Updated Case Study on Tariffs & Mitigation

Madison International Trade Association

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About Modine





- Modine specializes in thermal management systems and components:
 - Bringing highly engineered heating and cooling components, original equipment products, and systems to diversified global markets.
- Three business segments:
 - Vehicular Thermal Solutions (VTS),
 - Commercial & Industrial Solutions (CIS), and
 - Building HVAC Systems (BHVAC).
- Headquartered in Racine.
- Operations in North America, South America, Europe and Asia.
- Fiscal 2019 revenues of \$2.2 billion.

301 Tariffs





- Reason = Intellectual property concerns.
- Only affects Chinese-origin products.
- Multiple lists:
 - List 1 started July 6, 2018 (25%).
 - List 2 started August 23, 2018 (25%).
 - List 3 started September 24, 2018 (10%, increased to 25%).
 - List 4a started September 25, 2019 (15%, decreased to 7.5%).
 - List 4b deferred.
- Affects a wide range of HTS (import classification codes)
 - Some raw materials and some finished goods.
- China imposed tariffs in response to US tariffs.

232 Tariffs





- Reason = National security concerns.
- Affects most countries
 - Some exclusions/quotas for certain countries.
 - Country of origin, not country of export.
- Aluminum duties are 10%; steel duties are 25%.



Change Suppliers





- Factors to consider:
 - Time quotes, validation process, etc.
 - May need customer approval.
 - Upfront investment increased cost in the short-term (ex: tooling).
 - Lack of capacity in the US and non-targeted countries.
- Conducted comprehensive review of options
 - Have made some supplier changes because of tariffs
- Some suppliers are changing their countries of manufacture
 - Need to verify origin to avoid transshipment issues

Exclusion Requests - 301





- Main agency = USTR
- Main Factors:
 - product only available in China;
 - additional duties would cause severe economic harm to the requester or other U.S. interests; and
 - product not strategically important or related to "Made in China 2025" or other Chinese industrial programs.
- Submission deadline has passed for lists 1, 2, 3, and 4a
 - No process yet for list 4b
- Retroactive back to the date of the tariff implementation
- Anyone can take advantage of granted exclusions

Exclusion Requests 301





Section 301 China Tariff Overview (as of January 15, 2020)

Tariff Action	Approx. Im- port Value	Duty Rate & Effec- tive Date	Exclusion Process
List 1	\$34 Billion	25% (from July 6, 2018)	Process Closed Oct. 9, 2018; ~11K applications filed;
			33.8% granted, 66.2% denied across nine batches from 12/18-10/19
			Renewal possible on rolling basis, ~1 year after each batch granted
List 2	\$16 Billion	25% (from August 23, 2018)	Process Closed Dec. 18, 2018; ~3K applications filed
			34.4% granted, 62.5% denied across three batches from 07/19-10/19
			Renewal process expected, ~1 year after initial batch granted
List 3	\$200 Billion	10% (from Sep. 24 2018)	Process Closed Sep. 30, 2019; ~30K applications filed
		25% (from June 15, 2019)	1.1% granted, 40% denied, 58.9% pending in batches, ongoing basis Renewal process expected

List 4A	\$120 Billion \$156 Bil- lion*	15% (from Sep. 1, 2019) 7.5% (planned for Feb. 14, 2020)	Process open through January 31, 2020
List 4B		Deferred	

^{*} USTR has referred to combined List 4 value as "\$300 billion," and List 4A value as "\$120 billion," U.S. Census data and press reports value annual imports from List 4B at \$156 billion.

Source: Baker McKenzie International Trade Compliance Update February 2020

USTR 301 Website





China Section 301-Tariff Actions and Exclusion Process

\$34 Billion Trade Action (List 1)

\$16 Billion Trade Action (List 2)

\$200 Billion Trade Action (List 3)

\$300 Billion Trade Action (List 4)

- https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/enforcement/section-301-investigations/tariffactions
- Searchable lists within in each section

Exclusion Requests - 232





- Main agency = Commerce
- Main Factors:
 - Availability in the US
 - National security requirements
- No deadline for submission
- Time period
 - If successful, retroactive to date of submissions
 - Valid for one year from the date letter signed
 - Issue: Volume request is per year, but exclusion period is longer than a year
- Only applicable to submitting company

Commerce 232 Website





232 Exclusions Portal BIS 232 Regulations.gov dockets

Commerce 232

232 Exclusions Portal

Steel Page

Steel Docket

Steel Page

232 Exclusions Portal Interim Final Rule (June 10, 2019)

Aluminum Page Aluminum Docket Aluminum Page

232 Exclusions Portal User Guide Steel Forms & Supporting Guides

232 Exclusions Process FAQs Aluminum Forms & Supporting Guides

https://www.commerce.gov/page/section-232-investigations

Exclusion Requests – Our Process





- Many departments involved to prioritize products and compile information
- Checked for comments
 - Short timeframe to respond
- Long process for decisions
- Work with suppliers on using granted exclusions
- Developed a process to track competitors' submissions
 - Comment/oppose those filings

Exclusion Process Challenges





- Change in process at various stages:
 - Different portals, different forms, different requirements.
- Criticisms not just from submitting companies:
 - 232 Inspector general report (October 2019) noted lack of transparency in the process and other issues
 - 301 Law-makers have publicly called for improvements to the process

Other Mitigation Options





Drawback

- Only applicable for 301 duties, not 232.
- Need to track imports and exports; requires communication between all involved parties.

Foreign Trade Zones

 Consider your level of exports versus imports of the finished goods into the US.

Reclassification

- Consider the impact of any owed duties and interest for the misclassification over the last 5 years.
- In certain cases, could also be penalties.



Uncertainty





- Derivative articles:
 - Exact scope not known for several days
- Brazil:
 - President Trump tweeted that 232 quota would be removed; later changed course
- List 4a reduced from 15% to 7.5%:
 - Timing of implementation not known for some time
- Causes difficulty advising the business and difficulty in business planning

The Difference a Year Makes





- Phase One agreement with China
 - Reduction in List 4a tariffs
 - China has reduced some tariffs and made other concessions
 - Other tariffs and issues still outstanding
- Uncertainty remains
 - Tariffs being added/evolving
 - Pending decisions on exclusion requests
 - Impact of coronavirus
- Some stabilizing
 - Have come to agreements with many customers/suppliers
 - New contracts more likely to take these tariffs into consideration
 - Less prominence in earnings calls



Resources





- Ex/Im Daily Update trade developments, including tariffs
 Jim Bartlett, Full Circle Compliance ("FCC") < jebartlett@fullcirclecompliance.eu>
 20-0302 Monday "Daily Bugle"
- Bloomberg Terms of Trade daily newsletter
- Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg Trade Report periodic email updates
- Mike Dankler 232 Updates
 Dankler, Mike < Mike. Dankler@mail.house.gov>
 232 Update 2/28/2020
- Baker McKenzie
 - Monthly International Trade Report
 - Periodic email on 301 from John Foote

Resources (cont.)





- Trade associations
 - NAM has been very helpful
- Outside lawyers
 - Good sources of developments
 - Advice on substantive questions, exclusions requests

