



Support U.S. Aluminum Workers and Fair Trade

In October 2023, the United Steelworkers (USW) and the U.S. Aluminum Extruders Coalition (the USAEC — consisting of 14 U.S. companies) filed antidumping and countervailing duty (AD/CVD) petitions at the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) and the Department of Commerce (DOC) against imports of aluminum extrusions from China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and Vietnam. This action was taken to defend U.S. workers and one of our critical industries, as American manufacturing is being kneecapped by foreign-produced and unfairly imported extruded aluminum products. Aluminum extrusions are used in an extremely wide range of commercial and defense applications, and are often assembled with other parts into subassemblies of larger downstream products.

In November 2023, USITC made a unanimous preliminary determination that there is a reasonable indication that the U.S. industry is materially injured by reason of imports of aluminum extrusions from 14 of the countries. Later, on March 5, 2024, DOC announced its preliminary finding in the four CVD cases that the governments of China, Indonesia, Mexico, and Turkey unfairly subsidize their aluminum extrusion industries. We expect that preliminary antidumping duties on all 14 countries will be announced in early May.

Some organizations, in opposition to domestic producers, have been distributing outdated and misleading information about the petitions. USW seeks to address any misinformation you may have received, and focus on the facts:

- USW and USAEC are not trying to cover all downstream products and assemblies that incorporate aluminum extrusions. First, the scope clearly states that duties will only be on the aluminum extrusion portion of any assembled merchandise, which DOC has confirmed. Second, the scope covers only certain subassemblies that include aluminum extrusions – not all downstream products and assemblies.
- Including subassemblies is important because American workers and producers make these products, as do the foreign producers. If all subassemblies are taken out of the scope, that would give unfairly traded imports a free pass to circumvent duties and kill the U.S. aluminum extrusions industry. USW and USAEC are seeking to cover only those products that U.S. aluminum extruders make and are facing unfair competition from – which is the entire purpose of our nation's trade remedy laws.
- The petitioners have refined the scope to narrowly tailor the language to cover only those products that will provide meaningful relief to the U.S. industry and its workers. The new proposed scope language more specifically defines the types of parts and subassemblies that contain aluminum extrusions that are unfairly imported in the United States.
- Importers claim the investigations would overly burden U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) from doing their statutorily mandated duty. U.S. trade law does not contemplate denying relief to domestic producers and workers because importers complain that enforcement would burden a core operation of a federal agency. In fact, the refined scope language would be even more readily administrable by CBP.
- Domestic capacity exists in numerous product lines that importers have complained about covering in the scope of the investigations. This is an unfair pricing issue (importers wanting to continue to avail themselves of the unfairly subsidized/dumped price), not an issue of domestic availability.
- Opposition to the investigation undermines a U.S. industry that is vital to national and economic security. Failure to enforce U.S. trade laws will result in the offshoring of more critical U.S. production and jobs. USW and USAEC are seeking relief from unfairly traded imports as their threat to the U.S. industry and workers is grave, and warrants investigation and relief.

As these critical AD/CVD investigations continue, USW hopes that Members of Congress will support our efforts to ensure a level playing field for American workers and producers. Please do not hesitate to reach out to USW and/or USAEC should you have any questions.