



COALITION FOR
**FAIR TRADE OF
HARDWOOD PLYWOOD**

PRESS RELEASE

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**ITC Finds Evidence of Injurious Chinese Dumping
in Preliminary Hardwood Plywood Ruling**

WASHINGTON, DC – December 30, 2016 - The U.S. International Trade Commission today in a preliminary ruling found that there is sufficient evidence pointing to unfair pricing of Chinese hardwood plywood imports causing material injury to the domestic hardwood plywood industry. The Coalition for Fair Trade of Hardwood Plywood filed an official petition on Nov. 17, 2016, asserting that imports of hardwood plywood products from China are being sold into the U.S. at dumped and subsidized prices to gain an unfair competitive advantage. The Coalition commends the ITC's decision as an important step in protecting thousands of U.S. jobs.

The U.S. imported approximately \$1.1 billion worth of Chinese hardwood and decorative plywood last year, which accounts for approximately 50 percent of the market. The coalition is requesting antidumping duties of up to 105.94 percent to cover the gap between the fair value of the hardwood plywood imports and the dumped prices at which Chinese shippers are selling them.

The coalition also has identified more than 30 Chinese government programs that are providing illegal subsidies to producers of hardwood plywood, such as tax breaks and discounted land and raw materials. This has enabled Chinese producers to dump products into the U.S. market, causing material injury to the U.S. hardwood plywood industry.

"We commend this vote and look forward to working with the ITC and the Commerce Department in the coming months," said Tim Brightbill of Wiley Rein LLP in Washington, who represents the coalition. "These investigations will uncover what we believe is 15 years of China's illegal trade practices within the hardwood plywood industry."

"Chinese imports have increased by \$300 million over the past two years," said President of the Hardwood Plywood & Veneer Association, Kip Howlett. "The ITC's decision sends a clear signal to the Chinese that the U.S. won't tolerate their market manipulation. This is another step in the right direction and we hope that the U.S. Government will take decisive action to help safeguard thousands of American jobs."

BACKGROUND: *The U.S. hardwood plywood industry has strong evidence of dumping, subsidies, and material injury caused by Chinese imports. New data demonstrates that Chinese*

hardwood plywood imports have increased significantly from 2013 to 2016, and these dumped and subsidized Chinese imports have taken market share from the U.S. industry resulting in the loss of thousands of American jobs. China is not playing by the rules and documentary evidence lays out the case why the Commerce Department and the International Trade Commission should apply the trade remedy laws to dumped and subsidized Chinese products.

ABOUT US: *The Coalition for Fair Trade of Hardwood Plywood is committed to standing up for American workers and supporting U.S. manufacturers. The administration must take steps to preserve the U.S. production of hardwood plywood by combating the rising tide of unfairly traded imports into the U.S. from China. For more information on the petition, visit:*

www.hardwoodplywoodfairtrade.org