

U.S. International Trade Commission Releases Anti-Dumping Injury Ruling Involving Bottom-Mount Refrigerators from South Korea and Mexico

Whirlpool Corporation strongly disagrees with the determination from the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) regarding bottom-mount refrigerators. Whirlpool will appeal this ruling. In its related investigation, the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) conclusively determined that imports were illegally dumped at rates up to 30 percent; averaging 15 percent. Yet, the ITC ruled that these illegally priced imports did not injure bottom-mount refrigerators made in the U.S. Whirlpool strongly disagrees with the contention that the pricing of the dumped products were irrelevant to consumers and retailers. This determination cannot be aligned with the realities of the marketplace, in which retailers and consumers care about price. This also conflicts with Whirlpool Corporation's 101-year history of making superior, innovative appliances – including U.S. made bottom-mount refrigerators – that have received numerous awards and consumer magazine recognitions.

The majority of past cases handled by the ITC have dealt with general commodities and not consumer products. In this particular case, the ITC failed to appreciate the realities in the bottom-mount refrigerator segment, where price matters to consumers and retailers.

During the appeal process, Whirlpool will prove that illegally dumped imports harm the consumer, American workers, U.S. jobs and the U.S. economy.