

**ANTIDUMPING PETITION FILED**  
**AGAINST IMPORTS OF STEEL THREADED ROD FROM CHINA**

Washington, D.C. — Today, the largest producer of steel threaded rod in the United States – Vulcan Threaded Products Inc. (“Vulcan”) of Pelham, Alabama – filed an antidumping petition urging the U.S. International Trade Commission and the U.S. Department of Commerce to investigate imports of steel threaded rod from the People’s Republic of China.

Imports of threaded rod from China surged by almost 300 percent from 2005 to 2007. At the same time, the prices of imported Chinese products undersold U.S. producers by significant margins, the petition states. Rising volume and unfair prices have enabled Chinese manufacturers to claim nearly two-thirds of the U.S. market – a threefold increase in just three years.

“Imports of steel threaded rod from China were virtually nonexistent several years ago, but now they’re taking the majority of the U.S. market,” said Bill Upton, Vulcan’s President. “We have seen an extraordinary increase in the volume from China at prices which are often less than the cost of our raw materials. Our industry has been devastated, and we need immediate relief.”

Under U.S. antidumping laws, the U.S. Department of Commerce will impose a “dumping” duty to offset unfair pricing of Chinese threaded rod imports in the U.S. market. The estimated dumping margins for imports of threaded rod from China range from 35 to 206 percent, depending on the product, and the average dumping margin is 89 percent.

Steel threaded rod is commonly used in commercial construction to suspend electrical conduit, pipes for plumbing and fire protection, and HVAC duct work. It is also used for hanging suspended ceilings and elevated conveyor belts, bolting pipe joints in the waterworks sector, and installing earthquake- and hurricane-restraint roofing systems.

The International Trade Commission is expected to make a preliminary injury determination by mid-April 2008, and the Department of Commerce should issue a preliminary dumping determination by August 2008. A surge in Chinese imports could result in a finding of “critical circumstances,” leading to duties imposed retroactively to May 2008.