U.S. PURCHASERS' QUESTIONNAIRE

PAPER SHOPPING BAGS FROM CAMBODIA, CHINA, COLOMBIA, INDIA, MALAYSIA, PORTUGAL, TAIWAN, TURKEY, AND VIETNAM

This questionnaire must be received by the Commission by <u>February 6, 2024</u> See last page for instructions regarding how to file this questionnaire.

The information called for in this questionnaire is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its countervailing duty and antidumping investigations concerning paper shopping bags from Cambodia, China, Colombia, India, Malaysia, Portugal, Taiwan, Turkey, and Vietnam (Inv. Nos. 701-TA-690-691 and 731-TA-1619-1627 (Final)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII. This report is mandatory and failure to reply as directed can result in a subpoena or other order to compel the submission of records or information in your possession (19 U.S.C. § 1333(a)). Further information on this questionnaire can be obtained from Craig Thomsen (202-205-3226, <a href="mailto:craig:cr

Name of firm

	State Zi	——————————————————————————————————————
Website		
•	ised, or imported for its own use or retail sale, pape ce (domestic or foreign) at any time since January 1,	,, , ,
NO (Sign t	the certification below and promptly return only this page	e of the questionnaire to the Commission)
YES (Comp	plete all parts of the questionnaire, and return the entire	questionnaire to the Commission)
	ire via the U.S. International Trade Commission ps://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/. (PIN: XXXX). See	
	CERTIFICATION	_
g uns cerujication i		employees and contract personnel, to use th
mation provided in this que commission on the same or commission on the same or commission on the same or commission or other proceeding or other proceeding or other proceeding or ws, and evaluations related to the commission of	sestionnaire and throughout this proceeding in an similar merchandise. Ige that information submitted in response to the gs may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Common maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding to the programs, personnel, and operation the employees and contract personnel, solely propriate nondisclosure agreements.	y other import-injury proceedings conducted b is request for information and throughout thi nission, its employees and Offices, and contrac ceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits s of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C
mation provided in this que commission on the same or commission on the same or commission or other proceeding or other proceeding or other proceeding or ws, and evaluations related to the commission of the com	ge that information submitted in response to the gs may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Common representation of this or a related processing to the programs, personnel, and operation to the programs, personnel, and operation represented the programs.	y other import-injury proceedings conducted b is request for information and throughout thi nission, its employees and Offices, and contrac ceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits s of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C

PART I.—GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.—This proceeding was instituted in response to petitions filed on May 31, 2023, by the Coalition for Fair Trade in Shopping Bags, a coalition whose members include Novolex Holdings, LLC, Charlotte, North Carolina, and the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Countervailing and/or antidumping duties may be assessed on the subject imports as a result of these proceedings if the Commission makes an affirmative determination of injury, threat, or material retardation, and if the U.S. Department of Commerce ("Commerce") makes an affirmative determination of subsidization and/or dumping. Questionnaires and other information pertinent to this proceeding are available at the following locations:

Questionnaires: https://usitc.gov/reports/active import injury questionnaires.

Other information: https://ids.usitc.gov/case/8128/investigation/8430

<u>Paper shopping bags</u> within the scope of these investigations are paper shopping bags with handles of any type, regardless of whether there is any printing, regardless of how the top edges are finished (e.g., folded, serrated, or otherwise finished), regardless of color, and regardless of whether the top edges contain adhesive or other material for sealing closed. Subject paper shopping bags have a width of at least 4.5 inches and depth of at least 2.5 inches.

Paper shopping bags typically are made of kraft paper but can be made from any type of cellulose fiber, paperboard, or pressboard with a basis weight less than 300 grams per square meter (GSM).

A non-exhaustive illustrative list of the types of handles on shopping bags covered by the scope include handles made from any materials such as twisted paper, flat paper, yarn, ribbon, rope, string, or plastic, as well as die-cut handles (whether the punchout is fully removed or partially attached as a flap).

Excluded from the scope are:

- Paper sacks or bags that are of a 1/6 or 1/7 barrel size (i.e., 11.5-12.5 inches in width, 6.5-7.5 inches in depth, and 13.5-17.5 inches in height) with flat paper handles or die-cut handles;
- Paper sacks or bags with die-cut handles, a grams per square meter paper weight of less than 86 GSM, and a height of less than 11.5 inches; and
- Paper sacks or bags (i) with non-paper handles made wholly of woven ribbon or other similar woven fabric¹ and (ii) that are finished with folded tops or for which tied knots or t-bar aglets (made of wood, metal, or plastic) are used to secure the handles to the bags.

The above-referenced dimensions are provided for paper bags in the opened position. The height of the bag is the distance from the bottom fold edge to the top edge (i.e., excluding the height of handles that extend above the top edge). The depth of the bag is the distance from the front of the bag edge to the back of the bag edge (typically measured at the bottom of the bag). The width of the bag is measured from the left to the right edges of the front and back panels (upon which the handles typically are located).

¹ Paper sacks or bags with handles made of braided or twisted materials, such as rope or cord, do not qualify for this exclusion.

This merchandise is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheadings 4819.30.00 and 4819.40.00 (statistical reporting numbers 4819.30.0040 and 4819.40.0040). The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

<u>Other paper bags</u> include certain other handled paper bags expressly excluded from the scope in the bullet list included in the definition of "paper shopping bags" above, as well as other bags made from the same kraft paper or cellulose fiber as "paper shopping bags" but without handles, including but not limited to other grocery bags, self-opening sacks (SOS), other types of paper bag not otherwise expressly covered by the term "paper shopping bags." This product group includes:

- Paper sacks or bags that are of a 1/6 or 1/7 barrel size (i.e., 11.5-12.5 inches in width, 6.5-7.5 inches in depth, and 13.5-17.5 inches in height) with flat paper handles or die-cut handles (i.e., paper grocery bags with handles);
- Paper sacks or bags with die-cut handles, a grams per square meter paper weight of less than 86 GSM, and a height of less than 11.5 inches;
- Paper sacks or bags (i) with non-paper handles made wholly of woven ribbon or other similar woven fabric and (ii) that are finished with folded tops or for which tied knots or t-bar aglets (made of wood, metal, or plastic) are used to secure the handles to the bags;
- All other grocery bags (i.e., grocery bags without handles);
- SOS bags; and
- Other paper bags without handles that would otherwise match the definition of paper shopping bags but for the lack of a handle.

This merchandise is classifiable under the same HTSUS subheadings as paper shopping bags.

<u>Importer</u>.--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing paper shopping bags (as defined above) into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

<u>Reporting of information</u>.--If information is not readily available from your records, provide carefully prepared estimates. If your firm is completing more than one questionnaire (i.e., a producer, importer, and/or purchaser questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions.

<u>Confidentiality</u>.--The commercial and financial data furnished in response to this questionnaire that reveal the individual operations of your firm will be treated as confidential by the Commission to the extent that such data are not otherwise available to the public and will not be disclosed except as may be required by law (see 19 U.S.C. § 1677f). Such confidential information will not be published in a manner that will reveal the individual operations of your firm; however, general characterizations of numerical business proprietary information (such as discussion of trends) will be treated as confidential business information only at the request of the submitter for good cause shown.

<u>Verification</u>.--The information submitted in this questionnaire is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. To facilitate possible verification of data, please keep all files, worksheets, and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire response. Please also retain a copy of the final document that you submit.

Release of information.--The information provided by your firm in response to this questionnaire, as well as any other business proprietary information submitted by your firm to the Commission in connection with this proceeding, may become subject to, and released under, the administrative protective order provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1677f) and section 207.7 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.7). This means that certain lawyers and other authorized individuals may temporarily be given access to the information for use in connection with this proceeding or other import-injury proceedings conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise; those individuals would be subject to severe penalties if the information were divulged to unauthorized individuals.

I-1. <u>OMB statistics.</u>--Please report the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of completing this questionnaire.

Hours	Dollars

The questions in this questionnaire have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible. Public reporting burden for this questionnaire is estimated to average 25 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering data, and completing and reviewing the questionnaire.

We welcome comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate, suggestions for reducing the burden, and any suggestions for improving this questionnaire. Please attach such comments to your response or send to the Office of Investigations, USITC, 500 E St. SW, Washington, DC 20436.

I-2a.	by this questionnaire	<u>red</u> Provide the name and address of your U.S. establishment(s) covered , if different from that listed on the cover page. Firms operating more than nould combine the data for all establishments into a single response.
		ch facility of a firm involved in the <u>purchase</u> of paper shopping bags, cilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate
I-2b.	-	ation If your firm or parent firm is publicly traded, please specify the rading symbol:
I-2c.		your firm or parent firm is represented by external counsel in relation to ng filed an entry of appearance, please specify the name of the law firm y(s).
	Law firm:	
	Lead attorney(s):	

urchasers' Question	naire – Paper shopping bag s	s (Final)	Pa
OwnershipIs yo	ur firm owned, in whole or i	n part, by any oth	er firm?
□ No □	YesList the following info	ormation, relating	to the ultimate parent/owne
Firm name	Country		Extent of ownership (percent)
United States, or e "Related firm" –A a firm that solely of that was solely or	export paper shopping bags firm that your firm solely or or jointly owned, managed,	to the United Stater r jointly owned, mor or otherwise control otherwise control	paper shopping bags into the es? anaged, or otherwise control folled your firm; and/or a firn lled by a firm that also solely
□ No □	YesList the following info	ormation.	
Firm name	exporter, importer)	Country	Affiliation
·	nPlease identify the responsy contact that individual r		and the manner by which dential information submitte
Telephone			

PART II.--PURCHASES

II-1. <u>Purchases and imports.</u>— Report <u>separately</u> your firm's domestic purchases and imports of paper shopping bags.

"Purchase" – Purchase from a U.S. entity such as a U.S. producer, a U.S. importer, or other U.S. firm.

"Import" – Purchase directly from a foreign supplier and your firm is the importer of record.

Please report separately information for paper shopping bags originating in Taiwan between those <u>produced/exported by Haurtyi Paper Bag Company</u> and those <u>produced/exported by firms other than Haurtyi Paper Bag Company</u>. If your firm imported paper shopping bags at any time since January 1, 2021, please also complete and return a U.S. importers' questionnaire in this proceeding.

Purchases

	2021	2022	2023
Item		Quantity (in pounds)
Purchases of paper shopping			
bags produced in—			
United States			
Cambodia			
China			
Colombia			
India			
Malaysia			
Portugal			
Taiwan (Haurtyi only)			
Taiwan (except for Haurtyi)			
Turkey			
Vietnam			
All other sources ¹			
Sources unknown ²			
Total purchases	0	0	0
¹ Please identify these sources:			

¹ Please identify these sources:

Value of purchases of paper shopping bags from all sources in 2023 in actual dollars: _____

² Please indicate the firm(s) from which you purchased this merchandise:

II-1. Purchases and imports.— (Continued)

Imports

	2021	2022	2023	
Item	Quantity (in pounds)			
Imports of paper shopping bags from—				
Cambodia				
China				
Colombia				
India				
Malaysia				
Portugal				
Taiwan (Haurtyi only)				
Taiwan (other than Haurtyi)				
Turkey				
Vietnam				
All other sources ¹				
Total imports ²	0	0	0	

¹ Please identify these sources:

Total value of paper shopping bags imported from *all sources* in 2023 in actual dollars: _____

² If your firm imported paper shopping bags at any time since January 1, 2021, please also complete and return a U.S. importers' questionnaire in this proceeding.

II-2. <u>Purchases and imports of other paper bags.</u>--Did you import or purchase the following types of other paper bags (as defined on page 3 in the General Instructions)?

OTHER PAPER BAGS

- Scope exclusion 1: Paper sacks or bags that are of a 1/6 or 1/7 barrel size (i.e., 11.5-12.5 inches in width, 6.5-7.5 inches in depth, and 13.5-17.5 inches in height) with flat paper handles or diecut handles (i.e., paper grocery bags with handles);
- **Scope exclusion 2:** Paper sacks or bags with die-cut handles, a grams per square meter paper weight of less than 86 GSM, and a height of less than 11.5 inches;
- Scope exclusion 3: Paper sacks or bags (i) with non-paper handles made wholly of woven ribbon or other similar woven fabric and (ii) that are finished with folded tops or for which tied knots or t-bar aglets (made of wood, metal, or plastic) are used to secure the handles to the bags;
- Other grocery bags: All other grocery bags (i.e., grocery bags without handles);
- **SOS bags:** Self-opening paper sacks; and
- **All other "other paper bags":** Other paper bags without handles that would otherwise match the definition of paper shopping bags but for the lack of a handle.

			Quantity (in pounds) of such purchases and	
Product type	No	Yes	imports	Reason(s) why
Scope exclusion 1 (i.e., paper grocery bags with handles)				
Scope exclusion 2				
Scope exclusion 3				
Other grocery bags (i.e., grocery bags without handles)				
SOS bag				
All other "other paper				

II-3. Sheet-fed vs. web-fed purchases and imports. -- Did you import or purchase the following types of paper shopping bags (i.e., in-scope products reported in question II-1)? If "yes," note the share of your 2023 purchases and imports of such that type of bag.

Product type	No	Yes	Share of 2023 purchases/ imports	Reason(s) why
Sheet-fed paper shopping bags			%	
Web-fed paper shopping bags			%	
Unknown			%	
Total (sum to 100.0%)			0.0 %	

II-4. <u>Changes in purchasing patterns.</u>-- Please indicate whether the shares of your firm's purchases of paper shopping bags steadily decreased, fluctuated but ended lower, were constant, fluctuated but ended higher, or steadily increased since January 1, 2021 from the listed sources.

Select one box per row.

Source of purchases	Did not purchase	Steadily increased	Fluctuated higher	No change	Fluctuated lower	Steadily decreased	Explanation for trend
United States							
Cambodia							
China							
Colombia							
India							
Malaysia							
Portugal							
Taiwan (only Haurtyi)							
Taiwan (other than Haurtyi)							
Turkey							
Vietnam							
All other sources							
Sources unknown							

II-5. Purchasing subject imports rather than domestic products.—

(a)	Since January 2021, did your firm import and/or purchase imports of paper shopping
	bags from Cambodia, China, Colombia, India, Malaysia, Portugal, Taiwan, Turkey, and/or
	Vietnam instead of purchasing U.Sproduced paper shopping bags? Respond for each
	subject source.

Source	Yes (also respond to parts (b) and (c))	No (If "No" for all sources, skip to next question)
Cambodia		
China		
Colombia		
India		
Malaysia		
Portugal		
Taiwan (only Haurtyi)		
Taiwan (other than Haurtyi)		
Turkey		
Vietnam		

(b) If you responded "Yes" to part (a), was the imported product priced lower than the domestic product?

Source	Yes	No
Cambodia		
China		
Colombia		
India		
Malaysia		
Portugal		
Taiwan (only Haurtyi)		
Taiwan (other than Haurtyi)		
Turkey		
Vietnam		

II-5. Purchasing subject imports rather than domestic products.— continued

(c) If you responded "Yes" to part (a), was price a primary reason for importing and/or purchasing subject imports rather than domestic product?

Source	Yes	If Yes, estimate the quantity of imports purchased and/or imported instead of domestic product since January 2020 (in pounds) ¹	No	If No, please indicate the reason your firm imported and/or purchased imports instead of domestic product
Cambodia				
China				
Colombia				
India				
Malaysia				
Portugal				
Taiwan (only Haurtyi)				
Taiwan (other than Haurtyi)				
Turkey				
Vietnam				
¹ If the quantity reported above	e exceeds	the total quantity reported	l in II-1, ple	ease explain.

II-6. U.S. producers and import competition.—

(a) Since January 1, 2021, in connection with a sale or offer to sell paper shopping bags to your firm, did U.S. producers reduce their prices of domestically produced paper shopping bags in order to compete with lower-priced imports of paper shopping bags from the subject sources? Respond for each subject source.

	Yes (also respond to	No (If "No" for all sources, skip	
Source	question part (b))	to next question)	Don't know
Cambodia			
China			
Colombia			
India			
Malaysia			
Portugal			
Taiwan (only Haurtyi)			
Taiwan (other than Haurtyi)			
Turkey			
Vietnam			

II-6. <u>U.S. producers and import competition</u>.—continued

(b) If your firm responded "yes" to any of the above sources, please provide an estimate of the reduction in U.S. producers' prices and any additional explanations.

Source	Estimated reduction in U.S. prices (percent)	Additional explanation, including such information as timing (e.g., months/years), frequency of price reductions, or other market/competitive factors
Cambodia	%	
China	%	
Colombia	%	
India	%	
Malaysia	%	
Portugal	%	
Taiwan (only Haurtyi)	%	
Taiwan (other than Haurtyi)	%	
Turkey	%	
Vietnam	%	

II-7.	Country knowledgePlease indicate whether your firm has experience or is otherwise familiar
	with paper shopping bags produced in the following sources.

	1	Γ					
United							
States	Cambodia	China	Colombi	a India	Malaysia		
	Taiwan (only	y Taiwar	n (other				
Portugal	Haurtyi)	than H	laurtyi)	Turkey	Vietnam		
		·					
Other							
source(s)		Specify source(s)					

II-8. <u>Supplier identification.</u>--Please list your firm's <u>FIVE</u> largest suppliers for paper shopping bags since January 1, 2021, by quantity. Also, provide the share of the quantity of your firm's total purchases of paper shopping bags that each of these suppliers accounted for in 2023.

No.	Supplier's name	City and state	Share of quantity of 2023 purchases
1			%
2			%
3			%
4			%
5			%

PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES

End use (Restaura	-	End user (Retail)	Distributor	Other		Describe other
firm is a di	istributo	or of paper	shopping bags	s, please a	nswei	questions III-2 and III-3.
			s your firm con ur firm purchas			o customers with the manufacturer ng bags?
No	Yes	If yes, ple	ease describe.			
	П					
эпорринд	bags?		are the major t	ypes or cus		ers to which your firm sells paper
				tuted for p	aper:	shopping bags?
	<u>es</u> Can		ducts be substit YesPlease fill	tuted for p	aper : ble. Have	
	<u>es</u> Can	Sec	ducts be substit	tuted for pout the tak	aper : ble. Have	shopping bags? changes in the price of this substitu
Substitute	esCan No	Sec	ducts be substit YesPlease fill o	tuted for pout the tak	aper : ble. Have affect	shopping bags? changes in the price of this substituted the price for paper shopping ba
Substitut	esCan No	Sec	ducts be substit YesPlease fill o	tuted for pout the tak	aper : ble. Have affect	shopping bags? changes in the price of this substituted the price for paper shopping ba
Substitute Substitute Substitute per grocery	esCan No	Sec	ducts be substit YesPlease fill o	tuted for pout the tak	aper : ble. Have affect	shopping bags? changes in the price of this substituted the price for paper shopping ba
Substitute Substitute Substitute per grocery	esCan No	Sec	ducts be substit YesPlease fill o	tuted for pout the tak	aper : ble. Have affect	shopping bags? changes in the price of this substituted the price for paper shopping ba

U.S. Purchasers' Questionnaire – Paper shopping bags (Fin	U.S.	. Purchasers'	Questionnaire -	Paper sh	gniagor	bags	Fina
---	------	---------------	-----------------	----------	---------	------	------

III-5. I	Demand	trends	.—
----------	--------	--------	----

No

Yes

(a) Has demand within the United States and outside of the United States (if known) for paper shopping bags steadily increased, fluctuated but ended higher, not changed, fluctuated but ended lower, or steadily decreased since January 1, 2021? Explain any trends and describe the principal factors that have affected these changes in demand including when they occurred.

s If yes, plea	se describe	er shopping e and quant	ify the effe	exaction and/or recycling of
s If yes, plea	se describe	er shopping e and quant	ify the effe	ct.
s If yes, plea	se describe	er shopping e and quant	ify the effe	ct.
s If yes, plea	se describe	er shopping e and quant	ify the effe	ct.
anges to federal	l, state, and	· ·	·	
_		d local laws	regarding ta	avation and/or recycling of
_		d local laws	regarding ta	avation and/or recycling of
s If yes, plea				ion(s) and quantify the effect.
s If yes, plea	se describe	e the releva	nt jurisdicti	ion(s) and quantify the effect.
_		•	•	
s If yes, plea	se describe	e the releva	nt jurisdicti	ion(s) and quantify the effect.
า ร]	opping bags aff	opping bags affected den	opping bags affected demand for pap If yes, please describe the releva	anges in consumer environmental perceptions (e. opping bags affected demand for paper shopping lif yes, please describe the relevant jurisdictions.— Ces Do you or your customers ever prefer to or

If yes, identify the sources and explain any preferences.

III-7.	Importance of purchasing domestic productPlease fill out the table below, estimating the
	share of your firm's total 2023 purchases of paper shopping bags that required they be
	produced in the United States.

	Estimated share of your firm's total 2023 purchases of paper shopping bags
Purchases that did not require domestic product	%
Purchases that were required by law or regulation to be domestic product (e.g., government purchases under "Buy American" provisions)	%
Purchases that were not required by law or regulation, but were required by your customers to be domestic product	%
Purchases that were required to be domestic product for other reasons	
(explain:)	%
Total (should sum to 100.0%)	0.0 %

III-8. <u>Business cycles.</u>—Is the paper shopping bag market subject to business cycles, either during the year or across years? If yes, describe.

No Yes	If yes, please describe, including any changes since January 1, 2021.

III-9. <u>Conditions of competition</u>.--Is the paper shopping bag market subject to conditions of competition distinctive to paper shopping bags other than the business cycles described in the previous question? If yes, describe.

No	Yes	If yes, please describe, including any changes since January 1, 2021.

III-10. Decisions based on producer and country-of-origin.-- How often does your firm, and if known, do your customers, make purchasing decisions involving paper shopping bags based on its producer or country of origin?

Item	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Never	If at least sometimes, explain noting the producers and/or sources.				
Decision based on producer									
Your firm									
Your customers									
		Decisi	on based on c	ountry of	origin				
Your firm									
Your customers									
	Decision ba	sed on met	hod of produc	tion (i.e.,	web-fed vs. sheet-fed)				
Your firm									
Your customers									
Availability of	Availability of supplyHas the availability of paper shopping bags in the U.S. market changed								

III-11.

Availability in the U.S.			Please explain, noting the sources and reasons for the
market	No	Yes	changes.
U.Sproduced product			
Subject imports			
Nonsubject imports			

III-12. <u>Supply constraints.</u>--How frequently has any firm refused, declined, or been unable to supply your firm with paper shopping bags in the following time periods (examples include placing customers on allocation or "controlled order entry," declining to accept new customers or renew existing customers, delivering less than the quantity promised, being unable to meet timely shipment commitments, etc.)?

	If any answer besides "never," please describe,				
Period	including the reason, timing, and duration of the constraint.				
2021 1 st half	Frequently	Occasionally	Infrequently	Never	
2021 2 nd half					
2022 1 st half					
2022 2 nd half					
2023 1 st half					
2023 2 nd half					

	If any answer besides "never," please describe,						
Dovind	Davied Considerable Information Name						
Period	Frequently	Occasionally	Infrequently	Never	constraint.		
2021 1 st half							
2021 2 nd half							
2022 1 st half							
2022 2 nd half							
2023 1 st half							
2023 2 nd half							

	If any answer besides "never," please describe,						
	including the reason, timing, and duration of the						
Period	Period Frequently Occasionally Infrequently Never						
2021 1 st half							
2021 2 nd half							
2022 1 st half							
2022 2 nd half							
2023 1 st half							
2023 2 nd half							

III-13.	Effect of the COVID-19 pandemic—Did the COVID-19 pandemic affect the market for paper
	shopping bags in the United States? In your response, please discuss the duration, timing, and
	magnitude of any such changes as they relate to your firm's operations.

No	Y	'es	If yes, please describe, including any changes since January 1, 2021.

III-14. Availability of specific product types.—

(a) Are certain types/sizes of paper shopping bags only available from certain sources?

No	Yes	If yes, please identify the sources and the types/sizes available only from those sources.

(b) What proportion of your 2023 purchases and imports of paper shopping bags from non-domestic sources were unavailable from domestic producers?

III-15. <u>Alternative product specifications.</u>— Since January 1, 2021, which of the suppliers from which you previously purchased could not supply your firm with the paper shopping bag of your preferred type/size in your desired quantity but offered you an alternative paper shopping bag type/size to meet your needs (e.g., smaller, alternative printing, different handles, different paper, etc.)?

			Were there any products that the specified supplier refused to offer or could not supply?		the plier de any native acts or es for e they ed to er or d not ply?	Please note the product(s) which were not supplied and any	
Supplier	Origin source	No	Yes	No	Yes	alternative(s) offered.	
American Paper Bag	United States						
Fischer	United States						
Novolex	United States						
ProAmpac	United States						
Other U.S.:	United States						
Other U.S.:	United States						
	Cambodia						
	China						
	Colombia						
	India						
	Malaysia						
	Portugal						
	Taiwan (other than Haurtyi)						
	Turkey						
	Vietnam						
Haurtyi	Taiwan						
	Other:						
	Other:						

III-16.	Purchasin	g frequency

1-	٠,	How frequently does	your firm make	nurchases of na	nor channing hage	(chack ana)?
(8	7 J	now frequently does	your minimake	purchases or pa	per snopping bags	(CHECK OHE):

Da	aily	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually	Other	If other, specify

(b) Has this purchasing frequency changed since January 1, 2021?

No	Yes	If yes, please describe.

III-17. Minimum individual order quantities.-- What were smallest minimum order sizes for an individual order of a specific type/size/ print/etc. (in number of bags) for standard and customized (those specific to your firm) paper shopping bags offered by the following sources in the following time frames since January 1, 2021?

	Minimu	m order	quantity	y (numbe	er of bag	s)			
		2021 2022							
	Size:	Stan	dard	Cust	tom	Stan	dard	Custom	
	Custom Printing:	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Supplier									
American Paper Bag	U.S.								
Fischer	U.S.								
Novolex	U.S.								
ProAmpac	U.S.								
Other U.S.:	U.S.								
Other U.S.:	U.S.								
	Cambodia								
	China								
	Colombia								
	India								
	Malaysia								
	Portugal								
	Taiwan (other than Haurtyi)								
Haurtyi	Taiwan								
	Turkey								
	Vietnam								
	Other:								
	Other:								

III-17. Minimum order quantities.-- Continued

Minimum order quantity (number of bags)							
			20)23			
	Size:	Stan	dard	Cust	tom		
	Custom Printing:	Yes	No	Yes	No		
Supplier							
American Paper Bag	U.S.						
Fischer	U.S.						
Novolex	U.S.						
ProAmpac	U.S.						
Other U.S.:	U.S.						
Other U.S.:	U.S.						
	Cambodia						
	China						
	Colombia						
	India						
	Malaysia						
	Portugal						
	Taiwan (other than Haurtyi)						
Haurtyi	Taiwan						
	Turkey						
	Vietnam						
	Other:						
	Other:						

115	Durchasars'	Questionnaire -	Daner shop	ning hage	(Final)
U.S.	Purchasers	Ouestionnaire –	· Paber Snob	oine baes	(Final)

III-18.	Minimum order effectsSince January 1, 2021, has your firm been unable to place an order for
	paper shopping bags (refused, declined, turned down) at any source due to minimum order size
	requirements?

			1
Source	No	Yes	If yes, please list all relevant suppliers, the desired and minimum quantities, and when it occurred.
U.Sproduced			
Imported			

III-19. Raw material prices. —

(a) Is your firm familiar with the prices for raw materials used in the production of paper shopping bags?

No	Yes – please answer (b)

(b) Has information on raw material prices affected your firm's negotiations or contracts to purchase paper shopping bags since January 1, 2021?

No	Yes	Explain

- III-20. Number of suppliers contacted.--How many suppliers of paper shopping bags does your firm generally contact before making a purchase? Between _____ and ____ firms
- III-21. **Supplier negotiations.--**Do your firm's purchases of paper shopping bags usually involve negotiations between your firm and suppliers of paper shopping bags?

No	If yes, explain the factors your firm generally negotiates and note whether your firm quotes competing prices during negotiations.

				, ,
U.S. Pu	rchasers'	Question	naire – Pa l	per shopping bags (Final) Page 27
III-22.	<u>Change i</u>	n supplie	<u>rs</u> Has yo	our firm changed suppliers since January 1, 2021?
	No	Yes		ease list the supplier(s), whether the firm was added or dropped, easons for the change.
III-23.				are of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have nuary 1, 2021?
	No	Yes	If yes, ple	ease identify the firms.
III-24.	sell pape If yes, pro If yes, pro If yes, pro If yes, pro	r shoppin ovide the The numb Ageneral descriptio	following er of days description	ou require your suppliers to be or to become certified or qualified to your firm? information. required to qualify a new supplier. n of the certification or qualification process. Also, a brief ctors that you consider when qualifying a new supplier (e.g., quality y of supplier, etc.).
	No	Yes	Number of days	Certification/qualification process and factors considered
III-25.		to certify	y or qualify	uary 1, 2021, have any domestic or foreign producers failed in their y their paper shopping bags with your firm or have any producers
	No	Yes	located, a	ease identify these producers, the sources where they are and the reasons why they failed or lost the ion/qualification.
	l	l		

U.S. Pu	rchasers' Questionnaire – Paper shopp	ing bags (Final)			Page 2
III-26.	Major purchasing factorsPlease list, considers in deciding from whom to polarilability, extension of credit, contratraditional supplier, etc.).	urchase paper sho	pping bags (exam	ples include	
	1.				
	2.				
	3.				
	Please list any other factors that are	very important in	your purchase de	cisions:	
III-27.	<u>Purchasing factors.</u> Please rate the in purchasing decisions for paper shopping	•	ollowing factors in	n your firm's	
	Factor	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	
	Availability				
	Customization				
	Delivery terms				
	Delivery time				
	Discounts offered				
	Minimum quantity requirements				

Packaging

Price

Payment terms

Print quality

Product range

Product consistency

Reliability of supply

Technical support/service U.S. transportation costs

Quality meets industry standards Quality exceeds industry standards

Minimum qualityHow often do paper shopping bags from the following sources meet minimum quality specifications for your uses or your customers' uses?											
Source	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely or never	Do						
United States											
Cambodia											
China											
Colombia											
India											
Malaysia											
Portugal											
Taiwan (other than Haurtyi)											
Taiwan (only Haurtyi)											
Turkey											
Vietnam											
Other:	П										
	Source United States Cambodia China Colombia India Malaysia Portugal Taiwan (other than Haurtyi) Taiwan (only Haurtyi) Turkey Vietnam	Source Always United States Cambodia China Colombia India Malaysia Portugal Taiwan (other than Haurtyi) Turkey Vietnam Vietnam	Source Always Usually United States	Source Always Usually Sometimes United States	Source Always Usually Sometimes Rarely or never United States						

III-31. <u>Price leaders.</u>--A price leader is defined as (1) one or more firms that initiate a price change, either upward or downward, that is followed by other firms, or (2) one or more firms that have a significant impact on prices. A price leader is not necessarily the lowest-priced supplier.

Please list the names of any firms you have considered price leaders in the paper shopping bags market since January 1, 2021.

Firm(s)	Describe how the firm(s) exhibited price leadership

III-32. Role of section 301 tariffs.-- Did the tariffs on Chinese-origin products under section 301, or changes in these tariffs, have an impact on the paper shopping bags market in the United States, including any effects on paper shopping bags cost, price, supply, and/or demand, since January 1, 2021?

Yes	No	Don't know

If yes, please describe the impact on cost, price, supply, and/or demand, and include the timing of such impacts.	

PART IV.—PRODUCT COMPARISONS

IV-1. <u>Interchangeability.</u>—How often are paper shopping bags produced in the United States and in other sources interchangeable (i.e., can they physically be used in the same applications)?

Please indicate A, F, S, N, or 0 in the table below:

A = the products from a specified country-pair are *always* interchangeable

F = the products are *frequently* interchangeable

S = the products are *sometimes* interchangeable

N = the products are *never* interchangeable

0 = no familiarity with products from a specified country-pair

Country- pair	Cambodia	China	Colombia	India	Malaysia	Portugal	Taiwan	Turkey	Vietnam	Other sources
United States										
Cambodia	\nearrow									
China		\times								
Colombia		\times	\times							
India		\times	\times	X						
Malaysia		\times			\nearrow					
Portugal		\times		\times		\times				
Taiwan		\times	\times	\times	\nearrow	\nearrow	><			
Turkey		\times	\nearrow	\times				><		
Vietnam		\times	>	\times	><	><	><	><		

For any country-pair producing paper shopping bags that is *sometimes* or *never* interchangeable, identify the country-pair and explain the factors that limit or preclude the interchangeable use of paper shopping bags produced in the sources:

IV-2. <u>Factors other than price</u>.—How often are differences other than price (e.g., quality, availability, transportation network, product range, technical support, *etc.*) between paper shopping bags produced in the United States and in other sources a significant factor in your firm's purchases of the products?

Please indicate A, F, S, N, or 0 in the table below:

A = such differences are *always* significant

F = such differences are *frequently* significant

S = such differences are *sometimes* significant

N = such differences are *never* significant

0 = *no familiarity* with products from a specified country-pair

Country- pair	Cambodia	China	Colombia	India	Malaysia	Portugal	Taiwan	Turkey	Vietnam	Other sources
United States										
Cambodia	\nearrow									
China		\times								
Colombia	\backslash	\times	\times							
India	\nearrow	\times	\times	\times						
Malaysia		\times	\times	X	\times					
Portugal		\times	\times	\times	\times	\times				
Taiwan	\nearrow	\times	\times	\times	\times	\times	\times			
Turkey		\times	>	\times	>	\rightarrow	>	><		
Vietnam		\times	>	\times	>	>	>	>		

For any country-pair for which factors other than price are *always* or *frequently* a significant factor in your firm's sales of paper shopping bags, identify the country-pair and the relevant factors other than price, and report the advantages or disadvantages imparted by such factors:

IV-3. <u>Factor comparisons.</u>--For the factors listed below, please rate how paper shopping bags produced in each source you identified in your response with which you are familiar, as reported in question II-7, compares with paper shopping bags produced in each of the other sources with which you are familiar.

	<u>Un</u> compa	United States United States United States compared to product from compared to product from product from				Uni cor pro	roduct from nited States ompared to roduct from Colombia				
Factor	Superior	Comparable	Inferior		Superior	Comparable	Inferior		Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability											
Customization											
Delivery terms											
Delivery time											
Discounts offered											
Minimum quantity requirements											
Packaging											
Payment terms											
Price ¹											
Print quality											
Product consistency											
Product range											
Quality meets ind. standards											
Quality exceeds ind. standards											
Reliability of supply											
Technical support/service											
U.S. transportation costs ¹											
¹ A rating of "superior" on price an prices/U.S. transportation costs that				ind	cates th	nat the f	irst sou	rce ge	enerally l	has lowe	er

IV-3. <u>Factor comparisons.--Continued.</u>

	<u>Un</u>	oduct from ited Stared to p from India	<u>tes</u>	<u>Uni</u> cor pro	duct fr ted Sta npared duct fr Malaysi	ites I to om	<u>Un</u> co pro	om ites I to om I	
Factor	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability									
Customization									
Delivery terms									
Delivery time									
Discounts offered									
Minimum quantity requirements									
Packaging									
Payment terms									
Price ¹									
Print quality									
Product consistency									
Product range									
Quality meets industry standards									
Quality exceeds industry standards									
Reliability of supply									
Technical support/service									
U.S. transportation costs ¹									

¹ A rating of 'superior" on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first source generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second source.

IV-3. <u>Factor comparisons.--Continued.</u>

	<u>Un</u> compa	oduct from ited Stared to progression from Taiwan	<u>tes</u> product	<u>Uni</u> cor pro	duct fr ted Sta mpared duct fr Turkey	ites I to om	Un co pro	om i <u>tes</u> I to om <u>1</u>	
Factor	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability									
Customization									
Delivery terms									
Delivery time									
Discounts offered									
Minimum quantity requirements									
Packaging									
Payment terms									
Price ¹									
Print quality									
Product consistency									
Product range									
Quality meets industry standards									
Quality exceeds industry standards									
Reliability of supply									
Technical support/service									
U.S. transportation costs ¹									

¹ A rating of 'superior" on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first source generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second source.

prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second source.

IV-3. **Factor comparisons.--***Continued.*

	Product from <u>United States</u> compared to product from <u>All other sources</u>		
Factor	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability			
Customization			
Delivery terms			
Delivery time			
Discounts offered			
Minimum quantity requirements			
Packaging			
Payment terms			
Price ¹			
Print quality			
Product consistency			
Product range			
Quality meets industry standards			
Quality exceeds industry standards			
Reliability of supply			
Technical support/service			
U.S. transportation costs ¹			
A rating of 'superior" on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first source generally has lower			

PART V.--<u>ALTERNATIVE PRODUCT INFORMATION: IN-SCOPE PAPER SHOPPING BAGS VS. OTHER PAPER BAGS</u>

Further information on this part of the questionnaire can be obtained from Andres Andrade (202-205-2078, <u>Andres Andrade@usitc.gov</u>).

Paper shopping bags—See definition on page 2 within the General Instructions section.

Other paper bags — See definition on page 3 within the General Instructions section.

- V-1. Comparability of in-scope paper shopping bags and "other paper bags."--For each of the following indicate whether in-scope paper shopping bags, as defined on page 2, and "other paper bags" (e.g. grocery, SOS, and other types of paper bags which do not meet the scope definition on page 2), are: fully comparable or the same, i.e., have no differentiation between them; mostly comparable or similar; somewhat comparable or similar; never or not-at-all comparable or similar; or no familiarity with products.
 - F: fully comparable or the same, i.e., have no differentiation between them;
 - M: mostly comparable or similar;
 - S: somewhat comparable or similar;
 - N: never or not-at-all comparable or similar; or
 - 0: no familiarity with products.
 - (a) <u>Physical Characteristics and End Uses</u>.--The differences and similarities in the physical characteristics and end uses.

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their physical characteristics and uses:
In-scope paper shopping bags vs "Other paper bags"		

(b) Interchangeability.--The ability to substitute the products in the same application.

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their <u>interchangeability</u> :
In-scope paper shopping bags vs "Other paper bags"		

V-1. Comparability of in-scope paper shopping bags and "other paper bags."--Continued

F: fully comparable or the same, i.e., have no differentiation between them;

M: mostly comparable or similar;

S: somewhat comparable or similar;

N: never or not-at-all comparable or similar; or

0: no familiarity with products.

(c) <u>Channels of distribution</u>.--Channels of distribution/market situation through which the products are sold (i.e., sold direct to end users, through wholesaler/distributors, etc.).

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their channels of distribution:
In-scope paper shopping bags vs "Other paper bags"		

(d) <u>Manufacturing facilities, production processes, and production employees</u>.--Whether manufactured in the same facilities, from the same inputs, on the same machinery and equipment, and using the same employees.

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their <u>manufacturing facilities</u> , <u>production</u> <u>processes</u> , <u>and production employees</u> :
In-scope paper shopping bags vs "Other paper bags"		

V-1. Comparability of in-scope paper shopping bags and "other paper bags."--Continued

F: fully comparable or the same, i.e., have no differentiation between them;

M: mostly comparable or similar;

S: somewhat comparable or similar;

N: never or not-at-all comparable or similar; or

0: no familiarity with products.

(e) <u>Customer and producer perceptions</u>.--Perceptions as to the differences and/or similarities in the market (*e.g.*, sales/marketing practices).

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their customer and producer perceptions:
In-scope paper shopping bags vs "Other paper bags"		

(f) **Price**.--Whether prices are comparable or differ between the products.

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their <i>price</i> :
In-scope paper shopping bags vs "Other paper bags"		

PART VI.--ALTERNATIVE PRODUCT INFORMATION: WEB-FED VS. SHEET-FED

Further information on this part of the questionnaire can be obtained from Andres Andrade (202-205-2078, Andres Andrade@usitc.gov).

VI-1. Comparability of web-fed and sheet-fed paper shopping bags.-- For each of the following indicate whether web-fed and sheet-fed paper shopping bags are: fully comparable or the same, *i.e.*, have no differentiation between them; mostly comparable or similar; somewhat comparable or similar; never or not-at-all comparable or similar; or no familiarity with products.

F: fully comparable or the same, i.e., have no differentiation between them;

M: mostly comparable or similar;

S: somewhat comparable or similar;

N: never or not-at-all comparable or similar; or

0: no familiarity with products.

(a) <u>Physical Characteristics and End Uses</u>.--The differences and similarities in the physical characteristics and end uses.

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their physical characteristics and uses:
Web-fed paper shopping bags vs Sheet-fed paper shopping bags		

(b) Interchangeability.--The ability to substitute the products in the same application.

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their <u>interchangeability</u> :
Web-fed paper shopping bags vs Sheet-fed paper shopping bags		

VI-1. Comparability of web-fed and sheet-fed paper shopping bags.--Continued

F: fully comparable or the same, i.e., have no differentiation between them;

M: mostly comparable or similar;

S: somewhat comparable or similar;

N: never or not-at-all comparable or similar; or

0: no familiarity with products.

(c) <u>Channels of distribution</u>.--Channels of distribution/market situation through which the products are sold (i.e., sold direct to end users, through wholesaler/distributors, etc.).

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their channels of distribution:
Web-fed paper shopping bags vs Sheet-fed paper shopping bags		

(d) <u>Manufacturing facilities, production processes, and production employees</u>.--Whether manufactured in the same facilities, from the same inputs, on the same machinery and equipment, and using the same employees.

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their manufacturing facilities, production processes, and production employees:
Web-fed paper shopping bags vs Sheet-fed paper shopping bags		

VI-1. Comparability of web-fed and sheet-fed paper shopping bags.--Continued

F: fully comparable or the same, i.e., have no differentiation between them;

M: mostly comparable or similar;

S: somewhat comparable or similar;

N: never or not-at-all comparable or similar; or

0: no familiarity with products.

(e) <u>Customer and producer perceptions</u>.--Perceptions as to the differences and/or similarities in the market (*e.g.*, sales/marketing practices).

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their customer and producer perceptions:
Web-fed paper shopping bags vs Sheet-fed paper shopping bags		

(f) **Price**.--Whether prices are comparable or differ between the products.

Product-pair	Comparison	Please provide a narrative discussion for the comparability ratings you provided in terms of their <u>price</u> :
Web-fed paper shopping bags vs Sheet-fed paper shopping bags		

PART VIIADDITIONAL INF	ORM	ATION
------------------------	-----	-------

VII-1.	Other explanationsIf your firm would like to further explain a response to any question for which a narrative response box was not provided, please note the question number and the explanation in the space provided below.			

HOW TO FILE YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE

This questionnaire is available as a "fillable" form in MS Word format on the Commission's website at:

https://usitc.gov/reports/active import injury questionnaires.

Please do not attempt to modify the format or permissions of the questionnaire document. Please submit the completed questionnaire using one of the methods noted below. If your firm is unable to complete the MS Word questionnaire or cannot use one of the electronic methods of submission, please contact the Commission for further instructions.

• <u>Upload via Secure Drop Box</u>.—Upload the MS Word questionnaire along with a scanned copy of the signed certification page (page 1) through the Commission's secure upload facility:

Web address: https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/ Pin: BAGS

• E-mail.—E-mail the MS Word questionnaire to craig.thomsen@usitc.gov and amelia.preece@usitc.gov; include a scanned copy of the signed certification page (page 1). Submitters are strongly encouraged to encrypt nonpublic documents that are electronically transmitted to the Commission to protect your sensitive information from unauthorized disclosure. The USITC secure drop-box system and the Electronic Document Information System (EDIS) use Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 140-2 cryptographic algorithms to encrypt data in transit. Submitting your nonpublic documents by a means that does not use these encryption algorithms (such as by email) may subject your firm's nonpublic information to unauthorized disclosure during transmission. If you choose a non-encrypted method of electronic transmission, the Commission warns you that the risk of such possible unauthorized disclosure is assumed by you and not by the Commission.

If your firm does not purchase this product, please fill out page 1, print, sign, and submit a scanned copy to the Commission.

<u>Parties to this proceeding</u>.—If your firm is a party to this proceeding, it is required to serve a copy of the completed questionnaire on parties to the proceeding that are subject to administrative protective order (see 19 CFR § 207.7). A list of such parties may be obtained from the Commission's Secretary (202-205-1802). A certificate of service must accompany the completed questionnaire your firm submits (see 19 CFR § 207.7).