TALUM WINDOWS
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23/10/2026

Australian Trade Remedies Commission
Investigations 1
GPO Box 1632
Melbourne VIC 3001

Re: Investigation No. 691 – Aluminium Windows and Doors from China

Dear Director,

Support for Statement of Essential Facts No. 691

My name is Emmet Taranto, and I represent Talum Windows, a family-owned Australian manufacturer of aluminium windows and doors.

Our family has been involved in the industry for more than 60 years. Today, Talum manufactures aluminium windows and doors for residential projects throughout Victoria, as well as commercial projects across the Bass Coast region. We employ three fabricators, supported by our family team in the office, and take pride in supplying locally manufactured products to the Australian building industry.

I am writing to express our concerns about the impact of imported aluminium windows and doors on Australian manufacturers and the long-term sustainability of our industry.

Over the past 12 months, we have experienced significant pressure on our profit margins. We have reduced our margins in an effort to remain competitive and keep work flowing through our factory. However, we simply cannot compete with the prices at which imported windows and doors are being offered.

As a local manufacturer, we understand that a fair and healthy market is essential. Competition keeps businesses accountable, encourages efficiency and ensures customers receive value for money. We are not asking to be protected from fair competition. We are asking for a market in which Australian manufacturers have a reasonable opportunity to compete and remain viable.

The pricing pressure we are experiencing is becoming unsustainable. We are left hoping that our commitment to Australian manufacturing, quality products and a customer-first approach will be enough to convince customers to support local manufacturing and pay a fair price for their windows and doors.

However, there is only so long a business can absorb reduced margins in order to maintain its workload. If we are forced to continue competing at the prices of imported products, we will eventually have no option but to close our doors.

My father often says, *“You may as well go broke at home rather than at work.”* It is a blunt statement, but it reflects the difficult position in which Australian manufacturers find themselves. We cannot continue operating indefinitely if the work we undertake does not generate a sustainable return.

The consequences would extend well beyond Talum Windows. If these market conditions continue, other Australian fabricators may also be forced to close. Every closure means the loss of local jobs, manufacturing experience, industry knowledge and investment in Australian production.

Once this manufacturing capacity is lost, it cannot simply be switched back on when it is needed. Australia risks losing its sovereign capacity to manufacture aluminium windows and doors locally, leaving the domestic building industry increasingly reliant on imported products.

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A fair market should allow customers to choose between suppliers on the basis of price, quality, service and value. It should also allow Australian manufacturers that operate efficiently, employ local people and meet their obligations to earn a sustainable return. When imported pricing places ongoing pressure on local manufacturers to the point where they cannot remain viable, the long-term consequences for Australian manufacturing deserve serious consideration.

We respectfully ask the Commission to give careful consideration to the real-world impact of its findings on businesses like ours. Behind the pricing data are family businesses, local employees and manufacturing operations that contribute to their communities and to the Australian economy.

For Talum, this is about more than protecting our own business. It is about preserving the ability of Australian companies to manufacture Australian products, employ Australian workers and continue supplying the local building industry.

Our family has been involved in this industry for more than 60 years. We want to continue that legacy, support our employees and contribute to Australian manufacturing for generations to come. We want to compete on a fair basis, but we cannot do so indefinitely under pricing conditions that make sustainable manufacturing impossible.

Thank you for considering our experience and the perspective of a small, family-owned Australian manufacturer.

Yours sincerely,

Emmet Taranto
Talum Windows