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Director – Investigations 3
Australian Trade Remedies Commission
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PUBLIC RECORD

Dear Director,

Hollow structural sections from China, Korea, Malaysia and Taiwan: Continuation Inquiry No. 710

Introduction

Orrcon Manufacturing Pty Ltd (**Orrcon**) makes this submission in response to the submissions lodged by GP Marketing International Pty Ltd (**GP Marketing**) on 7 September 2026 and 17 September 2026 concerning hot-dipped galvanised hollow structural sections (**HDG HSS**).[1]

GP Marketing's submissions raise three principal matters:
- the treatment of HDG HSS within the goods subject to the measures;
- whether Australian-produced galvanised HSS constitutes like goods to imported HDG HSS; and
- statements concerning the purchase and importation of HDG HSS by Orrcon and other Australian industry participants.

Orrcon addresses each matter below.

The goods and the outcome sought by GP Marketing

HDG HSS is expressly included within the existing goods description. That description identifies galvanised finishes as including in-line galvanised, pre-galvanised and hot-dipped galvanised HSS.[2]

GP Marketing nevertheless submits that HDG HSS warrants separate consideration. Among other matters, it contends that:
- HDG HSS is not produced by the Australian industry at commercial scale;
- pre-galvanised circular hollow sections are not like goods to HDG HSS; and
- purchases of HDG HSS by Australian producers or related entities are relevant, in GP Marketing's submission, to the question of whether the products are commercially interchangeable.[3]

To the extent that GP Marketing's submissions invite the Commission to recommend that the notices cease to apply to HDG HSS as a particular kind of goods, subparagraph 269ZHF(1)(a)(ii) of *the Customs Act 1901*

[1] GP Marketing International Pty Ltd (**GP Marketing**), submissions dated 7 September 2026 (CON 710 EPR No. 5) and 17 September 2026 (CON 710 EPR No. 8).
[2] Anti-Dumping Commission, *Anti-Dumping Notice No. 2026/093, Initiation of Continuation Inquiry No. 710*, CON 710 EPR No. 3, goods description.
[3] GP Marketing, submission dated 7 September 2026, CON 710 EPR No. 5, sections 1, 4 and 5; GP Marketing, submission dated 17 September 2026, CON 710 EPR No. 8, sections 2, 5–8 and 10.

provides the relevant mechanism.[4] Orrcon submits that the evidence presently identified by GP Marketing does not establish a basis for that outcome.

Previous consideration of HDG HSS and like goods

Review of Measures No. 529

The Commission considered materially similar arguments in *Review of Measures No. 529* (**REV 529**). Tianjin Youfa and thyssenkrupp Materials Australia Pty Ltd submitted that imported HDG HSS was not like the galvanised HSS produced by the Australian industry.[5]

The Commission rejected that proposition. It found that:

- the goods description included HDG HSS;
- the like-goods assessment did not require every aspect of the production process, physical features, commercial circumstances or functionality to be identical; and
- HDG HSS was like other galvanised HSS regardless of the galvanising method.[6]

More broadly, the Commission found that imported and Australian-produced HSS:

- had closely resembling physical characteristics;
- were sold through the same channels to the same or similar customers;
- competed directly for sales;
- were used for similar end uses; and
- were produced through essentially similar processes.[7]

The Commission also observed that an Australian industry participant need not manufacture every form of HSS within the relevant product range for its locally manufactured goods to satisfy the like-goods test.[8]

Continuation Inquiry No. 590

The Commission subsequently considered HDG HSS in Continuation Inquiry No. 590 (**CON 590**). Report No. 590 continued to identify hot-dipped galvanised HSS as one of the finish types within the goods.[9]

In CON 590, thyssenkrupp Materials Australia Pty Ltd submitted that the applicants were unable to produce circular HDG pipe and that imported circular HDG pipe did not compete with Australian-manufactured like goods. The Commission did not accept that this provided a basis to exclude circular HDG pipe from its assessment. It found that the measures applied to the goods, including subsets of those goods unless otherwise exempted, and expressly confirmed that circular HDG pipe was not exempt and was therefore included in its assessment of the effect of HSS imports on the Australian industry.[10]

The Commission also separately assessed physical, commercial, functional and production likeness and concluded that Australian-produced HSS had characteristics closely resembling the imported goods and constituted like goods. In doing so, the Commission found, among other things, that imported and Australian-produced HSS were commercially similar, competed directly for sales and were used for similar end uses.[11]

CON 590 therefore provides further relevant Commission findings concerning both the treatment of circular HDG HSS within the measures and the relationship between imported HSS and Australian-produced like goods. Those findings do not preclude consideration of new product-specific evidence in CON 710, but

[4] Customs Act 1901 (Cth), subparagraph 269ZHF(1)(a)(ii).
[5] Anti-Dumping Commission, *Report No. 529: Review of Anti-Dumping Measures Applying to Hollow Structural Sections Exported to Australia from China, Korea, Malaysia, Taiwan and Thailand* (**REP 529**), section 3.6.2, p. 26.
[6] REP 529, section 3.6.2, p. 26.
[7] REP 529, sections 3.5.1–3.5.4 and 3.7, pp. 24 and 26.
[8] REP 529, section 3.6.2, p. 26.
[9] Anti-Dumping Commission, *Report No. 590: Inquiry concerning the Continuation of Anti-Dumping Measures Applying to Hollow Structural Sections Exported to Australia from China, Korea, Malaysia and Taiwan* (**REP 590**), section 3.3.1, p. 29.
[10] REP 590, sections 3.3.3–3.3.4, pp. 31–32.
[11] REP 590, sections 3.1 and 3.5.1–3.5.5, pp. 29, 34–35.

provide relevant Commission findings and factual history against which GP Marketing's present claims should be assessed.

Exemption Inquiry No. 0093

In Exemption Inquiry No. 0093 (**EX0093**), the Commission considered HSS with an air-blown hot-dipped galvanised finish and a zinc coating mass of 200 to 300 g/m². The Commission concluded that like or directly competitive goods were offered for sale in Australia to all purchasers on equal terms under like conditions. It therefore recommended that the exemption not be granted, and the Minister accepted that recommendation.[12]

EX0093 concerned a different statutory test from the test applying in CON 710. It nevertheless provides relevant factual history because it concerned HDG HSS with a specified zinc coating mass of 200 to 300 g/m^2 and the availability of Australian like or directly competitive goods.

These earlier findings directly address important aspects of the distinction GP Marketing now seeks to draw. Differences in galvanising method, coating mass or corrosion performance may be relevant to the assessment, but Orrcon submits that those differences do not, by themselves, displace the Commission's previous findings concerning the physical, commercial, functional and production relationship between HDG HSS and other galvanised HSS.

Orrcon manufactures and sells Australian like goods

Orrcon manufactures and sells MECSPEC-GAL® pipe and tube and specified ORRFIRE® products in Australia. MECSPEC-GAL® is Z275 pre-galvanised pipe and tube manufactured to comply with AS 1450.[13] ORRFIRE® products relevant to this submission are manufactured to comply with the applicable requirements of AS 4118.2.1 for fire sprinkler systems. ORRFIRE® ALLGAL® sprinkler pipe is also certified under the ActivFire® scheme.[14] ORRFIRE® ALLGAL® is an electro-galvanised zinc-coated product, rather than post-fabrication HDG HSS.

These products are not represented as identical in every respect to all imported HDG HSS. Orrcon's experience is that they may compete with imported HDG HSS in applications where their dimensions, technical specifications, performance characteristics and customer requirements overlap.

During the CON 710 inquiry period, Orrcon sold a combined [***XX***] tonnes of its Australian-produced MECSPEC-GAL® and ORRFIRE® ALLGAL® products.[15] These sales evidence actual Australian production and commercial sales of galvanised HSS that Orrcon considers to be like goods. The significance of that production to the like-goods assessment should be considered by reference to the physical, commercial, functional and production characteristics of the Australian-produced and imported goods, rather than whether Orrcon manufactures each imported HDG product in identical form.

GP Marketing's statements concerning imports by Orrcon

GP Marketing's 7 September 2026 submission states that it understands that Orrcon imports HDG pipe, directly or through traders, to service its customers.[16] Its submission dated 17 September 2026 refers more generally to purchases by "the applicants" or entities related to them.[17]

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[12] Anti-Dumping Commission, *Exemption Inquiry Report EX0093: Certain Hollow Structural Sections Exported to Australia from Countries Subject to Anti-Dumping Measures*, section 2.2.1, p. 8 and sections 3.3.1–3.3.3, pp. 13–15; Anti-Dumping Notice No. 2023/041, *Findings of Exemption Inquiry No. 0093*, p. 2.

[13] Orrcon Manufacturing Pty Ltd, *MECSPEC-GAL® Pipe (CHS) Flyer*, Orrcon Steel Manufacturing website, accessed 14 October 2026.

[14] CSIRO Verification Services, ActivFire® Certificates of Conformity AFP-1508, AFP-1509 and AFP-1640, *ORRFIRE® ALLGAL® Electro-Galvanised Sprinkler Pipe*, issued 27 March 2026.

[15] Orrcon Manufacturing Pty Ltd, *Response to Australian Industry Questionnaire*, Confidential Appendix A4, CON 710 inquiry period, 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.

[16] GP Marketing, submission dated 7 September 2026, CON 710 EPR No. 5, section 2.

[17] GP Marketing, submission dated 17 September 2026, CON 710 EPR No. 8, sections 2–5, 8 and 12.

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The assertion concerning Orrcon does not accord with Orrcon Manufacturing's records for the period reviewed for this response. Based on the purchasing and import records reviewed for this response, Orrcon Manufacturing has identified no importation or purchase through a trader of HDG HSS between March 2016 and the date of this submission, including during the CON 710 inquiry period.[18]

GP Marketing's public submissions do not identify a particular HDG HSS importation or purchase by Orrcon Manufacturing during that period. If GP Marketing provides sufficiently particularised transaction evidence concerning Orrcon Manufacturing, Orrcon does not oppose the Commission verifying that evidence. On the information presently available, however, GP Marketing's assertion should not, without verification, be treated as establishing Orrcon Manufacturing's current production, sales or purchasing conduct.

Purchases by related distribution entities

GP Marketing's second submission refers to purchases of HDG HSS by entities related to Australian producers. A purchase by a related distributor should not, without evidence establishing that attribution, be treated as a purchase or importation by Orrcon Manufacturing.

Orrcon manufactures and sells HSS to related and unrelated distributors. In Continuation Inquiry No. 689, the Commission separately examined Orrcon's sales to related and unrelated customers and found that its prices did not appear to be influenced by its customer relationships and that its price-setting mechanism was similar for related and unrelated customers.[19]

Purchases by related distributors may nevertheless be relevant to the Commission's assessment of the market. Their significance depends on the circumstances of the particular transaction, including the product specifications, purchaser, quantity and timing, customer requirements, end use, competitive interaction, availability of Australian-produced alternatives and the reason for the purchase.

Accordingly, the presence of imported HDG HSS in a related distributor's product range does not, by itself, establish that Australian-produced galvanised HSS is not like or does not compete with imported HDG HSS, or that the measures should cease to apply to HDG HSS.

GP Marketing's proposed transaction evidence

GP Marketing's submission dated 17 September 2026 states that it can provide transaction-level evidence concerning purchases of HDG HSS by Austube Mills Pty Ltd (**ATM**) or entities related to ATM.[20] Orrcon has no knowledge of, and does not comment on, the existence, circumstances or significance of those particular transactions.

The Commission may consider and verify any transaction evidence provided by GP Marketing. However, evidence of particular purchases by another Australian producer or its related entities would not, by itself, displace the Commission's previous findings concerning the relationship between imported HDG HSS and other galvanised HSS.

REP 529 rejected the proposition that differences in galvanising method were sufficient to establish that imported HDG HSS was not like the Australian industry's galvanised HSS.[21] The significance of any transaction evidence in CON 710 should therefore be assessed by reference to the physical, commercial, functional and production relationship between the relevant products. This would require consideration of the precise specifications, end uses, customers, competitive interaction, availability and reasons for the purchases.

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[18] Orrcon Manufacturing Pty Ltd records.
[19] Anti-Dumping Commission, *Continuation Inquiry No. 689 – Precision Pipe and Tube Steel, Verification File Note: Orrcon Manufacturing Pty Ltd*, CON 689 EPR No. 7, Finding 3, p. 2.
[20] GP Marketing, submission dated 17 September 2026, CON 710 EPR No. 8, sections 1–5 and 8–12.
[21] REP 529, section 3.6.2, p. 26.

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Conclusion

HDG HSS is expressly included within the goods subject to the measures. The Commission has previously considered and rejected the proposition that differences in galvanising method, without more, mean that imported HDG HSS is not like Australian-produced galvanised HSS.

The matters presently identified by GP Marketing may be examined and verified by the Commission. Orrcon submits that, as currently particularised, those matters do not establish a basis for the Commission to depart from its previous like-goods findings or to recommend that the notices cease to apply to HDG HSS.

Orrcon therefore submits that the Commission should:

- find, based on the product and sales evidence submitted by Orrcon in CON 710, that Orrcon produces Australian like goods to imported HDG HSS;
- give appropriate weight to the findings in REV 529 and CON 590, and the relevant factual history in EX0093;
- not, without verification, treat GP Marketing's unparticularised assertion as establishing that Orrcon imported or purchased HDG HSS during the period covered by Orrcon's records review; and
- not recommend under subparagraph 269ZHF(1)(a)(ii) that the notices cease to apply to HDG HSS.

For and on behalf of Orrcon Manufacturing Pty Ltd

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