

LOST SALES AND LOST REVENUE SURVEY

SOL GEL ALUMINA-BASED CERAMIC ABRASIVE GRAINS FROM CHINA

This survey must be received by the Commission by **December 9, 2024**

See last page for instructions regarding how to file this questionnaire.

The information called for in this survey is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its countervailing duty and antidumping investigations concerning sol gel alumina-based ceramic abrasive grains ("abrasive grains") from China (Inv. Nos. 701-TA-750 and 731-TA-1728 (Preliminary)). The information requested in the survey 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 survey can be obtained from James Horne (202-205-2722, James.Horne@usitc.gov).

Name of firm _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Website _____

Has your firm purchased, or imported for its own use or retail sale, abrasive grains (as defined on next page) at any time since January 1, 2021?

- ☐ **NO** (Sign the certification below and promptly return **only** this page of the survey to the Commission)
☐ **YES** (Complete all parts of the survey, and return the entire survey to the Commission)

Return questionnaire via the Commission's secure portal by clicking on the following link:
<https://usitc.gov/qportal>. (PIN: **GRAINS**, PHASE: **Preliminary**). See last page for detailed instructions.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information herein supplied in this survey is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and understand that the information submitted is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. By submitting this certification I also grant consent for the Commission, and its employees and contract personnel, to use the information provided in this survey and throughout this proceeding in any other import-injury proceedings conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise.

I, the undersigned, acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this investigation or other proceeding may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. I understand that all contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

Name of Authorized Official

Title of Authorized Official

Date

Signature

Phone

Email address

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.-- This proceeding was instituted in response to a petition filed on November 25, 2024, by Saint-Gobain Ceramics & Plastics, Inc., Malvern, Pennsylvania. Countervailing and 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 or dumping. Pertinent information to this proceeding is available at:

Questionnaires: https://usitc.gov/reports/active_import_injury_questionnaires

Other case information: <https://ids.usitc.gov/case/8242/investigation/8666>

Abrasive grains covered by this proceeding are sol gel alumina-based ceramic abrasive grains which are comprised of minimum 94% aluminum oxide (Al_2O_3), and may contain other compounds, including, but not limited to, titanium dioxide, silicon dioxide, calcium oxide, sodium superoxide, ferric oxide, magnesium oxide, di-aluminum magnesium tetroxide, zirconium dioxide, or zirconium carbonate. Grain sizes of sol gel alumina-based ceramic abrasive grains range from 0.85 mm to 0.0395 mm (which corresponds to ANSI grit sizes from 20 to 280).

The sol gel alumina-based ceramic abrasive grains' defining crystalline microstructure, as well as their irregular shapes, make them well suited for advanced abrasive applications, as compared with conventional fused grains. The shapes may be angular, sharp, extra sharp, blocky, splintery, round stripped, triangular or shaped like extruded rods or stars. The hardness ranges between 16 and 22 gigapascals by the by Vickers Diamond Indent Method. The microstructure crystalline size ranges from 0.1 to 30 μm . These ceramic abrasive grains come in blue, white, white-translucent, or off-white opaque colors.

Ceramic abrasive grains are exclusively manufactured through a "sol gel" process which creates the ceramic's unique, defining crystalline structure and imparts certain advanced properties that distinguish ceramic abrasive grains from conventional fused abrasive grains, such as extreme hardness and strength, resistance to abrasion and chemicals, high melting point, high thermal conductivity, high degree of refractoriness, high dielectric strength, and high electric resistivity at elevated temperatures.

Sol gel alumina-based ceramic abrasive grains are covered by the scope of this investigation, whether or not incorporated into downstream articles, including but not limited to, abrasive papers, grinding wheels, grinding cylinders, and grinding discs. When incorporated into downstream articles, only the sol gel alumina-based ceramic abrasive grains component of such articles is covered by the product scope, and not the downstream product as a whole.

Abrasive grains are currently imported under statistical reporting number 2818.10.2090 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). They may also be imported, including when incorporated into the abovementioned downstream articles, under HTSUS statistical reporting numbers 2818.10.1000, 2818.20.0000, 2818.30.0000, 3824.99.1100, 3824.99.1900, 6804.22.1000, 6804.22.4000, 6804.22.6000, 8204.12.0000, 8474.90.0010, 8474.90.0020, 8474.90.0050, and 8474.90.0090. The HTSUS provisions are for convenience and customs purposes; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

Reporting of information.-- If information is not readily available from your records, provide carefully prepared estimates.

Confidentiality.--The data furnished in response to this survey 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.

Release of information.--The information provided by your firm in response to this survey, 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. Please also retain a copy of the final document that you submit.

Contact information.--Please identify the responsible individual and the manner by which Commission staff may contact that individual regarding the confidential information submitted in this survey. This may or may not be the person whose signature is at the bottom of page 1.

Name	
Title	
Email	
Telephone	

Firms operating more than one establishment should combine the data for all establishments into a single response.

PURCHASE INFORMATION

1. **Purchases and imports.**— Report separately your firm's domestic purchases and imports of abrasive grains.

"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.

	2021	2022	2023	January— September 2024
Item	Quantity (in pounds)			
Purchases of abrasive grains produced in—				
United States				
China				
All other countries ¹				
Sources unknown ²				
Total purchases	0	0	0	0
Imports of abrasive grains from—				
China				
All other countries ¹				
Total imports ³	0	0	0	0
¹ Please identify these countries: ² Please indicate the firm(s) from which you purchased this merchandise: ³ If your firm imported abrasive grains at any time since January 1, 2021, please also complete and return a U.S. importers' questionnaire in this proceeding.				

2. **Changes in purchasing patterns.**— Please indicate whether the shares of your firm’s purchases of abrasive grains steadily increased, fluctuated but ended higher, were constant, fluctuated but ended lower, or steadily decreased since January 1, 2021 from the listed sources.

Select one box per row.

Source of purchases	Did not purchase	Steadily increased	Fluctuated up	No change	Fluctuated down	Steadily decreased	Explanation for trend
United States	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
All other countries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sources unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

3. **Purchasing subject imports rather than domestic products.**—

- (a) Since January 1, 2021, did your firm import and/or purchase imports of abrasive grains from China instead of purchasing U.S.-produced abrasive grains?

Source	Yes (also respond to parts (b) and (c))	No (If “No” skip to next question)
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Source	Yes	No
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- (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 1, 2021 (in pounds)	No	If No, please indicate the reason your firm imported and/or purchased imports instead of domestic product
China	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
If the quantity reported above exceeds the total quantity reported in Question 1, please explain.				

4. **U.S. producers and import competition.**—

- (a) Since January 1, 2021, in connection with a sale or offer to sell abrasive grains to your firm, did U.S. producers reduce their prices of domestically produced abrasive grains in order to compete with lower-priced imports of abrasive grains from China?

Source	Yes (also respond to question part (b))	No (If “No”, skip to next question)	Don’t know
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- (b) If your firm responded “yes” to the above, 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
China	%	

5. **Major purchasing factors.**--Please list, in order of their importance, the main factors your firm considers in deciding from whom to purchase abrasive grains.

1.	
2.	
3.	
Please list any other factors that are very important in your purchase decisions:	

6. **Other explanations**--Please provide any additional comments in this box.

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7. **Stock symbol information**-- If your firm or parent firm is publicly traded, please specify the stock exchange and trading symbol: _____.

8. **External counsel**-- If your firm or parent firm is represented by external counsel in relation to this proceeding, having filed an entry of appearance, please specify the name of the law firm and the lead attorney(s).

Law firm:	
Lead attorney(s):	

9. **Reporting requirements**--Please report the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of completing this survey for use by the Office of Management and Budget.

Hours	Dollars

Public reporting burden for this survey is estimated to average 4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering data, and completing and reviewing the survey.

We welcome comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate, suggestions for reducing the burden, and any suggestions for improving this questionnaire. Please provide such comments to the Office of Investigations, import_injury@usitc.gov.

HOW TO FILE YOUR SURVEY RESPONSE

Please do not attempt to modify the format or permissions of the survey document.

Please submit the completed survey using one of the methods noted below. If your firm is unable to complete the MS Word survey or cannot use one of the electronic methods of submission, please contact the Commission for further instructions.

- **Upload via Secure Drop Box.**— The questionnaire must be uploaded in two formats: (1) a Microsoft Word 97-2003 document; and (2) a PDF copy of the complete questionnaire with a signature on the first page. Please include any attachments at the end of the PDF (e.g., APO certification, additional comments, etc.).

Web address: <https://usitc.gov/qportal>

Pin: **GRAIN**

Phase: **Preliminary**

- **E-mail.**— *E-mail the MS Word questionnaire to james.horne@usitc.gov; include a PDF copy of the complete questionnaire with a signature on the first page. 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 submission portal 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 did not purchase this product, please fill out page 1, print, sign, and submit a scanned PDF copy via the Commission's secure submission portal or email.