

NOTICE 448 OF 2014**INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION****CUSTOMS TARIFF APPLICATIONS****LIST 06/2014**

The International Trade Administration Commission (herein after referred to as ITAC or the Commission) has received the following application concerning the Customs Tariff. Any objection to or comments on this representation 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 this application 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.

INCREASE IN THE RATE OF DUTY ON:

Helical springs classifiable under tariff subheading 7320.20 from 5% to 30% *ad valorem*, by way of creating an additional 8-digit tariff subheading under 7320.20 for: Helical springs with a wire diameter of more than 1.32mm but not exceeding 2.43mm.

APPLICANT:

Bedding Component Manufacturers (Pty) Ltd
PO Box 38061
Booyens
2016

Enquiries: ITAC Ref: 44/2013, Enquiries: Mr. D Thwala Tel: 012 394 5162 or Email: dthwala@itac.org.za.

REASONS AS STATED BY THE APPLICANT:

- The customers are importing the subject products at very low prices.
- The raw material costs are higher than the final imported product, making the industry uncompetitive.
- In the year 2008, the applicant employed 500 people in its Johannesburg and Durban branches. However, due to low priced imports and losing customers, the Durban branch had to be closed. This resulted in retrenchments of 250 employees. The employment numbers have since been further reduced to 145 due to the company's inability to compete with low priced imports.

PUBLICATION PERIOD:

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