

news release

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GOVERNMENT TARGETS IMPORTS FROM U.S.

FOR ACTION AGAINST U.S. "SUPERFUND"

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie and Minister of State (Privatization and Regulatory Affairs) John McDermid today released a list of some 30 products on which the government will seek GATT approval to increase tariffs on imports from the United States. The proposed tariff increases are in response to the U.S. failure to eliminate its GATT inconsistent discriminatory tax on oil imports.

Minister Crosbie stated that Canada will circulate the list to GATT Contracting Parties in Geneva. Canada will seek authority from the GATT to impose a surcharge on the selected products imported from the U.S. It is not expected that the GATT will respond to the Canadian request until sometime in the fall.

On June 15, the Government released a preliminary list of some 70 items from which it was considering the selection of products for tariff increases.

Minister McDermid said that a number of comments were received from concerned Canadian industries and associations in response to the release of the preliminary list. The Minister said that the Government had taken careful account of these comments in developing the final list.

Minister Crosbie stressed that Canada was forced to act. He welcomed the fact that since the June 15 publication of the preliminary list, the Ways and Means Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives has recommended budget legislation to eliminate the discriminatory aspect of the tax. "The U.S. has had more than a reasonable period of time to bring its legislation into conformity with its obligations under the GATT; until they actually do so, we must ensure that our GATT rights are pursued", Minister Crosbie noted.



Minister McDermid indicated that unless the Superfund legislation is amended, the Government intends to apply a surcharge of 2.5 percentage points above existing tariff rates on these products imported from the U.S. following GATT approval.

- 30 -

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TARIFF ITEM*	DESCRIPTION	CANADIAN TARIFF** FTA
	SPARKLING GRAPE WINE	39.6¢/1
2204.21.XX	OTHER GRAPE WINES OF VARYING ALCOHOLIC STRENGTHS AND CERTAIN GRAPE MUST, ALL IN CONTAINERS HOLDING 2 LITRES OR LESS	to \$1.980/1
2204.29.XX	OTHER GRAPE WINES OF VARYING ALCOHOLIC STRENGTHS AND CERTAIN GRAPE MUST, ALL IN CONTAINERS OVER 2 LITRES	3.9¢/1
3915.90.XX	WASTE AND SCRAP PLASTICS OTHER THAN POLYETHYLENE, POLYSTYRENE OR POLYVINYL CHLORIDE	
3917.21.00	TUBES, PIPES AND HOSES OF POLYETHYLENE RIGID	12.2%
3917.23.00	TUBES, PIPES AND HOSES, OF POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - RIGID	
3917.29.00	TUBES, PIPES AND HOSES OF OTHER PLASTICS RIGID OTHER THAN POLYETHYLENE, POLYPROPYLENE OR POLYVINYL CHLORIDE	12.2%
3917.31.00	TUBES, PIPES AND HOSES - FLEXIBLE, PLASTIC - MINIMUM BURST PRESSURE 27.6 MPa	12.2%
3917.32.00	TUBES, PIPES AND HOSES, PLASTIC - OTHER	12.2%
3917.40.00	PIPE, TUBE OR HOSE FITTINGS - PLASTIC	12.2%
3918.10.XX	TUBES, PIPES AND HOSES, PLASTIC - OTHER PIPE, TUBE OR HOSE FITTINGS - PLASTIC CERTAIN FLOOR, WALL AND CEILING COVERINGS OF POLYMERS OF VINYL CHORIDE	12.1% to 22.5%
3918.90.XX	CERTAIN FLOOR, WALL AND CEILING COVERINGS OF OTHER PLASTICS	12.1% to 22.5%
3921.11.00	FILM AND SHEET ETC, CELLULAR, OF POLYMERS OF STYRENE	12.1%
3923.29.00		12.2%
3925.20.00	PLASTIC DOORS, WINDOWS AND FRAMES AND THRESHOLDS FOR DOORS	12.2%
3926.20.XX		12.2% to 22.9%

*	TARIFF ITEM	DESCRIPTION	CANADIAN TARIFF
	4409.20.XX	NON-CONIFEROUS WOOD CONTINUOUSLY SHAPED ALONG ANY OF ITS EDGES OR FACES, WHETHER OR NOT PLANED, SANDED OR FINGER-JOINTED	FREE to 4.9%
	4415.10.XX	CASES, BOXES, CRATES, DRUMS AND SIMILAR PACKINGS, OF WOOD; CABLE DRUMS OF WOOD	8.2% to 13.5%
	4418.10.10	WINDOWS, FRENCH-WINDOWS AND THEIR FRAMES, OF WOOD	8.2%
	4418.20.00	DOORS AND THEIR FRAMES AND THRESHOLDS, OF WOOD	9%
	4418.30.00	PARQUET PANELS, INCLUDING WOOD TILES	4.4%
	4813.20.00	CIGARETTE PAPER, IN ROLLS OF A WIDTH NOT	
		EXCEEDING 5 cm	5.2%
	4814.20.00	WALLPAPER COATED WITH PLASTICS	6%
	4819.30.00	SACKS AND BAGS OF PAPER, PAPERBOARD, CELLULOSE WADDING OR WEBS OF CELLULOSE, HAVING A BASE OF A WIDTH OF 40 cm OR MORE	7.3%
	4819.40.XX		7.3% to 10%
	4819.50.00	PACKING CONTAINERS, INCLUDING RECORD SLEEVES, OF PAPER, PAPERBOARD, CELLULOSE WADDING OR WEBS OF CELLULOSE	8.1%
	4823.60.00	TRAYS, DISHES, PLATES, CUPS AND THE LIKE	8.1%
***	4911.99.90 EX		9.7%
	7108.13.10 EX		FREE
	7610.10.00	ALUMINUM DOORS, WINDOWS AND THEIR FRAMES AND THRESHOLDS FOR DOORS	9.2%

TARIFF ITEM	DESCRIPTION	CANADIAN TARIFF FTA
7610.90.00 8544.30.00 EX 8708.29.99 EX	ALUMINUM STRUCTURES AND PARTS OF STRUCTURES (FOR EXAMPLE BRIDGES AND BRIDGE-SECTIONS, TOWERS, LATTICE MASTS, ROOFS, ROOFING FRAMEWORKS, BALUSTRADES, PILLARS AND COLUMNS); ALUMINUM PLATES, RODS, PROFILE TUBES AND THE LIKE, PREPARED FOR USE IN STRUCTURES (EXCLUDING ALUMINUM EXTRUSIONS FOR USE IN THE MANUFACTURE OF RETRACTABLE ROOF SYSTEMS) IGNITION WIRING SETS VINYL CAR MASKS	9.2% FREE 8.2%

^{*} The "XX" designates a tariff heading consisting of a number of tariff items, all of which are included on the list.

^{**} Tariff rates under "FTA" are those applicable in 1989 to U.S. goods. Additional tariffs would only be applied on FTA tariff rates. Statutory concessionary tariff rates or other reduced tariff rates under tariff reduction Orders associated with any of the above tariff items (under the relevant tariff codes) would not be covered by the action proposed.

^{***} The "EX" refers to the partial coverage of the tariff item.