



# China Alert

## BUSINESS NEWS SUMMARY

*November 15, 2003*

### **NEW SERVICE**

#### Visa Processing Service

We now offer a Visa Processing Service for business travelers to China. The service charge is only US\$50 plus postage (please add \$20 for expedited service) in addition to the actual visa fees as set out below. The US-China Chamber will be responsible for the issuance of an invitation letter in connection with the service.

*THIS WILL SAVE YOU A TRIP TO THE CHINESE CONSULATE AND ANY INCONVENIENCE ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROCESS. THE APPLICATION IS FAST, EASY, AND RELIABLE. SIMPLY SEND US THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS AND YOUR VISA WILL BE ON THE WAY TO YOU.*

- Completed and Signed Visa Application Form (You Can Download from Our Website)
- Valid Passport with Expiration Date More Than Six Months beyond the Intended Stay in China (With at least Two Blank Pages)
- One 2" x 2" Photo
- Visa Fees (Dollars in US)

Single Entry	\$50
Double Entries	\$75
Six Month Multiple Entries	\$100
Expedition Fees	
24 Hours	\$30
48 Hours	\$20

### **TRADE CONFERENCE MATERIALS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**

Our Fourth Annual US-China Trade Conference materials including printed manual and video tapes (or DVD) are available for purchase. Total cost for the whole package is \_\_\_\_\_, while individual sessions are at also available at reduced cost. Please contact our office or log on our website at [www.usccc.org](http://www.usccc.org) and click on \_\_\_\_\_ for further information.

### **RECENT U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION FINAL DETERMINATION**

#### A. Refined Brown Aluminum Oxide from China (Investigation No. 731-TA-1022, Final)

On November 7, 2003, the Commission issued its final determination in this antidumping investigation. It determined that an industry in the US is materially injured by reason of imports from China of refined brown aluminum oxide (an industrial abrasive) that have been found by the

Dept. of Commerce to be sold at less than fair value (LTFV). Concurrently, the Commission found that the critical circumstances do not exist with respect to import of the subject product from China. The product subject to this investigation is refined brown aluminum oxide, defined as "ground, pulverized or refined artificial corundum, also known as brown aluminum oxide or brown fused alumina, in grit size of 3/8 inch or less. The subject product includes brown artificial corundum in which particles with a diameter greater than 3/8 inch constitute less than 50 percent of the total weight of the batch.

## **NEW PETITIONS**

### **B. Wooden Bedroom Furniture Imported from China (Petition No. 731-TA-1058)**

On October 31, 2003, the Commission received an antidumping duty petition filed on behalf of the American Furniture Manufacturers Committee for Legal Trade, requesting an investigation under section 731 regarding the imposition of antidumping duties of the US imports of wooden bedroom furniture from China. A preliminary conference has been scheduled for November 21, 2003, at 9:30 a.m., in the Main Hearing Room, ITC Building (500 E Street SW). [Preliminary conferences are part of the investigative process in preliminary phase countervailing duty and antidumping investigations. They are similar in format to a hearing, but are not a hearing before the Commission. Conferences are held before the investigative staff in the investigation and are chaired by the ITC Director of Investigations.] The conference will be open to the media and public.

For more information, please visit the U.S. International Trade Commission's website:  
<http://www.usitc.gov/>

## **UPCOMING TRADE FAIRS/EXHIBITIONS (DECEMBER 2003) IN CHINA**

- 2-4 December: Metallurgical (Ferrous & Non-ferrous), Foundry, Forging, Furnace and Heat Treatment, Machine Tools, Metalworking, Cable & Wire, and Metal Products Exhibition, Shanghai, <http://www.cpexhibition.com/shmet.html>
- 3-5 December: Dongguan International Coating Exhibition, Dongguan, <http://www.paper-com.com.hk>
- 3-5 December: Dongguan International Surface Finishing Exhibition, Dongguan, <http://www.paper-com.com.hk>
- 3-5 December: Natural Products Expo Asia , Hong Kong, <http://www.naturalproductsasia.com>
- 3-6 December: Dongguan International Machinery & Materials Exhibition, Dongguan, <http://www.paper-com.com.hk>
- 3-6 December: Dongguan International Plastics & Packaging Exhibition, Dongguan, <http://www.paper-com.com.hk>
- 10-13 December: International Exhibition on Textile Industry, Shanghai, <http://www.adsale.com.hk>
- 10-13 December: Shanghai International Techtexiles, Nonwovens and Machinery Exhibition, Shanghai, <http://www.adsale.com.hk>
- 15-17 December: ANEX 2003 - International Nonwovens Exhibition and Conference, Shanghai, <http://www.anex2003.com>

\* The USCCC offers comprehensive arrangement services to assist those who wish to attend any of these trade fairs/exhibitions. From time to time, the USCCC will organize Trade Delegations to visit potential business partners and factories in conjunction to attending the trade shows. For further information, please feel free to contact us by email at [info@usccc.org](mailto:info@usccc.org) or by telephone on (312) 368-9911.

## NEW REGULATIONS

- The Beijing government recently ended its monopoly in running the city's urban infrastructure. It will allow private and foreign enterprises to operate public facilities under franchise. The municipal government holds the right to grant franchises through competitive methods such as public bidding and auctioning, while franchise projects will be determined by the Beijing Development and Reform Committee or another relevant supervisory authority. Urban infrastructure facilities in ten areas are open to franchise, including water supply, gas supply, heat supply, water drainage, sewage treatment, solid waste treatment, toll roads, subways, urban railways and other public transport as well as other urban utilities.
- The China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC) has announced that starting from December 1, 2003, foreign banks may provide renminbi services to Chinese enterprises in cities that have already opened up their local-currency business. In addition, four new cities—Ji'an, Fuzhou, Chengdu and Chongqing—will be added to the list on the same date, bringing the total number of such cities to 13, though foreign banks still have to apply for licenses in each city.

## TARIFF QUOTAS

- China has issued tariff quotas for imports of palm oil, soybean oil, colza oil and sugar in 2004. The quotas on palm oil, soybean oil, colza oil and sugar in 2004 are 2.7 billion, 31.18 billion, 11.27 billion and 19.45 billion tons respectively, according to an announcement in the No. 64 China Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Gazette on November 3, 2003. The announcement said the tariff for imports within the quotas were 9 percent for palm oil, soybean oil and colza oil and 15 percent for sugar. The tariff for imports above the quota ranged from 30 to 190 percent.

*For further information, or if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at:*

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\* ***Information provided herein has been obtained from sources deemed to be reliable; however, its accuracy and completeness cannot be guaranteed.***