

IV - MARKET STUDY

SURVEY OF U.S. IMPORTERS

The U.S. importers of taps, cocks and valves interviewed were selected from a variety of sources including the report provided by the *Journal of Commerce Piers Port Import/Export Reporting Service*. This report contained three months' of 1987 shipping data and ranked importers from developed countries by volume of imports. This list was supplemented by information provided by External Affairs' posts in the United States, lists from trade associations and numerous industry publications.

The study as a whole will examine approximately 80 product sectors. The number of interviews conducted for each sector will depend on the level of concentration in the industry and the diversity of products within the various sectors. In total, over 4,000 interviews will be carried out with U.S. companies. The number of companies contacted per sector varies from 40 to over 100. In most cases, a minimum of 30 interviews with potential buyers will be completed. For the taps, cocks and valves sector, 50 questionnaires were completed.

Interview Results

For the 50 respondents interviewed, Table 1, below, illustrates the major products imported.

Table 1

Product	Number of Respondents Reporting Product as Major Import
Valves, nes*	12
Faucets	11
Pipe fittings	9
Valves, nes, parts, incl. valve bodies, nes	3
Bathroom accessories, nes	2
Plumbing fixtures and fittings, nes, excl. pipe fittings	2
Spouts, containers	2

* not elsewhere specified