

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION

NOTICE 602 OF 2020

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION

CUSTOMS TARIFF APPLICATIONSLIST 09/2020

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 comment 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.

1. INCREASE IN THE RATE OF CUSTOMS DUTY ON:

“Certain bars and rods of iron or steel, whether or not alloyed, not further worked than cold-formed or cold-finished (“Bright bars”), classifiable under tariff subheadings 7215.10, 7215.50, and 7228.50, from free of duty to 10% ad valorem”

APPLICANT:**Macsteel Services Centres SA (Pty) Ltd**

7 Brook Road

Lilianton

Boksburg

Gauteng

1459

Enquiries: ITAC Ref: **04/2020**, Enquiries: Ms. Mukeliwe Manyoni, Mr. Njabulo Mahlalela and Ms. Lufuno Maliaga. They can be contacted at telephone numbers 012 394 3676/3684/3835 or alternately by e-mail at mmanyoni@itac.org.za/ nmahlalela@itac.org.za/ lmaliaga@itac.org.za.

REASONS FOR THE APPLICATION:

As motivation for the application, the applicant cited, *inter alia*, the following:

- Prior to 2008, there were about five (5) manufacturers of bright bar products supplying the domestic market and export markets. This number has since reduced to only three (3) manufacturers due to increased import pressure, particularly from Asian imports;
- While the applicant’s production volumes of bright bar were on an upward trend prior to 2013, volumes have since plummeted to unsustainable levels in recent years, almost dropping by 50%;
- From 2014, the applicant’s annual production volumes of bright bar declined sharply, year-on-year, despite the closure of a second domestic manufacturer of bright bar products in 2015;
- Imported bright bar products from Asia, for example, are cheaper than the local raw material cost; and
- Duty protection on the subject product will protect the bright bar industry against job losses and will ensure the future sustainability of domestic manufacturers.

PUBLICATION PERIOD:

Written representations must be submitted within **four (4) weeks** of the date of this notice.

2. CREATION OF A TEMPORARY REBATE PROVISION ON ORDINARY CUSTOMS DUTIES AND SAFEGUARD CUSTOMS DUTIES APPLICABLE TO:

“Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width of 600 mm or more, in coils, not further worked than hot-rolled, pickled, of a thickness of less than 3 mm, for use in the automotive industry, in such quantities, at such times and subject to such conditions as the International Trade Administration Commission may allow by specific permit, provided the products are not available in the SACU market.”

APPLICANT:

Aveng Trident Steel, a division of Aveng Africa (Pty) Ltd.

P.O. Box 124054

Alrode

1451

Enquiries: ITAC Ref: 30/2019. Enquires Mr T. Sejamoholo and Mr C. Greyling.

Tel: 012 394 1605/3690 and/or e-mail: tsejamoholo@itac.org.za/cgreyling@itac.org.za

REASONS FOR THE APPLICATION:

As motivation for the application, the applicant cited, *inter alia*, the following:

- The subject products are currently not manufactured in the SACU region; and
- The duties have an unnecessary cost-raising effect to downstream users in the automotive industry.

PUBLICATION PERIOD:

Written representations must be submitted within four (4) weeks of the date of this notice.