# Washington Tariff & Trade Letter

Vol. 43, No 35

<u>wttlonline.com</u>

August 28, 2023

# **BIS Clears Verification Backlog, Credits Policy Change**

In a sign that more rigorous policies to ensure host country cooperation are bearing fruit, Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security announced that 33 parties will be removed from the Unverified List, 27 of which are based in the People's Republic of China (PRC) with others located in Indonesia, Pakistan, Singapore, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates.

BIS is taking this action because it was able to establish the bona fides – i.e., legitimacy and reliability relating to the end use or end user of items subject to the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) – of these parties through the successful completion of end-use checks. <u>READ MORE</u>

# **EXIM funds more Angola Projects**

The Export Import Bank of the US (EXIM) has announced the funding of the construction of bridges and associated infrastructure at 186 sites, distributed throughout eighteen provinces in Angola. While the total amount of the obligation is not disclosed, the announcement indicated the value is in excess of \$100 million.

Acrow Corporation of America will manufacture the bridge components in its Milton, PA plant. According to CEO Bill Killeen exports now make up at least 75% of the company's approximately \$80 million annual revenue. <u>READ</u>

# **EU CBAM Guidance Published**

The European Commission has adopted the rules governing the implementation of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) during its transitional phase, which starts on 1 October of this year and runs until the end of 2025.

The Implementing Regulation published August 17, details the transitional reporting obligations for EU importers of CBAM goods, as well as the transitional methodology for calculating embedded emissions released during the production process of CBAM goods. <u>READ MORE</u>

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#### Stumpage Spat Continues

In the latest development of a decades-long trade dispute between Canada and the United States, the Canadian government has filed for a judicial review of last month's U.S. Commerce Department's assessment on softwood lumber duties. International Trade Minister Mary Ng described the levies as "unfair, unjust, and illegal" in a statement released earlier this week.

The U.S. Commerce Department's fourth administrative review established a combined duty rate of 7.99%, a slight decrease from the previous rate of 8.59%. Canada's softwood producers say they have paid more than \$8-billion in lumber duties to the U.S. from 2017 to 2022. <u>READ MORE</u>

#### **BIS Proposes Section 232 Exclusion Revised Rule**

Based on a BIS review of the existing Section 232 exclusion process for areas of improvement and public comments on the current process for submissions to BIS, BIS is publishing this proposed rule to propose revisions to the Section 232 exclusions process, including to the Section 232 Exclusions Portal.

The proposed rule to amend the Section 232 exclusions process comprises four salient modifications designed to refine efficiency, fairness, and transparency. <u>READ MORE</u>

## **CBP determines Evasion in China - Sri Lanka Transshipment Case**

CBP published a notice citing U.S. importer YVC's evasion of Anti-Dumping (AD) and Countervailing Duties (CVD) under the Enforce and Protect Act (EAPA). YVC exploited transshipment routes via third countries, particularly Sri Lanka, to obscure the Chinese origin of Forged Steel Fittings (FSF). Such practices, if proven, are in direct contravention of U.S. trade laws and regulations. <u>READ MORE</u>

#### Membership Opportunities to the United States-India CEO Forum

The US Department of Commerce (ITA) announces an additional opportunity to apply for appointment to the U.S. Section of the U.S.-India CEO Forum previously recruited via the notices published in the Federal Register February 18, 2022 and March 23, 2022.

The U.S.-India Forum is a collaborative body aiming to enhance bilateral commercial ties. Eligible individuals must represent companies with strong U.S. connections and interests in India, and fulfill specific criteria emphasizing commitment to the Indian market, inclusive growth, labor standards, supply chain resilience, and environmental sustainability. <u>READ MORE</u>

#### **CFIUS Annual Conference Sep 14**

The U.S. Department of the Treasury is pleased to announce the second annual Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) Conference, which will take place on Thursday, September 14th at the U.S. Department of the Treasury. This event will feature keynote speeches and panel discussions with representatives from across the U.S. Government who will provide insights on topics relevant to the Committee's work. <u>READ MORE</u>

# ITA - AD/CVD Notices

International Trade Administration Notices

Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Investigations, Orders, or Reviews:

Certain Steel Nails from the People's Republic of China Light-Walled Rectangular Pipe and Tube from the People's Republic of China

#### Determination of Sales at Less than Fair Value:

Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from Taiwan READ MORE

# Lexmark Parent Sues to Lift Slavery Sanctions

Chinese printer manufacture Ninestar, parent of Lexmark International, has filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and other related parties of the U.S. government before the U.S. Court of International Trade.

DHS added Ninestar and certain of its subsidiaries to the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA) Entity List, and the company "is suffering irreparable harm to its business and reputation based on the listing," according to a statement. READ MORE

## More Burma Sanctions Announced

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) issued a determination that allows sanctions to be imposed on any foreign individual or entity that operates in the jet fuel sector of the ... **READ MORE** 

# **OFAC Congo Sanctions**

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctioned six individuals for contributing to the most recent escalation of conflict in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Individuals sanctioned include the FDLR's defense commissioner and a Brigadier General in in charge of intelligence, as well as the leader of the the FDLR-affiliated Maccabe group, formerly known as the Commando de Recherche et D'Action en Profondeur(CRAP). Additional individuals named include a Colonel in the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and a Brigadier General of the Rwandan defense forces (RDF) <u>READ MORE</u>

#### Musk's SpaceX Cited for Using ITAR as Excuse to Discriminate

After complaining since at least 2005 that "we really need to do something about ITAR. It is really hurting U.S. industry," and citing export controls for not hiring eligible non-citizens, South African immigrant Elon Musk's company SpaceX has been sued by the Justice Department for employment discrimination.

The United States Department of Justice has filed a lawsuit against Space Exploration Technologies Corp. (SpaceX) for discriminating against asylees and refugees in its hiring process. The lawsuit contends that from September 2018 to May 2022, SpaceX deliberately discouraged such individuals from applying for positions within the company, violating the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). <u>READ MORE</u>

#### 3M Settles China "Educational Travel" FCPA Case

The Securities and Exchange Commission has accepted an Offer of Settlement from Minnesota's 3M Company, closing its investigation into violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act by 3M's subsidiary, 3M-China Ltd.

Key findings from the investigation, which covered activities between 2014 and 2017, include:

- 3M-China disbursed approximately \$1 million to fund at least 24 overseas trips for Chinese Government Officials, which incorporated Tourism Activities.
- The expenses for these trips were incorrectly recorded in 3M's consolidated financial records as legitimate business expenditures, with no notation indicating the inclusion of Tourism Activities.
- As a result of these actions, 3M garnered improper benefits amounting to at least \$3.5 million from augmented sales. ... <u>READ MORE</u>

#### FSB Operative TDO Renewed

As detailed in the initial TDO issued on February 24, 2023, Balakaev engaged in conduct prohibited by the Regulations by unlawfully procuring and exporting from the United States electronic ... **READ MORE** 

## **BIS - Orders Denying Export Privileges**

BIS Announced three Orders Denying Export Privileges Friday, two for gunrunning to Mexico and Canada, and one for the export of an "eyepiece" to China. <u>READ MORE</u>