



Anti-Dumping Commission

Investigation 692

Certain welded steel mesh sheets

Exported from the People's Republic of China and Malaysia.

File note

Meeting with Bestbar Pty Ltd

The Anti-Dumping Commission (the commission) has met with individual members of the Steel Reinforcement Institute of Australia (SRIA) in relation to Investigation 692, concerning certain welded mesh sheets (mesh), to better understand the Australian market and the impact of imports from China and Malaysia. SRIA is a joint applicant in Investigation 692 with InfraBuild (Newcastle) Pty Ltd.

On 8 May 2026, the commission met in person with representatives from Bestbar Pty Ltd (Bestbar) at Bestbar's premises in Truganina, Victoria.

Bestbar is an Australian owned and managed manufacturer and supplier of steel reinforcement products, including welded steel mesh sheets for civil, commercial, and residential construction.

The commission was taken on a tour of the manufacturing facilities, including the steel mesh production facilities, prior to the meeting.

During the meeting, Bestbar raised the following matters:

- Bestbar advised that, despite some recovery in industry sales volumes following COVID, selling prices and margins have come under sustained pressure;
- in relation to sales volumes and market share, Bestbar stated that industry data indicates aggregate sales volumes have increased during the investigation period, but local producers have lost market share to imports;
- on discussion of market share recovery, Bestbar considered that imports had hindered the ability of Australian producers to recover market share lost in earlier years prior to the investigation period;
- in relation to causation, Bestbar noted that the impact of imports may extend beyond the period of investigation, as earlier market disruption continues to affect current business performance;
- Bestbar stated that it had lost customers and market share in Victoria and experienced difficulty recovering those customers despite some improvement in market conditions during the investigation period;
- Bestbar primarily identified price pressure as a key injury indicator, including changes in welded steel mesh pricing profiles and reduced commercial viability;

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- while discussing customer losses and profitability, Bestbar stated that it has lost customers and withdrawn from some commercial projects where pricing would not support sustainable margins;
- Bestbar advised that competition in Victoria had been particularly intense since COVID, with reduced residential construction activity contributing to customer losses and competitive pressures;
- regarding production capacity and manufacturing activity, Bestbar stated that it has reduced welded steel mesh manufacturing activity despite having available production capacity, due to insufficient demand and pricing pressure;
- Bestbar identified reduced manufacturing activity, employment impacts and reluctance to invest in capital under current market conditions.

The commission requested further information from Bestbar, including sales volume trends, pricing information, and margin impacts.