

NOTICE 1031 OF 2013**INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION****CUSTOMS TARIFF APPLICATIONS****LIST 16/2013**

The International Trade Administration Commission (herein after referred to as ITAC or the Commission) has received the following applications concerning the Customs Tariff. Any objection to or comments on these representations should be submitted to the Chief Commissioner, ITAC, Private Bag X753, Pretoria, 0001. Attention is drawn to the fact that the rate of duty mentioned in these applications is that requested by the applicant and that the Commission may, depending on its findings, recommend a lower or higher rate of duty.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

The submission of confidential information to the Commission in connection with customs tariff applications is governed by section 3 of the Tariff Investigations Regulations, which regulations can be found on ITAC's website at <http://www.itac.org.za/documents/R.397.pdf>.

These regulations require that if any information is considered to be confidential, then a non-confidential version of the information must be submitted, simultaneously with the confidential version. In submitting a non-confidential version the regulations are strictly applicable and require parties to indicate:

- Each instance where confidential information has been omitted and the reasons for confidentiality;*
- A summary of the confidential information which permits other interested parties a reasonable understanding of the substance of the confidential information; and*
- In exceptional cases, where information is not susceptible to summary, reasons must be submitted to this effect.*

This rule applies to all parties and to all correspondence with and submissions to the Commission, which unless clearly indicated to be confidential, will be made available to other interested parties.

The Commission will disregard any information indicated to be confidential that is not accompanied by a proper non-confidential summary or the aforementioned reasons.

If a party considers that any document of another party, on which that party is submitting representations, does not comply with the above rules and that such deficiency affects that party's ability to make meaningful representations, the details of the deficiency and the reasons why that party's rights are so affected must be submitted to the commission in writing forthwith (and at the latest 14 days prior to the date on which that party's submission is due).

Failure to do so timeously will seriously hamper the proper administration of the investigation, and such party will not be able to subsequently claim an inability to make meaningful representations on the basis of the failure of such other party to meet the requirements.

1. INCREASE IN THE RATE OF CUSTOMS DUTY ON:

Uncoated paper and paperboard classifiable under tariff subheadings 4802.56.20 and 4802.56.90, from free of duty to the WTO-bound rate of 5% and 20% ad valorem, respectively.

APPLICANT:

Paper Manufacturers Association of Southern Africa
P O Box 1553
Rivonia
2128

[Ref: 15/2013] Enquiries: Mzukisi Skenjana, Tel: (012) 394 3675, Fax: (012) 934 4675,
E-mail: mkskenjana@itac.org.za.

REASONS FOR THE APPLICATION AS STATED BY THE APPLICANT:

- To curb further losses in the work force, where large retrenchments have already taken place;
- To provide the companies opportunity to improve their competitive position in an international market where over supply is a reality. This over supply has a direct adverse effect on the pricing of the product and therefore hampers price competition;
- To encourage the industry to continue to invest in South Africa and create further employment;
- To assist upstream and downstream service and product providers to the industry which will enable further investment into the industry value chain as a whole; and
- To enable the local industry to maintain and expand capacity to earn foreign currency through exports.

PUBLICATION PERIOD:

Representation should be submitted to the above address within **four (4)** weeks of the date of this notice.

2. INCREASE IN THE RATE OF DUTY ON:

Blades for windscreen wipers, classifiable under tariff subheading 8512.90 from free of duty to 30% *ad valorem*, by way of creating an additional 8-digit subheading under 8512.90 for blades for windscreen wipers

APPLICANT:

Viking Plastics (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 358
Sanlamhof
7532

ITAC reference: 23/2012; **Enquiries:** Siphon Tshabalala, stshabalala@itac.org.za (012 394 3739) or Daniel Thwala, dthwala@itac.org.za (012 394 5162)

REASONS FOR THE APPLICATION AS STATED BY THE APPLICANT:

- The company has steadily lost its total market share to imported blades for windscreen wipers.
- In an effort to remain competitive, the company has reduced the selling price of the subject product to 20% and embarked on a marketing campaign and rebranding to regain the market share.
- The decline in the manufacturing sector coupled with rising operational costs (labour, electricity and other utilities etc.) is proving challenges.

PUBLICATION PERIOD:

Representation should be submitted within **four (4) weeks** of the date of this notice.

3. DECREASE IN THE GENERAL RATE OF CUSTOMS DUTY ON:

“Wheel hubs (excluding those of unmachined cast metal) classifiable under tariff subheading 8708.50.20, from 20% *ad valorem* to free of duty”.

APPLICANT:

Hudaco Trading (Pty) Ltd
Private Bag 9
Elandsfontein
1406

ITAC Reference: [20/2013]. Enquiries and correspondence should be directed to: Mr N Mahlalela on Tel: (012) 394 3684; Fax: (012) 394 4684 or email: nmahlalela@itac.org.za

REASONS FOR THE APPLICATION:

As reasons for the application, the applicant cited the following:

- There are currently no local manufacturers of the subject product in SACU due to lack of the equipment necessary for precision manufacturing and the unavailability of accurate torque level setting.
- The benefits of the duty reduction will be passed on to the buyers of the product should the application be successful.

PUBLICATION PERIOD:

Representation should be submitted within **four (4) weeks** of the date of this notice.

4. REBATE OF DUTY ON:

Methyl Ester Sulphate classifiable in tariff subheading 3402.11, for the manufacture of washing preparations (detergents) classifiable in tariff heading 34.02.

APPLICANT:**Unilever South Africa (PTY) LTD**

P O BOX 4923

Durban

4000

Ref: 16/2012 Enquiries: Mr. Nkulana Phenya, Fax: (012) 394-4677

Email: nphenya@itac.org.za or Ms. Ayanda Ndou, Fax: (012) 394 4724; Email: endou@itac.org.za.

REASON FOR THE APPLICATION:

As a reason for the application, the applicant indicated that the product in question is not manufactured in the SACU.

PUBLICATION PERIOD:

Representation should be submitted to the above address within **four (4) weeks** of the date of this notice.

LIST 15/2013 WAS PUBLISHED UNDER NOTICE 945 OF 20 SEPTEMBER 2013