

U.S. PURCHASERS' QUESTIONNAIRE

FINE DENIER POLYESTER STAPLE FIBER FROM CHINA, INDIA, KOREA, AND TAIWAN

This questionnaire must be received by the Commission by **December 5, 2017**
See last page 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 and antidumping investigations concerning fine denier polyester staple fiber ("fine denier PSF") from China, India, Korea, and Taiwan (Inv. Nos. 701-TA-579-580 and 731-TA-1369-1372 (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)).

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| Name of firm _____ | | |
| Address _____ | | |
| City _____ | State _____ | Zip Code _____ |
| Website _____ | | |
| Has your firm purchased fine denier PSF (as defined on next page) from <u>any</u> source (domestic or foreign) at any time since January 1, 2014? | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NO | (Sign the certification below and promptly return only this page of the questionnaire to the Commission) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> YES | (Complete all parts of the questionnaire, and return the entire questionnaire 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: FDPSF) | | |

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, the undersigned, acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this proceeding or other proceedings 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

PART I.—GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.--This proceeding was instituted in response to a petition filed on May 31, 2017, by DAK Americas LLC, Charlotte, NC; Nan Ya Plastics Corporation, Lake City, SC; and Auriga Polymers Inc., Charlotte, NC. Countervailing and/or 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 subsidization and/or dumping. Questionnaires and other information pertinent to this proceeding are available at https://usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2017/fine_denier_polyester_staple_fiber_china_india/final.htm

Fine Denier PSF.--Fine denier PSF, not carded or combed, measuring less than 3.3 decitex (3 denier) in diameter. The scope covers all fine denier PSF, whether coated or uncoated.

The following products are excluded from the scope:

- (1) PSF equal to or greater than 3.3 decitex (more than 3 denier, inclusive) currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheadings 5503.20.0045 and 5503.20.0065.
- (2) Low-melt PSF defined as a bi-component fiber with a polyester core and an outer, polyester sheath that melts at a significantly lower temperature than its inner polyester core currently classified under HTSUS subheading 5503.20.0015.

Fine denier PSF is classifiable under the HTSUS subheading 5503.20.0025. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of the investigations is dispositive.

Purchaser.--Any firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in purchasing fine denier PSF (as defined above) from another firm that produces, imports, or otherwise distributes fine denier PSF.

Reporting of information.-- If information is not readily available from your records, provide carefully prepared estimates. If your firm is completing more than one questionnaire (i.e., a producer, importer, and/or purchaser questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions.

Confidentiality.--The commercial and financial data furnished in response to this questionnaire 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.

Verification.-- The information submitted in this questionnaire is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. To facilitate possible verification of data, please keep all files, worksheets, and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire response. Please also retain a copy of the final document that you submit.

Release of information.--The information provided by your firm in response to this questionnaire, 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.

I-1. **OMB statistics.**--Please report the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of completing this questionnaire.

| Hours | Dollars |
|-------|---------|
| | |

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, gathering data, and completing and reviewing the questionnaire.

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

I-2. **Establishments covered.**-- Provide the name and address of your U.S. establishment(s) covered by this questionnaire, if different from that listed on the cover page. **Firms operating more than one establishment should combine the data for all establishments into a single response.**

"Establishment"--Each facility of a firm involved in the purchase of fine denier PSF, including auxiliary facilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate from) such facilities.

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

I-3. **Ownership.**--Is your firm owned, in whole or in part, by any other firm?

No Yes--List the following information.

| Firm name | Address | Extent of ownership (percent) |
|-----------|---------|-------------------------------|
| | | |
| | | |

I-4. **Related importers/exporters.**--Does your firm have any related firms, either domestic or foreign, which import fine denier PSF into the United States or which export fine denier PSF to the United States?

No Yes--List the following information.

| Firm name | Country | Affiliation |
|-----------|---------|-------------|
| | | |
| | | |

I-5. **Related producers.**--Does your firm have any related firms, either domestic or foreign, which produce fine denier PSF?

No Yes--List the following information.

| Firm name | Country | Affiliation |
|-----------|---------|-------------|
| | | |
| | | |

PART II.--PURCHASES

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 questionnaire.

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Name | |
| Title | |
| Email | |
| Telephone | |

II-1. **Purchases and imports.**--Report your firm's domestic purchases and imports (if applicable) of fine denier PSF.

"Purchase" – Purchase from a U.S. entity such as a U.S. producer, a U.S. importer, or other U.S.-based firm.

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

| Item | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|--|-----------------------------|------|------|
| | Quantity (in actual pounds) | | |
| Purchases of fine denier PSF produced in — United States | | | |
| China | | | |
| India | | | |
| Korea | | | |
| Taiwan | | | |
| All other countries: ¹ | | | |
| Sources unknown | | | |
| Total purchases | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Imports of fine denier PSF from — China | | | |
| India | | | |
| Korea | | | |
| Taiwan | | | |
| All other countries: ¹ | | | |
| Total imports | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ¹ Please identify these countries: | | | |

II-2. **Changes in purchasing patterns.**--Please indicate how the shares of your firm's purchases of fine denier PSF 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"/> | |
| Korea | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Taiwan | <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"/> | |

II-3. **Country knowledge.**--Please indicate the countries of origin with which your firm has experience or information in the fine denier PSF market.

| United States | China | India | Korea | Taiwan | Other countries | Other countries (specify) |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

II-4. **Supplier identification.**--Please list your firm's **FIVE** largest suppliers for fine denier PSF since January 1, 2014. Also, provide the share of the quantity of your firm's total purchases of fine denier PSF that each of these suppliers accounted for in 2016.

| No. | Supplier's name | City and state | Share of quantity of 2016 purchases |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | | | % |
| 2 | | | % |
| 3 | | | % |
| 4 | | | % |
| 5 | | | % |

PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES

III-1. **Firm type.**--

(a) Which of the following best describes your firm as a purchaser of fine denier PSF (check all that apply)?

| End user (woven or knit applications) | End user (non-woven applications) | Distributor | Other (Describe) |
|---|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If your firm is a distributor of fine denier PSF, please answer questions III-2 and III-3.

III-2. **Competition for sales.**--Does your firm compete for sales to customers with the manufacturers or importers from which your firm purchases fine denier PSF?

| No | Yes | If yes, please describe. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-3. **Types of customers.**--What are the major types of consumers to which your firm sells fine denier PSF?

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

If your firm is an end user of fine denier PSF, please answer questions III-4 and III-5.

III-4. **End uses.**--List the top 3 products your firm makes using fine denier PSF and estimate the percent of your total production cost that is accounted for by fine denier PSF vs. other inputs (such as labor, energy, and other raw materials).

| Product(s) your firm produces | Share of total cost in each of the product(s) your firm produces accounted for by | | | | Total (should sum to 100.0% across) |
|-------------------------------|---|---|--------------|---|--|
| | Fine denier PSF | | Other inputs | | |
| | % | + | % | = | 0.0 % |
| | % | + | % | = | 0.0 % |
| | % | + | % | = | 0.0 % |

III-5. **Substitutes.**--Can other products (polyester or non-polyester fibers) be substituted for fine denier PSF?

No Yes--Please fill out the table.

| Substitute | End use in which this substitute is used | Have changes in the price of this substitute affected the price for fine denier PSF? | | |
|------------|--|--|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | No | Yes | Explanation |
| 1. | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 2. | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 3. | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-6. **Demand trends.**—

(a) Indicate how demand within the United States and outside of the United States (if known) for fine denier PSF has changed since January 1, 2014. Explain any trends and describe the principal factors that have affected these changes in demand.

| Market | Overall increase | No change | Overall decrease | Fluctuate with no clear trend | Explanation and factors |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Within the U.S. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Outside the U.S. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

(b) How has the demand for your firm's final products incorporating fine denier PSF changed since January 1, 2014?

| Increased | No change | Decreased | Fluctuated |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

(b) Has this had any effect on your firm's demand for fine denier PSF?

| No | Yes | Explain |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-7. **Country preferences.**--Do you or your customers ever specifically order fine denier PSF from one country in particular over other possible sources of supply?

| No | Yes | If yes, identify the country/countries and explain your reasons (or your customers' reasons). |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-8. **Importance of purchasing domestic product.**--Please fill out the table below, estimating the percentage of your firm's total 2016 purchases of fine denier PSF that required fine denier PSF produced in the United States.

| | Estimated percentage of your firm's total 2016 purchases of fine denier PSF |
|---|--|
| Purchases that did not require domestic product | % |
| Purchases that were required by law or regulation to be domestic product (e.g., government purchases under "Buy American" provisions) | % |
| Purchases that were not required by law or regulation, but were required by your customers to be domestic product | % |
| Purchases that were required to be domestic product for other reasons (explain:) | % |
| Total (should sum to 100.0%) | 0.0 % |

III-9. **Conditions of competition.**--

(a) Did the closure of DAK's Cape Fear facility affect your firm's purchasing decisions?

| No | Yes | If yes, describe how. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

(b) Have there been any other changes in the business cycles or conditions of competition for fine denier PSF since January 1, 2014?

| No | Yes | If yes, describe. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

(c) Is the fine denier PSF market subject to business cycles (other than general economy-wide conditions) and/or other conditions of competition distinctive to fine denier PSF?

| Check all that apply. | Please describe. |
|---|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No | Skip to question III-11. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Business cycles (e.g. seasonal business) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes-Other distinctive conditions of competition | |

III-10. **Decisions based on producer and country-of-origin.**--How often does your firm, and if known, do your customers, make purchasing decisions involving fine denier PSF based on its producer or country of origin?

| | Always | Usually | Sometimes | Never | If at least sometimes, explain. |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Decision based on producer | | | | | |
| Your firm | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Your customers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Decision based on country of origin | | | | | |
| Your firm | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Your customers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-11. **Availability of supply.**--Has the availability of fine denier PSF in the U.S. market changed since January 1, 2014?

| Availability in the U.S. market | No | Yes | Please explain, noting the countries and reasons for the changes. |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| U.S.-produced product | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Subject imports | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Nonsubject imports | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-12. **Supply constraints.**--Has any firm refused, declined, or been unable to supply your firm with fine denier PSF since January 1, 2014?

| No | Yes | Supply constraint (check all that apply) | Please explain. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Our domestic supplier(s) have placed or firm on allocation or "controlled order entry" | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Our import supplier(s) have placed or firm on allocation or "controlled order entry" | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Our domestic supplier(s) have declined orders | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Our import supplier(s) have declined orders | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Our domestic supplier(s) have accepted order(s) but delivered less than promised and/or contracted | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Our import supplier(s) have accepted order(s) but delivered less than promised and/or contracted | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Our domestic supplier(s) have been unable to provide timely order completion or had extended delivery times | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Our import supplier(s) have been unable to provide timely order completion or had extended delivery times | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Our domestic supplier(s) have been unable or unwilling to provide specific types of fine denier PSF/product specifications | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Our import supplier(s) have been unable or unwilling to provide specific types of fine denier PSF/product specifications | |

III-13. **Availability of specific product types.**--Are certain grades/types/sizes of fine denier PSF only available from certain country sources?

| No | Yes | If yes, please identify the countries and the grade/type/size. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-14. **Purchasing frequency.**--

(a) How frequently does your firm make purchases of fine denier PSF (check one)?

| Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Quarterly | Annually | Other | If other, specify |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

(b) Has this purchasing frequency changed since January 1, 2014?

| No | Yes | If yes, please describe. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-15. **Number of suppliers contacted.**--How many suppliers does your firm generally contact before making a purchase? Between _____ and _____ firms

III-16. **Supplier negotiations.**--

(a) Do your firm's purchases of fine denier PSF usually involve negotiations between supplier and purchaser?

| No | Yes | If yes, explain the factors your firm generally negotiates. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

(b) If you responded yes to part (a), does your firm sometimes quote competing prices during negotiations?

| No | Yes | If yes, explain the types of suppliers (and sources) from which your firm quotes prices. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-17. **Change in suppliers.**--Has your firm changed suppliers since January 1, 2014?

| No | Yes | If yes, please list the supplier(s), whether the firm was added or dropped, and the reasons for the change. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-18. **New suppliers.**--Are you aware of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have entered the market since January 1, 2014?

| No | Yes | If yes, please identify the firms. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-19. **Supplier qualification.**--Do you require your suppliers to be or to become certified or qualified to sell fine denier PSF to your firm?

If yes, provide the following information.

- The number of days to qualify a new supplier.
- A general description of the certification or qualification process. Also, a brief description of the factors that you consider when qualifying a new supplier (e.g., quality of product, reliability of supplier, etc.).

| No | Yes | Number of days | Process and factors |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

III-20. **Failure to certify.**--Since January 1, 2014, have any domestic or foreign producers failed in their attempts to certify or qualify their fine denier PSF with your firm, or have any producers lost their approved status?

| No | Yes | If yes, please identify these firms, the countries where they are located, and the reasons why they failed the certification/qualification. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-21. **Major purchasing factors.**--Please list, in order of their importance, the main factors your firm considers in deciding from whom to purchase fine denier PSF (examples include availability, extension of credit, contracts, price, quality, range of supplier's product line, traditional supplier, etc.).

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

III-22. **Purchasing factors.**--Please rate the importance of the following factors in your firm's purchasing decisions for fine denier PSF.

| Factor | Very important | Somewhat important | Not important |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Availability | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Coating (e.g. silicon) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Coloring | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cut length | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Delivery terms | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Delivery time | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Discounts offered | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Extension of credit | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Minimum quantity requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Packaging | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Price | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Product consistency | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Product range | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Quality meets industry standards | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Quality exceeds industry standards | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Recycled content | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reliability of supply | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Technical support/service | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| U.S. transportation costs | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | |

III-23. Usage by type.--

- (a) For each of the applications listed below, please indicate the frequency with which the following forms of fine denier PSF are used.

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

- A = *always* (used)
- F = *frequently*
- S = *sometimes*
- N = *never*
- 0 = *no familiarity* or N/A

| Application | Form of fine denier PSF | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | Virgin product | Post-consumer recycled product | Short cut product | Black or other colored product | Siliconized product | Other ¹ |
| Woven or spun applications | | | | | | |
| Non-woven applications | | | | | | |
| Other applications (specify): | | | | | | |
| Note: If you do not purchase fine denier PSF for the specified application, please enter "0". | | | | | | |
| ¹ Please specify: | | | | | | |

- (b) For each of the following types of fine denier PSF, please report the total amount purchased and/or imported (regardless of source) and estimate the percentage of each type that is made from virgin vs post-consumer recycled PSF:

| | Total purchases and/or imports in 2016 | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Short cut product | Black or other colored product | Siliconized product | Other type(s) of product ¹ |
| | Quantity (pounds) | | | |
| Total purchases and/or imports in 2016 | | | | |
| | Share made from virgin vs. recycled content (percent) | | | |
| Share.-- Made from Virgin fine denier PSF | | | | |
| Made from post-consumer recycled PSF | | | | |
| Total (should sum to 100 percent in each column) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| ¹ Please describe: | | | | |

III-24. **Quality characteristics.**--What characteristics does your firm consider when determining the quality of fine denier PSF?

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

III-25. **Minimum quality.**--How often does fine denier PSF 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 | <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"/> |
| Korea | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Taiwan | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

III-26. **Frequency of decisions based on price.**--How often does your firm purchase the fine denier PSF that is offered at the lowest price?

| Always | Usually | Sometimes | Never |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

III-27. **Price leaders.**--Please list the names of any firms you considered price leaders in the fine denier PSF market since January 1, 2014.

Note: 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.*

| Firm(s) | Describe how the firm(s) exhibited price leadership |
|---------|---|
| | |

III-28. Purchasing subject imports rather than domestic products.--

(a) Since January 2014, did your firm purchase imports of fine denier PSF from China, India, Korea, and/or Taiwan instead of U.S.-produced fine denier PSF? Respond for each subject country.

| Source | Yes (also respond to parts (b) and (c)) | No (If "No" for all countries, skip to question III-29) |
|---------------|--|--|
| China | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| India | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Korea | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Taiwan | <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"/> |
| Korea | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Taiwan | <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? (Please identify the country(ies) in your explanation if it differs by source.)

| Source | Yes | If Yes, estimate the quantity of imports purchased instead of domestic product since January 2014 (in 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"/> | |
| Korea | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Taiwan | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-29. **Raw material costs.--**

(a) Do changes in raw material costs affect your firm's price negotiations with your suppliers of fine denier PSF?

| No | Yes | If yes, please explain. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

(b) Are your firm's purchases of fine denier PSF indexed to raw material costs or indices?

| No | Yes | If yes, please explain. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

(c) Does your firm have contracts with any of its customers that set prices for post-consumer recycled PSF, short cut PSF, siliconized PSF, black or other colored PSF, and/or certain other fine denier PSF, in whole or in part, based upon the raw material costs?

| No | Yes | If yes, please list the types of fine denier PSF to which this applies and briefly describe each pricing mechanism, including the impact such indexation had on prices during January 2014-September 2017. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

III-30. **U.S. producers and import competition.**--

- (a) Since January 1, 2014, in connection with a sale or offer to sell fine denier PSF to your firm, did U.S. producers reduce their prices of domestically produced fine denier PSF in order to compete with lower-priced imports of fine denier PSF 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 question IV-1) | Don't know |
|---------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| China | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| India | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Korea | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Taiwan | <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. (Please identify the country(ies) in your explanation if it differs by source.)

| 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 | % | |
| Korea | % | |
| Taiwan | % | |

PART IV.—PRODUCT COMPARISONS

IV-1. **Interchangeability.**--Is fine denier PSF produced in the United States and in other countries interchangeable (i.e., can they physically be used in the same applications)?

Please indicate A, F, S, N, or O 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

O = *no familiarity* with products from a specified country-pair

| Country-pair | China | India | Korea | Taiwan | Other countries |
|--|-------|-------|-------|--------|-----------------|
| United States | | | | | |
| China | X | | | | |
| India | X | X | | | |
| Korea | X | X | X | | |
| Taiwan | X | X | X | X | |
| For any country-pair producing fine denier PSF which is <i>sometimes</i> or <i>never</i> interchangeable, please identify the country-pair and explain the factors that limit or preclude interchangeable use: | | | | | |

IV-2. **Factors other than price.**--Are differences other than price (e.g., quality, availability, transportation network, product range, technical support, etc.) between fine denier PSF 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 O 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

O = *no familiarity* with products from a specified country-pair

| Country-pair | China | India | Korea | Taiwan | Other countries |
|--|-------|-------|-------|--------|-----------------|
| United States | | | | | |
| China | X | | | | |
| India | X | X | | | |
| Korea | X | X | X | | |
| Taiwan | X | X | X | X | |
| <p>For any country-pair for which factors other than price <i>always</i> or <i>frequently</i> are a significant factor in your firm's purchases of fine denier PSF, identify the country-pair and report the advantages or disadvantages imparted by such factors:</p> | | | | | |

IV-3. **Factor country comparisons.**--Please rate each country's fine denier PSF for each factor listed below. A rating of 5 indicates that fine denier PSF produced in that country rates very well for that factor, while a rating of 1 indicates that fine denier PSF produced in that country does not rate well for that factor.

If you are unfamiliar with the product from a particular country, please leave the entire column for that country blank.

| Factor | Fine denier PSF produced in | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------------------|
| | United States | China | India | Korea | Taiwan | All other countries |
| Availability | | | | | | |
| Coating (e.g. silicon) | | | | | | |
| Coloring | | | | | | |
| Cut length | | | | | | |
| Delivery terms | | | | | | |
| Delivery time | | | | | | |
| Discounts offered | | | | | | |
| Extension of credit | | | | | | |
| Minimum quantity requirements | | | | | | |
| Packaging | | | | | | |
| Price ¹ | | | | | | |
| Product consistency | | | | | | |
| Product range | | | | | | |
| Quality meets industry standards | | | | | | |
| Quality exceeds industry standards | | | | | | |
| Recycled content | | | | | | |
| Reliability of supply | | | | | | |
| Technical support/service | | | | | | |
| U.S. transportation costs ¹ | | | | | | |

¹ A higher rating on price and U.S. transportation costs (e.g., 4 or 5) indicates that the country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs.

PART V.—ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- V-1. **Other explanations.**--If your firm would like to further explain a response to any question that did not provide a narrative response box, please note the question number and the explanation in the space provided below.

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

HOW TO FILE YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE

This questionnaire is available as a “fillable” form in MS Word format on the Commission’s website at: https://usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2017/fine_denier_polyester_staple_fiber_china_india/final.htm

Please do not attempt to modify the format or permissions of the questionnaire document. Please submit the completed questionnaire using one of the methods noted below. If your firm is unable to complete the MS Word questionnaire 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:** **FDPSF**

- **E-mail.**—E-mail the MS Word questionnaire to andrew.knipe@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 does not purchase this product, please fill out page 1, print, sign, and submit a scanned copy to the Commission.

Parties to this proceeding.—If your firm is a party to this proceeding, it is required to serve a copy of the completed questionnaire on parties to the proceeding that are subject to administrative protective order (see 19 CFR § 207.7). A list of such parties may be obtained from the Commission’s Secretary (202-205-1803). A certificate of service must accompany the completed questionnaire your firm submits (see 19 CFR § 207.7). Service of the questionnaire must be made in paper form.