

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.

In the Matter of

**CERTAIN WET DRY SURFACE
CLEANING DEVICES**

Inv. No. 337-TA-1304

NOTICE OF INSTITUTION OF INVESTIGATION

Institution of investigation pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1337

AGENCY: U.S. International Trade Commission

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a complaint was filed with the U.S. International Trade Commission on February 2, 2022, under section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, on behalf of Bissell Inc. of Grand Rapids, Michigan and Bissell Homecare, Inc. of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Letters supplementing the complaint were filed on February 4, 2022, and February 22, 2022. The complaint, as supplemented, alleges violations of section 337 based upon the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, and the sale within the United States after importation of certain wet dry surface cleaning devices by reason of infringement of certain claims of U.S. Patent No. 11,076,735 (“the ’735 patent”); U.S. Patent No. 11,071,428 (“the ’428 patent”); U.S. Patent No. 11,122,949 (“the ’949 patent”); U.S. Patent No. 11,096,541 (“the ’541 patent”); and U.S. Patent No. 10,820,769 (“the ’769 patent”). The complaint further alleges that an industry in the United States exists as required by the applicable Federal Statute.

The complainants request that the Commission institute an investigation and, after the investigation, issue a limited exclusion order and cease and desist orders.

ADDRESSES: The complaint, except for any confidential information contained therein, may be viewed on the Commission’s electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>. For help accessing EDIS, please email EDIS3Help@usitc.gov. Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission’s TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at (202) 205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server at <https://www.usitc.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jessica Mullan, Office of Docket Services, U.S. International Trade Commission, telephone (202) 205-1802.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

AUTHORITY: The authority for institution of this investigation is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337, and in section 210.10 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 C.F.R. 210.10 (2021).

SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION: Having considered the complaint, the U.S. International Trade Commission, on March 3, 2022, ORDERED THAT –

(1) Pursuant to subsection (b) of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, an investigation be instituted to determine whether there is a violation of subsection (a)(1)(B) of section 337 in the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or the sale within the United States after importation of certain products identified in paragraph (2) by reason of infringement of one or more of claims 1-3, 5, 6, 11, and 13-18 of the '735 patent; claims 1, 2, 5, 10-13, and 15 of the '428 patent; claims 1, 2, 5-7, 11, 14, 15, and 17-20 of the '949 patent; claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 20 of the '541 patent; and claims 1, 4-7, 10, and 13-16 of the '769 patent, and whether an industry in the United States exists as required by subsection (a)(2) of section 337;

(2) Pursuant to section 210.10(b)(1) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 C.F.R. 210.10(b)(1), the plain language description of the accused products or category of accused products, which defines the scope of the investigation, is "Tineco's wet dry surface cleaning devices";

(3) For the purpose of the investigation so instituted, the following are hereby named as parties upon which this notice of investigation shall be served:

(a) The complainants are:

Bissell Inc.
2345 Walker Avenue, N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Bissell Homecare, Inc.
2345 Walker Avenue, N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49544

(b) The respondents are the following entities alleged to be in violation of section 337, and are the parties upon which the complaint is to be served:

Tineco Intelligent Technology Co., Ltd.
108 Shihu West Road
Wuzhong District
Suzhou City, China, 215168

TEK (Hong Kong) Science & Technology Ltd.
Room 1202 Capitol Centre,
5-19 Jardine's Bazaar, Causeway Bay
CN-999077 Hong Kong

Tineco Intelligent, Inc.
1700 Westlake Ave N
Seattle, WA 98109

(4) For the investigation so instituted, the Chief Administrative Law Judge, U.S. International Trade Commission, shall designate the presiding Administrative Law Judge.

The Office of Unfair Import Investigations will not be named as a party to this investigation.

Responses to the complaint and the notice of investigation must be submitted by the named respondents in accordance with section 210.13 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 C.F.R. 210.13. Pursuant to 19 C.F.R. 201.16(e) and 210.13(a), as amended in 85 Fed. Reg. 15798 (March 19, 2020), such responses will be considered by the Commission if received not later than 20 days after the date of service by the complainants of the complaint and the notice of investigation. Extensions of time for submitting responses to the complaint and the notice of investigation will not be granted unless good cause therefor is shown.

Failure of a respondent to file a timely response to each allegation in the complaint and in this notice may be deemed to constitute a waiver of the right to appear and contest the allegations of the complaint and this notice, and to authorize the administrative law judge and the Commission, without further notice to the respondent, to find the facts to be as alleged in the complaint and this notice and to enter an initial determination and a final determination containing such findings, and may result in the issuance of an exclusion order or a cease and desist order or both directed against the respondent.

By order of the Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa R. Barton', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

Lisa R. Barton
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: March 3, 2022

PUBLIC CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Lisa R. Barton, hereby certify that the attached **INSTITUTION OF INVESTIGATION** has been served upon the following parties as indicated, on **March 3, 2022**.



Lisa R. Barton, Secretary
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW, Room 112
Washington, DC 20436

Complainants:

BISSELL Inc.
2345 Walker Avenue, NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49544

- ☐ Via Hand Delivery
- ☐ Via Express Delivery
- ☐ Via First Class Mail
- ☒ Other: Email Notification
of Availability for Download

BISSELL Homecare, Inc.
2345 Walker Avenue, NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49544

- ☐ Via Hand Delivery
- ☐ Via Express Delivery
- ☐ Via First Class Mail
- ☒ Other: Email Notification
of Availability for Download

On Behalf of Complainants:

S. Alex Lasher, Esq.
QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN LLP
1300 I Street NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005
Email: alexlasher@quinnemanuel.com

- ☐ Via Hand Delivery
- ☐ Via Express Delivery
- ☐ Via First Class Mail
- ☒ Other: Email Notification
of Availability for Download

Respondents:

Tineco Intelligent Technology Co., Ltd.
108 Shihu West Road
Wuzhong District
Suzhou City, China, 215168

- ☐ Via Hand Delivery
- ☐ Via Express Delivery
- ☐ Via First Class Mail
- ☒ Other: Service to Be
Completed by Complainants

Certificate of Service – Page 2

TEK (Hong Kong) Science & Technology Ltd.
Room 1202 Capitol Centre
5-19 Jardine's Bazaar, Causeway Bay
CN-999077 Hong Kong

- ☐ Via Hand Delivery
☐ Via Express Delivery
☐ Via First Class Mail
☒ Other: Service to Be Completed by Complainants

Tineco Intelligent, Inc.
1700 Westlake Avenue N
Seattle, WA 98109

- ☐ Via Hand Delivery
☐ Via Express Delivery
☐ Via First Class Mail
☒ Other: Service to Be Completed by Complainants

Embassy:

Embassy of China
3505 International Place, NW
Washington, DC 20008

- ☐ Via Hand Delivery
☐ Via Express Delivery
☐ Via First Class Mail
☒ Other: Service to Be Completed by Complainants

Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office:

Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office
1520 18th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

- ☐ Via Hand Delivery
☐ Via Express Delivery
☐ Via First Class Mail
☒ Other: Service to Be Completed by Complainants

Government Agencies:

Lynda Marshall
International Section, Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
450 5th Street NW, Room 11000
Washington, DC 20530

- ☐ Via Hand Delivery
☐ Via Express Delivery
☐ Via First Class Mail
☒ Other: Email Notification of Availability for Download

Dax Terrill, Chief
Exclusion Order Enforcement Branch
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Regulations and Rulings
90 K Street NE – 10th Floor
Washington, DC 20229

- ☐ Via Hand Delivery
☐ Via Express Delivery
☐ Via First Class Mail
☒ Other: Email Notification of Availability for Download

Certificate of Service – Page 3

Elizabeth Kraus, Deputy Director
International Antitrust, Office of International Affairs
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Room 498
Washington, DC 20580

☐ Via Hand Delivery
☐ Via Express Delivery
☐ Via First Class Mail
☒ Other: Email Notification
of Availability for Download

Dale D. Berkley, Ph.D., J.D.
Office of the General Counsel, PHD, NIH Branch
National Institutes of Health
31 Center Drive
Bldg. 31, Rm. 47
Bethesda, MD 20892

☐ Via Hand Delivery
☐ Via Express Delivery
☐ Via First Class Mail
☒ Other: Email Notification
of Availability for Download



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2022

S. Alex Lasher
Quinn Emanuel Urguhart & Sullivan, LLP
555 Twin Dolphin Drive
Redwood Shores, CA 94065

Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Inv. No. 337-TA-1304

Dear S. Alex Lasher:

This letter is to advise you that the U.S. International Trade Commission has instituted an investigation pursuant to section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337). A copy of the Commission's notice of investigation is enclosed. Also enclosed is the Section 337 Mediation Program brochure. After reviewing the brochure, please sign and return the enclosed certification of receipt.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa R. Barton".

Lisa R. Barton
Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Investigation
2. Publication Regarding the Section 337 Mediation Program
3. Certification of Receipt of Mediation Materials



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2022

BISSELL Inc.
2345 Walker Avenue, NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Inv. No. 337-TA-1304

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Lisa R. Barton
Secretary

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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2022

BISSELL Homecare, Inc.
2346 Walker Avenue, NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49544

Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Inv. No. 337-TA-1304

Dear Sir/Madam:

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Secretary

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3. Certification of Receipt of Mediation Materials



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2022

Tineco Intelligent Technology Co., Ltd.
108 Shihu West Road
Wuzhong District, Suzhou City
China, 215168

Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Investigation No. 337-TA-1304

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter is to advise you that the United States International Trade Commission has instituted an investigation pursuant to Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337). **Tineco Intelligent Technology Co., Ltd.** is a named respondent in this investigation.

We are hereby serving you with a copy of the Complaint and the Notice of Investigation issued in this matter. Enclosed is a copy of the Code of Federal Regulations. Also enclosed is a the Section 337 Mediation Program brochure. After reviewing this brochure, please sign and return the enclosed certification of receipt.

Please note that the Notice requires a response to the allegations in the Complaint and the response must be received not later than twenty (20) days after the date of service of the Complaint. Failure to file a response may result in inferences being drawn against your interests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa R. Barton".

Lisa R. Barton
Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Complaint
2. Notice of Investigation
3. Code of Federal Regulation
4. Publication Regarding the Section 337 Mediation Program
5. Certification of Receipt of Mediation Materials



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2022

TEK (Hong Kong) Science & Technology Ltd.
Room 1202 Capitol Centre 5-19 Jardine's Bazaar
Causeway Bay CN-999077, Hong Kong

Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Investigation No. 337-TA-1304

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter is to advise you that the United States International Trade Commission has instituted an investigation pursuant to Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337). **TEK (Hong Kong) Science & Technology Ltd.** is a named respondent in this investigation.

We are hereby serving you with a copy of the Complaint and the Notice of Investigation issued in this matter. Enclosed is a copy of the Code of Federal Regulations. Also enclosed is a the Section 337 Mediation Program brochure. After reviewing this brochure, please sign and return the enclosed certification of receipt.

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Lisa R. Barton
Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Complaint
2. Notice of Investigation
3. Code of Federal Regulation
4. Publication Regarding the Section 337 Mediation Program
5. Certification of Receipt of Mediation Materials



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2022

Tineco Intelligent, Inc.
1700 Weslake Avenue N
Seattle, WA 98109

**Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Investigation No. 337-TA-1304**

Dear Sir/Madam:

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Lisa R. Barton
Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Complaint
2. Notice of Investigation
3. Code of Federal Regulation
4. Publication Regarding the Section 337 Mediation Program
5. Certification of Receipt of Mediation Materials



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2022

Embassy of the People's Republic of China
3505 International Place NW
Washington, DC 20008

Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Inv. No. 337-TA-1304

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter is to advise you that the United States International Trade Commission has instituted an investigation pursuant to Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337). One or more of the parties named in the investigation is located in China.

Pursuant to Commission Rule 210.11(a) (3), we are hereby serving you with a copy of the Complaint filed in this investigation together with a copy of the Commission's Notice of Investigation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa R. Barton".

Lisa R. Barton
Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Complaint
2. Notice of Investigation

March 3, 2022

**Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office
1520 18th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036**

**Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Inv. No. 337-TA-1304**

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter is to advise you that the United States International Trade Commission has instituted an investigation pursuant to Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337). One or more of the parties named in the investigation is located in **Hong Kong**.

Pursuant to Commission Rule 210.11(a) (3), we are hereby serving you with a copy of the Complaint filed in this investigation together with a copy of the Commission's Notice of Investigation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa R. Barton", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lisa R. Barton

Enclosures:

1. Complaint
2. Notice of Investigation



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2022

Lynda Marshall
International Section
Antitrust Division
U.S. Dept of Justice
450 5th Street NW, Room 11000
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Inv. No. 337-TA-1304

Dear Lynda Marshall:

This letter is to advise you that the United States International Trade Commission has instituted an investigation pursuant to Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337). A copy of the Notice of Investigation is enclosed. Non-confidential copies of the Complaint and any supplements filed in the investigation will be provided upon request. Requests should be directed to Docket Services at (202) 205-1802.

If you have any questions concerning this investigation, please contact the Commission Investigative Attorney whose name and telephone number appear in the enclosed Notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa R. Barton".

Lisa R. Barton
Secretary

Enclosure:

1. Notice of Investigation



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2022

Dax Terrill, Chief
Exclusion Order Enforcement Branch
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Regulations and Rulings
90 K Street NE, 10th Floor
Washington, DC 20229-1177

Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Inv. No. 337-TA-1304

Dear Dax Terrill:

This letter is to advise you that the United States International Trade Commission has instituted an investigation pursuant to Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337). A copy of the Notice of Investigation is enclosed. Non-confidential copies of the Complaint and any supplements filed in the investigation will be provided upon request. Requests should be directed to Docket Services at (202) 205-1802.

If you have any questions concerning this investigation, please contact the Commission Investigative Attorney whose name and telephone number appear in the enclosed Notice.

Sincerely,

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Lisa R. Barton
Secretary

Enclosure:

1. Notice of Investigation



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2022

Elizabeth Kraus, Deputy Director
International Antitrust, Office of
International Affairs
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Room 498
Washington, DC 20580

Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Inv. No. 337-TA-1304

Dear Elizabeth Kraus:

This letter is to advise you that the United States International Trade Commission has instituted an investigation pursuant to Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337). A copy of the Notice of Investigation is enclosed. Non-confidential copies of the Complaint and any supplements filed in the investigation will be provided upon request. Requests should be directed to Docket Services at (202) 205-1802.

If you have any questions concerning this investigation, please contact the Commission Investigative Attorney whose name and telephone number appear in the enclosed Notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa R. Barton".

Lisa R. Barton
Secretary

Enclosure:

1. Notice of Investigation



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 3, 2022

Dale D. Berkley, Ph.D., J.D.
Office of the General Counsel, PHD, NIH Branch
National Institutes of Health
31 Center Drive
Building 31, Room 47
Bethesda, MD 20892

Re: Certain Wet Dry Surface Cleaning Devices
Inv. No. 337-TA-1304

Dear Dale Berkley:

This letter is to advise you that the United States International Trade Commission has instituted an investigation pursuant to Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337). A copy of the Notice of Investigation is enclosed. Non-confidential copies of the Complaint and any supplements filed in the investigation will be provided upon request. Requests should be directed to Docket Services at (202) 205-1802.

If you have any questions concerning this investigation, please contact the Commission Investigative Attorney whose name and telephone number appear in the enclosed Notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa R. Barton".

Lisa R. Barton
Secretary

Enclosure:

1. Notice of Investigation