

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.--This proceeding was instituted in response to a petition filed on August 16, 2017, by Core Pipe Products, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois and Maass Flange Corporation, Houston, Texas. Antidumping and Countervailing 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 and subsidization. Questionnaires and other information pertinent to this proceeding are available at http://www.usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2017/stainless_steel_flanges_china_and_india/preliminary.htm.

SS flanges covered by this investigation are certain forged stainless steel flanges, whether unfinished, semi-finished, or finished, generally manufactured to the material specification of ASTM/ASME A/SA182, and made in alloys such as, but not limited to, 304, 304L, 316, and 316L (or combinations thereof). The scope includes six general types of flanges. They are: (1) weld neck, used in butt-weld line connection; (2) threaded, used for threaded line connections; (3) slip-on, used to slide over pipe; (4) lap joint, used with stub-ends/butt-weld line connections; (5) socket weld, used to fit pipe into a machine recession; and (6) blind, used to seal off a line. The sizes and descriptions of the flanges within the scope include all pressure classes of ASME B16.5 and range from one-half inch to twenty-four inches nominal pipe size. Specifically excluded from the scope of these orders are cast stainless steel flanges. Cast stainless steel flanges generally are manufactured to specification ASTM A351.

Unfinished stainless steel flanges possess the approximate shape of finished stainless steel flanges and have not yet been machined to final specification after the initial casting, forging, or like operations. These machining processes may include boring, facing, spot facing, drilling, tapering, threading, beveling, heating, or compressing.

The country of origin for certain forged stainless steel flanges, whether unfinished, semi-finished, or finished is the country where the flange was forged. Subject merchandise includes stainless steel flanges as defined above that have been further processed in a third country, including but not limited to processing such as boring, facing, spot facing, drilling, tapering, threading, beveling, heating, or compressing, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigations if performed in the country of manufacture of the stainless steel flanges.

Merchandise subject to the investigation is typically imported under subheadings 7307.21.1000 and 7307.21.5000 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS). While HTS subheadings are provided 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	

Firms operating more than one establishment should combine the data for all establishments into a single response.

PURCHASE INFORMATION

II-1. **Purchases and imports.**--Report your firm’s total domestic purchases and direct imports of SS flanges. Please report **separately** your domestic purchases and your direct imports (where your firm was the importer of record).

“Domestic Purchase” – Purchase from a U.S. entity such as a U.S. producer, a U.S. distributor, or a U.S. firm.

“Direct Import” – Purchase directly from a foreign supplier and your firm is the importer of record.

Item	2014	2015	2016
	Quantity (in 1,000 pounds)		
Domestic purchases of SS flanges produced in—			
United States			
China			
India			
All other countries: ¹			
Sources unknown			
Total purchases	0	0	0
Direct imports of SS flanges from—			
China			
India			
All other countries: ¹			
Total imports	0	0	0
¹ Please identify these countries:			

2. **Changes in purchasing patterns.**--Please indicate how the shares of your firm's purchases of SS flanges 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"/>	
India	<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 SS flanges.

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 SS flanges from China and/or India instead of U.S.-produced SS flanges? Respond for each subject country.

Source	Yes (also respond to parts (b) and (c))	No (If “No” for all countries, skip to next question)
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
India	<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"/>
India	<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 pounds)	No	If No, please indicate the reason your firm purchased imports instead of domestic product
China	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
India	<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 SS flanges to your firm, did U.S. producers reduce their prices of domestically produced SS flanges in order to compete with lower-priced imports of SS flanges from the subject countries? Respond for each subject country.

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

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 SS flanges.

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 survey 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:** SSF

- **E-mail.**—E-mail the MS Word survey to tana.vonkessler@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.