



PRESS RELEASE

Weldbend Corporation Applauds Administration’s Decision to Impose An Additional 10% Import Tariff on Butt Weld Pipe Fittings & Carbon Steel Flanges from China (With A Possible Increase to 25% in 2019)

Argo, IL, September 18, 2018 – Yesterday, the United States announced that, effective September 24, 2018, it would impose an additional *ad valorem* tariff of 10 percent on imports of butt weld pipe fittings and carbon steel flanges from China. If resolution of this matter with China is not reached by the end of the year, the tariffs will increase to 25 percent on January 1, 2019.

“As a family owned and operated business that manufactures these products here in the United States, it is gratifying to see the United States finally take direct and decisive action against these Chinese imports,” says James Coulas, Jr., President and CEO of Weldbend. “For generations Weldbend and its employees have manufactured great products and we are extremely pleased with the Administration’s decision to address China’s unfair trade practices. This action, along with the recent preliminary decision on Malaysian circumvention, and the inclusion of welded outlets/shaped nipples under the Chinese antidumping order, give us great hope that the United States government finally recognizes the threat of China’s cheating.”

These additional tariffs are being imposed pursuant to Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, which is on top of the already-existing antidumping duty orders on carbon steel butt weld pipe fittings from China (with antidumping duties from 35.06 percent to 182.90 percent), and is in response to China’s failure to change its policies that coerce American companies into transferring their technology and intellectual property to domestic Chinese enterprises (policies aimed at bolstering China’s stated intention of seizing economic leadership in advanced technology).

About Weldbend Corporation

Weldbend is the industry leader with over 60 years of performance- proven reputation. Weldbend pioneered advance techniques and designed equipment uniquely capable of producing only the finest carbon steel weld flange and weld fitting products. From start to finish, Weldbend strives to be “The Standard” to which weld fittings and weld flanges are

September 18, 2018

Page 2

manufactured, stored, organized, and shipped. Weldbend manufactures stock for large inventories and prompt and precise shipments.

As a family business, Weldbend is committed to delivering a level of service and product that achieves complete customer satisfaction. Weldbend's precision accuracy in machining and manufacturing makes it a prime source of fittings and flanges from ½" through 60" sizes. Further information about Weldbend can be found at www.weldbend.com.

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