

Australian Customs Notice 1999 07A

CUSTOMS ACT 1901 - PART XVB CONTINUATION INQUIRY: A4 COPY PAPER EXPORTED FROM BRAZIL, GERMANY AND SOUTH AFRICA

The Australian Customs Service has completed its inquiry into whether dumping duties currently applying to exports of A4 copy paper from Brazil, Germany and South Africa should be continued for a further five years. The findings of Customs are detailed in Trade Measures Report No. 3.

Customs found evidence of continued dumping from the nominated exporters in South Africa and Germany. Customs is satisfied that the expiration of the dumping duties would lead - or would be likely to lead - to a continuation, or a recurrence, of the dumping and the material injury that the measure is intended to prevent.

Customs was not satisfied that the expiration of the dumping duty on exports to Australia by the nominated exporter in Brazil would lead to a recurrence of the dumping and the material injury that the duty is intended to prevent.

Accordingly, Customs recommended that the Minister:

- take no action to continue the dumping duty on exports by the nominated exporter in Brazil;
- continue the dumping duties on A4 copy paper exported to Australia by the nominated exporters in South Africa and Germany; and, if agreed
- request Customs to initiate a review under s.269ZA(3) of the *Customs Act* of the dumping duties to be continued because one or more of the variable factors has changed.

The Minister has accepted the recommendations.

A printed version of Trade Measures Report No. 3 is expected to be available shortly. A copy of the summary page from the Report is attached.

A copy of Report No. 3 will be sent to each of those parties who made submissions to the inquiry. Copies will also be available on request from Phil Hilyard, Trade Measures Branch, at Customs by telephoning (02) 6275-6057 or by e-mail at phil.hilyard@customs.gov.au

Trade Measures Report No. 3 will also be available on the Internet at:

Any questions about this notice may be directed to Larry Roux, Director Dumping Liaison on (02) 6275-5962.

SUMMARY

This report presents Customs conclusions and recommendations to the Minister as a result of its inquiry into the continuation of the dumping duties currently applying to A4 copy paper exported to Australia from:

- Companhia Votorantim de Celulose e Papel - known as VCP (Brazil);
- Nordland Papier AG (Germany); and
- Mondi Paper Company (South Africa).

Under the Australian anti-dumping legislation, dumping duties automatically expire five years after their imposition. The dumping duties applying to A4 copy paper from the above sources are due to expire on 16 February 1999. However, interested parties are able to apply to Customs for their continuation for a further five years beyond the expiry date.

Following an application from Australian Paper Pty Ltd for the continuation of the duties, Customs initiated this inquiry on 17 August 1998.

The goods under inquiry are woodfree, uncoated white A4 cut ream copy paper from 75 to 80 grams per square metre. The paper is used in a wide variety of equipment designed to photocopy or print text and illustrations. Customs estimates the Australian market for A4 copy paper is currently worth between \$250 and \$300 million annually.

Before recommending the continuation of dumping duties, Customs must be satisfied that the expiration of the duties would lead (or would be likely to lead) to a continuation (or recurrence) of the material injury that the duties were intended to prevent.

From its inquiries with the Australian industry as well as importers and exporters of A4 copy paper, Customs is not satisfied that the expiration of the dumping duties on exports by VCP from Brazil would be likely to lead to a recurrence of dumping and consequent material injury to the Australian industry.

On the basis of the available evidence, Customs is satisfied that there is a threat of dumping from future exports by Nordland and Mondi Paper. Customs is also satisfied that, in the absence of dumping duties, dumped imports of A4 copy paper from these sources will cause material injury to the Australian industry.

Accordingly, Customs has recommended to the Minister that the dumping duties on exports of A4 copy paper by VCP should not be

continued beyond their scheduled expiry date. Customs has also recommended that the dumping duties currently applying to exports of A4 copy paper by Nordland and Mondi Paper should be continued for a further five-year period.

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for Chief Executive Officer

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15 February 1999