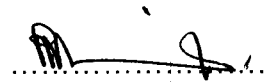


Report No. 108

Application for an increase in the rate of duty on split roller bearing housings and split roller bearing supports

The International Trade Administration Commission herewith presents its Report
No. 108: Application for an increase in the rate of duty on split roller bearing
 housings and split roller bearing supports



Nomonde Maimela
CHIEF COMMISSIONER

PRETORIA

12 May.....2005

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION

REPORT NO. 108

APPLICATION FOR AN INCREASE IN THE RATE OF DUTY ON SPLIT ROLLER BEARING HOUSINGS AND SPLIT ROLLER BEARING SUPPORTS

Synopsis

The International Trade Administration Commission (ITAC) considered an application for an increase in the rate of duty on split roller bearing housings and split roller bearing supports classifiable under tariff subheadings 73.25 and 8483.30 respectively.

The motivation for the application was that the applicant had difficulty in competing with imports originating from the European Union (EU) and South Korea.

The Commission considered the information at its disposal but could not find justification for recommending an increase in the rate of duty on split roller bearing housings and split roller bearing supports.

The application

1. The International Trade Administration Commission considered an application for an increase in the rate of duty on split roller bearing housings and split roller bearing supports classifiable under tariff subheadings 73.25 and 8483.30 respectively.
2. The applicant is the only manufacturer of split roller bearings in the Southern African Customs Union.
3. The application was published in the Government Gazette on the 18th of February 2005 for comment from industry.

The reason for the application

4. The motivation for the application was that the applicant had difficulty in competing with low-priced imports originating from the EU and South Korea.

The tariff position

5. Split roller bearings, which comprise both split roller bearing housings and split roller bearing supports are currently classifiable under tariff subheadings 73.25 and 8483.30.90 respectively at free of duty as follows:

Tariff heading	Description	General	EU	SADC
84.83	Transmission Shafts (Including Cam Shafts and Crank Shafts) and Cranks; Bearing housings and Plain Shaft Bearings; Gears and Gearing Ball or Roller Screws; Gear Boxes and Other Speed Changers, Including Pulley Blocks; Clutches and Shaft Couplings (Including Universal Joints):			
8483.10	-Transmission shafts (including cam shafts and crank shafts) and cranks	Free	Free	Free
8483.20	- Bearing housings, incorporating ball or roller bearings	Free	Free	Free
8483.30	- Bearing housings, no incorporating ball or roller bearings; plain shaft bearings:			
8483.30.55	= Plain shaft bearings, of a kind consisting of halves, with an inside diameter not exceeding 125mm and a wall thickness of less than 5mm	20%	18%	Free
8483.30.90	-Other	Free	Free	Free

Tariff heading	Description	General	EU	SADC
73.25	Other Cast Articles of Iron or Steel:			
7325.10	- Of non-malleable cast iron	Free	Free	Free
7325.9	- Other	Free	Free	Free
7325.91	= Grinding balls and similar articles for mills			
7325.99	= Other	Free	Free	Free

Findings

6. The Commission found that 85% of the imports of these products originated from the EU. The rate of duty would therefore be applicable to only 15% of imports originating outside the EU.
7. In the light of the price information at its disposal, the Commission could not find sufficient justification for an increase in the rate of duty on split roller bearings.
8. The Commission concluded that an increase in duty would have an unnecessary cost-raising effect for the users of the product.

Recommendation

9. The Commission recommended that the application for an increase in the rate of duty on split roller bearing housings and split roller bearing supports be rejected.

[T5/2/18/1 (46/2004)]