

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 110th Congress¹**

[Date approved: August 26, 2008]²

Bill No. and sponsor: H.R. 5198 (Mrs. Ellen O. Tauscher of California).

Proponent name,³ location: Applied Materials, Inc., Santa Clara, CA.

Other bills on product (110th Congress only): None.

Nature of bill: Temporary duty suspension through December 31, 2011.

Retroactive effect: None.

Suggested article description(s) for enactment (including appropriate HTS subheading(s)):

Cathode high voltage connectors, the foregoing with plastic housing and copper electrical connections, for a wattage of 5 kW or more but not over 180 kW, each having the following approximate dimensions: a length of 279 mm, a width of 274 mm and a thickness of 100 mm (provided for in subheading 8538.90.80).

Check one: Same as that in bill as introduced.
 Different from that in bill as introduced (see Technical comments section).

Product information, including uses/applications and source(s) of imports:

According to the proponent, the subject connectors are rated as handling a range of electrical currents from 5 to 180 Kilowatts. Cathode high voltage connectors integrate high-powered cables with different pieces of equipment or electrical assemblies. The cathode high voltage connectors of interest to the proponent are imported primarily from the European Union. Dutiable U.S. imports under HTS subheading 8538.90.80 (a broader category than is covered by this bill) totaled \$911.7 million in 2007, of which Japan, Germany, and France accounted for \$180.2 million, \$177.6 million, and \$119.3 million in shipments, respectively.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Falan Yinug (202-205-2160); Tariff Affairs contact: Jan Summers (202-205-2605).

² Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at http://www.usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel_doc/bill_reports/.

³ The sponsor/proponent did not identify any additional beneficiaries of this bill.

Estimated effect on customs revenue:

HTS subheading: 8538.90.80					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Col. 1-General rate of duty	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$911,700,000	\$911,700,000	\$911,700,000	\$911,700,000	\$911,700,000
Customs revenue loss	\$31,909,500	\$31,909,500	\$31,909,500	\$31,909,500	\$31,909,500

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Official U.S. Government statistics.⁴

Contacts with domestic firms/organizations (including the proponent):

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	Claim US makes same or competing product(s)?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
		(Yes/No)		
Applied Materials (Proponent) Joe Pasetti, 202-638-4434, ext. 6	04/30/2008	No	No	No
Alcatel Vacuum Products Pat Byrnes, pat.byrnes@adixen-usa.com	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Conax Buffalo Technologies, LLC M. Vedella, mvedella@conaxtechnologies.com	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Corning, Inc. Debbie Waggoner, waggonerdl@corning.com	06/06/2008	No	No	No
Daitron, Inc. Bill Laraway, 503-682-7560	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Edwards Wendy Finnen, 1-800-848-9800, ext. 1516	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Excel Technology, Inc. Alice Varisano, 631-784-6175	06/06/2008	No	No	No
InTEST Corp. Mary Jane Boguski, m.boguski@intest.com	06/05/2008	No	No	No
KLA-Tencor Corp. Meggan Powers, 408-875-3000	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Kurt J. Lesker Co. Bill Zinn, billz@lesker.com	06/10/2008	No	No	No
McBain Instruments Patrice Burton, pburton@mcbainsystems.com	06/06/2008	No	No	No

⁴ Estimated import data based on the proposed revised product description were not provided by the proponent for its imports. It is likely that the figures shown for imports and customs revenue loss overstate the potential actual imports and revenue loss for the products concerned, but more precise information is unavailable.

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	Claim US makes same or competing product(s)?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
			(Yes/No)	
National Electrical Manufacturers Association John Meakem, joh_meakem@nema.org	06/06/2008	No	No	No
Newport Electronics/Omega Engineering, Inc. Rosita Asnaashari, rasnaashari@newportinc.com	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Nor-Cal Products, Inc. David Stone, davidstone@n-c.com	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Novellus Systems, Inc. Pushpita Prasad, pushpita.prasad@novellus.com	06/05/2008	No	Yes	No
NxEdge, Inc. Dan Dahl, ddahl@nxedgeinc.com	06/06/2008	No	No	No
Oerlikon Leybold Vacuum USA, Inc. Diana Cook, 724-327-5700	06/06/2008	No	No	No
Phoenix Contact, Inc. Mary Castle, 717-944-1300	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Plastronics Socket Co., Inc. Kevin Koontz, Kevin@locknest.com	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Qioptiq Imaging Solutions John Gebhardt, john.gebhardt@ny.qioptiq.com	06/06/2008	No	No	No
SAES Pure Gas, Inc. C. Landoni, cristian_landoni@saes-group.com	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Semiconductor Equipment and Materials, Intl. Ken Schramko, kschramko@semi.org	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Sumitomo (SHI) Cryogenics of America, Inc. David Dedman, 610-791-6768	06/06/2008	No	No	No
Synergetix Karen Bock, 913-342-0404	06/06/2008	No	No	No
3M Co. Megan Ivory, mmivory@mmm.com	06/09/2008	No	No	No
T&M Service Mike Brooker, mbrooker@tandmservice.com	06/05/2008	No	No	No
TRU Corp. Joe Perna, jperna@trucorporation.com	06/05/2008	No	No	No
TSI Group, Inc. Kristy Oliver, koliver@tsigroupinc.com	06/05/2008	No	No	No
Tystar Corp. Jim Smith, jsmith@tystar.com	06/06/2008	No	No	No
ULVAC Technologies, Inc. Diane Hanley, 978-686-7550	06/06/2008	No	No	No
W.L. Gore & Associates Mike Ratchford, mratchfo@wlgore.com	06/06/2008	No	No	No

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	Claim US makes same or competing product(s)?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
			(Yes/No)	
Xandex, Inc. N. Manoochehri. nmanoochehri@xandex.com	06/05/2008	No	No	No

Technical comments:⁵

Little specific information was provided by the proponent. At a minimum, the proposed product description should be amended as shown on page 1, to conform with other nomenclature usage in the HTS. The product description may present some enforcement burdens for Customs and Border Protection at the time of importation, by specifying features such as exact capacity for the connectors in kilowatts, given that the permanent tariff category is broader than the product of interest. Because the inclusion of precise physical dimensions may pose a burden to the administration of this provision by Customs and Border Protection and might operate to minimize the range of goods actually afforded the benefit of an enacted provision, the word “approximately” has been inserted in the recommended revision. We are available to work with the proponent and with Customs to try to arrive at a better description of the goods in question.

⁵ The Commission may express an opinion on the HTS classification of a product to facilitate consideration of the bill. However, by law, only the U.S. Customs Service is authorized to issue a binding ruling on this matter. The Commission believes that the U.S. Customs Service should be consulted prior to enactment of the bill.

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5198

To suspend temporarily the duty on Cathode high voltage connector.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 29, 2008

Mrs. TAUSCHER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on Cathode high voltage
connector.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CATHODE HIGH VOLTAGE CONNECTOR.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of
5 the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is
6 amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following
7 new heading:

“	9902.01.00	Cathode high voltage connector. White plastic housing with copper electrical connectors. 279 millimeter length × 274 millimeter width × 100 millimeter thickness (provided for in subheading 8538.90.80)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2011	”.
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1 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
2 subsection (a) applies to articles entered, or withdrawn
3 from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day
4 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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