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## FOREIGN PRODUCERS'/EXPORTERS' QUESTIONNAIRE

### FLUID END BLOCKS FROM CHINA, GERMANY, INDIA, AND ITALY

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This questionnaire must be received by the Commission by **September 11, 2020**  
*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 fluid end blocks from China, Germany, India, and Italy (Inv. Nos. 701-TA-632-635 and 731-TA-1466-1468 (Final)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII.

<p><b>Name of firm</b> _____</p> <p><b>Address</b> _____</p> <p><b>Website</b> _____</p> <p>Has your firm produced or exported fluid end blocks (as defined on next page) at any time since January 1, 2017?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>NO</b> (Sign the certification below and promptly return <b>only</b> this page of the questionnaire to the Commission)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>YES</b> (Complete all parts of the questionnaire, and return the entire questionnaire to the Commission)</p> <p>Data reported in this questionnaire relate to (Check one):</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> China                      <input type="checkbox"/> Germany                      <input type="checkbox"/> India                      <input type="checkbox"/> Italy</p> <p><b>Return questionnaire via the Commission Drop Box by clicking on the following link:</b> <a href="https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/">https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/</a>. (PIN: <b>FEBS</b>)</p>
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#### 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 means of 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 petitions filed on December 19, 2019, by Ellwood City Forge Company, Ellwood Quality Steels Company, and Ellwood National Steel Company (collectively the “Ellwood Group”), Ellwood City, Pennsylvania; A. Finkl & Sons (“Finkl Steel”), Chicago, Illinois; and FEB Fair Trade Coalition (an *ad hoc* coalition whose members include the Forging Industry Association, the Ellwood Group, and Finkl Steel), Cleveland, Ohio. Countervailing and 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 or dumping. Questionnaires and other information pertinent to this proceeding are available at [https://usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2020/fluid\\_end\\_blocks\\_china\\_germany\\_india\\_and\\_italy/final.htm](https://usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2020/fluid_end_blocks_china_germany_india_and_italy/final.htm)

**Fluid end blocks** covered by these investigations are forged steel fluid end blocks (fluid end blocks), whether in finished or unfinished form, and which are typically used in the manufacture or service of hydraulic pumps.

The term “forged” is an industry term used to describe the grain texture of steel resulting from the application of localized compressive force. Illustrative forging standards include, but are not limited to, American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) specifications A668 and A788.

For purposes of these investigations, the term “steel” denotes metal containing the following chemical elements, by weight: (i) iron greater than or equal to 60 percent; (ii) nickel less than or equal to 8.5 percent; (iii) copper less than or equal to 6 percent; (iv) chromium greater than or equal to 0.4 percent, but less than or equal to 20 percent; and (v) molybdenum greater than or equal to 0.15 percent, but less than or equal to 3 percent. Illustrative steel standards include, but are not limited to, American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) or Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) grades 4130, 4135, 4140, 4320, 4330, 4340, 8630, 15-5, 17-4, F6NM, F22, F60, and XM25, as well as modified varieties of these grades.

The products covered by these investigations are: (1) cut-to-length fluid end blocks with an actual height (measured from its highest point) of 8 inches (203.2 mm) to 40 inches (1,016.0 mm), an actual width (measured from its widest point) of 8 inches (203.2 mm) to 40 inches (1,016.0 mm), and an actual length (measured from its longest point) of 11 inches (279.4 mm) to 75 inches (1,905.0 mm); and (2) strings of fluid end blocks with an actual height (measured from its highest point) of 8 inches (203.2 mm) to 40 inches (1,016.0 mm), an actual width (measured from its widest point) of 8 inches (203.2 mm) to 40 inches (1,016.0 mm), and an actual length (measured from its longest point) up to 360 inches (9,144.0 mm).

The products included in the scope of these investigations have a tensile strength of at least 70 KSI (measured in accordance with ASTM A370) and a hardness of at least 140 HBW (measured in accordance with ASTM E10).

A fluid end block may be imported in finished condition (i.e., ready for incorporation into a pump fluid end assembly without further finishing operations) or unfinished condition (i.e., forged but still requiring one or more finishing operations before it is ready for incorporation into a pump fluid end assembly). Such finishing operations may include: (1) heat treating; (2) milling one or more flat surfaces; (3) contour machining to custom shapes or dimensions; (4) drilling or boring holes; (5) threading holes; and/or (6) painting, varnishing, or coating.

Excluded from the scope of these investigations are fluid end block assemblies which (1) include (a) plungers and related housings, adapters, gaskets, seals, and packing nuts, (b) valves and related seats, springs, seals, and cover nuts, and (c) a discharge flange and related seals, and (2) are otherwise ready to be mated with the “power end” of a hydraulic pump without the need for installation of any plunger, valve, or discharge flange components, or any other further manufacturing operations.

The products included in the scope of these investigations may enter under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheadings 7218.91.0030, 7218.99.0030, 7224.90.0015, 7224.90.0045, 7326.19.0010, 7326.90.8688, or 8413.91.9055. While these HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of the investigations is dispositive.

**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, purchaser and/or foreign producer 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.

**Valid number error messages.**--If you are completing this form in a country that uses periods (“.”) to delineate multiples of 1000 (e.g., one million would appear as \$1.000.000 rather than \$1,000,000), you may be unable to enter in numbers greater than 999 in numeric form fields. The solution to this data entry issue is to temporarily change your operating system's number formatting to be consistent with the U.S. number formatting system while you complete this form. Detailed instructions on how to resolve this issue is provided at the end of this questionnaire and is available upon request from Kristina Lara (202-205-3386, [kristina.lara@usitc.gov](mailto:kristina.lara@usitc.gov)).

I-1. **OMB statistics.**--Please report below 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 20 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. **Production activities.**—Check the box that best describes the production activities your firm performs (Check one).

**“Finishing operations”** -- Finishing operations may include milling of one or more flat surfaces; contour machining to custom shapes or dimensions; drilling or boring holes; heat treating; painting, varnishing, or coating; and/or threading.

- Only forges fluid end blocks
- Only performs finishing operations on fluid end blocks
- Forges and performs finishing operations on fluid end blocks
- Performs no production activities on fluid end blocks (i.e., only exports fluid end blocks)

I-3. **Establishments covered.**--Provide the name and address of establishment(s) covered by this questionnaire.

**“Establishment”**--Each facility of a firm in China, Germany, India, and Italy involved in the production or export of fluid end blocks, including auxiliary facilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate from) such facilities. Firms operating more than one establishment in China, Germany, India, and Italy should combine the data for all establishments into a single report.

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I-4. **Related producers.**--Does your firm or any related firm produce, have the capability to produce, or have any plans to produce fluid end blocks in the United States or other countries?

<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>If yes, please name the firm(s) and country(ies) below and, if U.S. producer(s), ensure that they complete the Commission's producer questionnaire.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

I-5. **Related U.S. importers.**--Does your firm or any related firm import or have any plans to import fluid end blocks into the United States?

<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>If yes, please name the firm(s) below and ensure that they complete the Commission's importer questionnaire.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

I-6. **Stock symbol information.**-- If your firm or any of the entities reported in questions I-3 through I-5 are publicly traded in the United States, please specify the stock exchange and trading symbol (including American Depository Receipts, if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_.

I-7. **External counsel.**-- If your firm or parent firm is represented by external counsel in relation to this proceeding, please specify the name of the law firm and the lead attorney(s).

Law firm:	
Lead attorney(s):	

I-8. **U.S. importers.**--Please provide the names, contacts, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of the **FIVE** largest U.S. importers of your firm's fluid end blocks in 2019.

	<b>Importer's name</b>	<b>Contact person</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Share of your firm's 2019 U.S. exports (%)</b>
<b>1</b>					
<b>2</b>					
<b>3</b>					
<b>4</b>					
<b>5</b>					

**PART II.--TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION**

Further information on this part of the questionnaire can be obtained from Kristina Lara (202-205-3386, [kristina.lara@usitc.gov](mailto:kristina.lara@usitc.gov)). **Supply all data requested on a calendar-year basis.**

II-1. **Contact information.**--Please identify the responsible individual and the manner by which Commission staff may contact that individual regarding the confidential information submitted in part II.

Name	
Title	
Email	
Telephone	

II-2a. **Changes in operations.**--Please indicate whether your firm has experienced any of the following changes in relation to the production of fluid end blocks since January 1, 2017.

<i>(check as many as appropriate)</i>		<i>(If checked, please describe; leave blank if not applicable)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	plant openings	
<input type="checkbox"/>	plant closings	
<input type="checkbox"/>	relocations	
<input type="checkbox"/>	expansions	
<input type="checkbox"/>	acquisitions	
<input type="checkbox"/>	consolidations	
<input type="checkbox"/>	prolonged shutdowns or production curtailments	
<input type="checkbox"/>	revised labor agreements	
<input type="checkbox"/>	other (e.g., technology)	

II-2b. **Anticipated changes in operations.**--Does your firm anticipate any changes in the character of its operations or organization (as noted above) relating to the production of fluid end blocks in the future?

<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>If yes, supply details as to the time, nature, and significance of such changes and provide underlying assumptions.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**Note on questions II-3a and II-3b:** If your firm is a forger or an integrated producer of fluid end blocks (i.e., a firm that both forges and performs finishing operations on fluid end blocks), please respond to question II-3a and skip question II-3b. If your firm only performs finishing operations on fluid end blocks, skip question II-3a and respond to question II-3b.

II-3a. **Production using same machinery: Forgers and integrated producers.**— Please report your firm’s production of products using the same equipment, machinery, or employees as used to produce fluid end blocks, and the combined production capacity on this shared equipment, machinery, or employees in the periods indicated.

**“Overall production capacity” or “capacity”** – The level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the specified periods for all products manufactured in that establishment using the same manufacturing equipment. Assume normal operating conditions (i.e., using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate; normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year) and time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup).

**“Production”** – All production in your establishment(s) in China, Germany, India, and Italy, including production consumed internally within your firm.

Item	Calendar years			January-June	
	2017	2018	2019	2019	2020
	<b>Quantity (in pounds)</b>				
<b>Overall capacity<sup>1</sup></b>					
<i>To forge fluid end blocks</i>					
<i>To finish fluid end blocks</i>					
<b>Production of:</b>					
Fluid end blocks					
Other products <sup>2</sup>					
Total production using same machinery or workers	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Quantity (in units)</b>				
<b>Overall capacity<sup>1,3</sup></b>					
<i>To forge fluid end blocks</i>					
<i>To finish fluid end blocks</i>					
<b>Production of:</b>					
Fluid end blocks <sup>4</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
Other products <sup>2</sup>					
Total production using same machinery or workers	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup> Data reported for capacity (first line) should be greater than data reported for total production (last line).

<sup>2</sup> Please identify these products: \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>3</sup> Please explain how the two types of capacity were used to report the capacity for fluid end blocks in question II-8.

<sup>4</sup> Data entered for production of fluid end blocks will populate here once reported in question II-8.



II-3b. **Production using same machinery: Finisher only companies.**--Please report your firm's production of products using the same equipment, machinery, or employees as used to produce/finish fluid end blocks, and the combined production capacity on this shared equipment, machinery, or employees in the periods indicated.

**"Overall production capacity" or "capacity"** – The level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the specified periods. Assume normal operating conditions (i.e., using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate; normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year) and time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup).

**"Production"** – All production in your establishment(s) in China, Germany, India, and Italy, including production consumed internally within your firm.

Item	Calendar years			January-June	
	2017	2018	2019	2019	2020
	<b>Quantity (in pounds)</b>				
<b>Overall capacity<sup>1</sup></b>					
<b>Production of:</b>					
Fluid end blocks					
Other products <sup>2</sup>					
Total production using same machinery or workers	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Quantity (in units)</b>				
<b>Overall capacity<sup>1 3</sup></b>					
<b>Production of:</b>					
Fluid end blocks <sup>4</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
Other products <sup>2</sup>					
Total production using same machinery or workers	0	0	0	0	0
<p><sup>1</sup> Data reported for capacity (first line) should be greater than data reported for total production (last line).  <sup>2</sup> Please identify these products: _____.  <sup>3</sup> If your firm reported producing/finished only fluid end block (i.e., not "other products" reported), the capacity number here should equal the capacity number reported in question II-8.  <sup>4</sup> Data entered for production of fluid end blocks will populate here once reported in question II-8.</p>					

II-3c. **Operating parameters.**--The production capacity reported in II-3a is based on the following operating parameters:

Hours per week	Weeks per year

II-3d. **Capacity calculation.**--Please describe the methodology used to calculate overall production capacity reported in II-3a, and explain any changes in reported capacity.

II-3e. **Production constraints.**--Please describe the constraint(s) that set the limit(s) on your firm's production capacity.

II-4. **Product shifting.**—

- (a). Is your firm able to switch production (capacity) between fluid end blocks and other products using the same equipment and/or labor?

No	Yes	If yes—(i.e., have produced other products or are able to produce other products) Please identify other actual or potential products.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

- (b). Please describe the factors that affect your firm's ability to shift production capacity between products (e.g., time, cost, relative price change, etc.), and the degree to which these factors enhance or constrain such shifts.

- (c). Please describe the steps involved in shifting production between fluid end blocks and other products.

- II-5. **Share of sales.**--What percentage of your firm's total sales in its most recent fiscal year was represented by sales of fluid end blocks? \_\_\_\_\_ percent.

- II-6a. **Firm's estimated share of production in China, Germany, India, or Italy.**--Please estimate the percentage of total production of fluid end blocks in the country specified on the certification page accounted for by your firm's production in 2019. \_\_\_\_\_ percent.

- II-6b. **Firm's estimated share of country's exports.**--Please estimate the percentage of total exports to the United States of fluid end blocks from the country specified on the certification page accounted for by your firm's exports in 2019. \_\_\_\_\_ percent.

- II-7. **Third country trade actions.**--Is the fluid end blocks exported by your firm subject to antidumping/countervailing duty/safeguard findings, remedies, or proceedings?

No	Yes	If yes--List the products(s), countries affected, and the date of such findings/remedies/proceedings.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

II-8. **Trade data.**--Report your firm's production capacity, production, shipments, and inventories related to the production of fluid end blocks in your establishment(s) in China, Germany, India, and Italy during the specified periods. Do not include resales of fluid end blocks that your firm did not produce in this question; those data to the degree they are exported to the United States should only be reported in question II-9.

Do not submit data by manufacturing facility if they are in the same country. If your firm has multiple manufacturing establishments within one country, you are required to combine data for those establishments within one foreign producer questionnaire response.

Do not submit data on multiple countries combined. The establishments reported here should all be located in the country of the firm's address reported on the certification page. Multinational companies with production in multiple subject countries should submit separate foreign producer questionnaire responses for each subject country.

**"Average production capacity" or "capacity"** --The level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the specified periods for all products manufactured in that establishment using the same manufacturing equipment. Assume normal operating conditions (i.e., using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate; normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year) and time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup; and a typical or representative product mix).

**"Production"** --All production in your establishment(s) in China, Germany, India, and Italy, including production consumed internally within your firm.

**"Shipments"** --Shipments of products produced in your establishment(s) in China, Germany, India, and Italy. Quantities reported should be net of returns.

**"Home market commercial shipments"** --Shipments, other than internal consumption and transfers to related firms, within China, Germany, India, and Italy.

**"Home market internal consumption/transfers to related firms"** --Shipments made to related firms in China, Germany, India, and Italy, including product consumed internally by your firm.

**"Export shipments"** --Shipments to destinations outside of the country indicated on page 1 (China, Germany, India, and Italy), including shipments to related firms.

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

*Note: As requested in Part I of this questionnaire, please keep all supporting documents/records used in the preparation of the trade data, as Commission staff may contact your firm regarding questions on the trade data. The Commission may also request that your company submit copies of the supporting documents/records (such as production and sales schedules, inventory records, etc.) used to compile these data.*

II-8. Trade data.--Continued.

Item	Quantity (in units)						
	Actual experience					Projections <sup>1</sup>	
	Calendar year			January-June		Calendar year	
	2017	2018	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021
Average production capacity <sup>2</sup> (A)							
Beginning-of-period inventories (B)							
Production (C)							
Home market shipments: Internal consumption/ transfers (D)							
Commercial shipments (E)							
Exports to the United States (F)							
Exports to all other markets <sup>3</sup> (G)							
Total exports (H) (should equal F+G)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total shipments (I) (should equal D+E+F+G)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
End-of-period inventories <sup>4</sup> (J)							

<sup>1</sup> Please explain the basis for your firm's projections. \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>2</sup> The production capacity reported is based on operating \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week, \_\_\_\_\_ weeks per year. Please describe the methodology used to calculate production capacity, and explain any changes in reported capacity. \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>3</sup> Identify principal other export markets. \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>4</sup> Are any of the end-of-period inventories reported customized such that they can only be used by a specific end user?  
 No  Yes  
 If yes, please estimate the percentage of end-of period inventories that were customized for a specific end user and describe how they were customized \_\_\_\_\_.

**RECONCILIATION OF SHIPMENTS, PRODUCTION, AND INVENTORY.**--Generally, the data reported for the end-of-period inventories (i.e., line J) should be equal to the beginning-of-period inventories (i.e., line B), plus production (i.e., line C), less total shipments (i.e., lines D, E, F, and G). Please ensure that any differences are not due to data entry errors in completing this form, but rather actually reflect your firm's records; and also provide any likely explanations for any differences (e.g., theft, loss, damage, record systems issues, etc.) if they exist.

Item	Actual experience					Projections	
	Calendar year			January-June		Calendar year	
	2017	2018	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021
B + C – D – E – F – G – J = should equal zero ("0") or provide an explanation. <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup> Explanation if the calculated fields above are returning values other than zero (i.e., "0") but are nonetheless accurate: \_\_\_\_\_.

II-9. **Exports to the United States not produced by your firm.**--Report your firm's exports to the United States of fluid end blocks that was produced in China, Germany, India, or Italy but not by your firm during the specified periods. Note these data should **not** be included in question II-8.

Quantity (in units)							
Item	Actual experience					Projections	
	Calendar year			January-June		Calendar year	
	2017	2018	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021
Exports of fluid end blocks to the United States not produced by your firm <sup>1</sup> (K)							
<sup>1</sup> List the producer(s). _____.							

II-10. **Other explanations.**--If your firm would like to further explain a response to a question in Part II for which a narrative box was not provided, please note the question number and the explanation in the space provided below. Please also use this space to highlight any issues your firm had in providing the data in this section, including but not limited to technical issues with the MS Word questionnaire.

**Correcting Valid number error messages.**--If you are completing a Commission questionnaire in a country that uses periods (".") to delineate multiples of 1000 (e.g., one million would appear as \$1.000.000 instead of as \$1,000,000), you may be unable to enter in numbers greater than 999 in numeric form fields. This issues stem from your computer number formatting setting (e.g., not the MS Word document itself, but the computer from which you are opening up the document). In the United States commas (,) delineate multiples of 1000 and periods (.) delineate fractions less than one. Many EU countries use the reverse where multiples of 1000 are delineated with periods (.) and fractions less than one are delineated with commas (,). The U.S. International Trade Commission's questionnaires are set-up in the United States with the U.S. number formatting. When this formatting interacts with a computer set to EU number formatting, we believe this may cause this issue.

The solution to this data entry issue is to temporarily change your operating system's number formatting to be consistent with the U.S. number formatting system while you complete the questionnaire.

To temporarily change your computer's number settings to U.S. settings, please do the following (for Microsoft Windows Operating system):

- START
- Control Panel
- Region and Language (under Clock, Language, and Region category)
- Format tab
- Change the Format from your existing one (e.g. "Italian (Italy)") to "English (United States)" (see screen shots below)

When you do this the number "twelve million dollars and thirty five cents" would change from \$12.000.000,35 (Italy format) to \$12,000,000.35 (U.S. format), and then there will be no conflict with the USITC foreign producer questionnaire form. When you finish reporting the data then you can close the questionnaire and switch back to Italy settings.

The screenshot shows the 'Region and Language' dialog box with the 'Formats' tab selected. The 'Format' dropdown is set to 'Italian (Italy)'. Under 'Date and time formats', the settings are: Short date: dd/MM/yyyy, Long date: dddd d MMMM yyyy, Short time: HH:mm, Long time: HH:mm:ss, and First day of week: lunedì. The 'Examples' section shows: Short date: 03/11/2015, Long date: martedì 3 novembre 2015, Short time: 10:35, and Long time: 10:35:44. At the bottom, there are 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Apply' buttons, along with a link to 'Go online to learn about changing languages and regional formats' and an 'Additional settings...' button.

The screenshot shows the 'Region and Language' dialog box with the 'Formats' tab selected. The 'Format' dropdown is set to 'English (United States)'. Under 'Date and time formats', the settings are: Short date: M/d/yyyy, Long date: dddd, MMMM dd, yyyy, Short time: h:mm tt, Long time: h:mm:ss tt, and First day of week: Sunday. The 'Examples' section shows: Short date: 8/6/2015, Long date: Thursday, August 06, 2015, Short time: 2:47 PM, and Long time: 2:47:25 PM. At the bottom, there are 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Apply' buttons, along with a link to 'Go online to learn about changing languages and regional formats' and an 'Additional settings...' button.



## 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/701731/2019/fluid\\_end\\_blocks\\_china\\_germany\\_india\\_and\\_italy/final.htm](https://usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2019/fluid_end_blocks_china_germany_india_and_italy/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:** FEBS

- **E-mail.**—E-mail your questionnaire to [kristina.lara@usitc.gov](mailto:kristina.lara@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 produce or export 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, you are 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 you submit (see 19 CFR § 207.7). Service of the questionnaire must be made in paper form.