS Word questionnaire 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:** **CCSC**

- **E-mail.**—E-mail the MS Word survey to [cindy.cohen@usitc.gov](mailto:cindy.cohen@usitc.gov); include a scanned copy of the signed certification page (page 1). *Submitters are strongly encouraged to encrypt nonpublic documents that are electronically transmitted to the Commission to protect your sensitive information from unauthorized disclosure. The USITC secure drop-box system and the Electronic Document Information System (EDIS) use Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 140-2 cryptographic algorithms to encrypt data in transit. Submitting your nonpublic documents by a means that does not use these encryption algorithms (such as by email) may subject your firm’s nonpublic information to unauthorized disclosure during transmission. If you choose a non-encrypted method of electronic transmission, the Commission warns you that the risk of such possible unauthorized disclosure is assumed by you and not by the Commission.*

**If your firm did not purchase this product**, please fill out page 1, print, sign, and submit a scanned copy to the Commission.