

CALL FOR COATINGS INDUSTRY VIGILANCE AGAINST DUMPING

South African coating manufacturers should in the interests of preserving profitability keep a close eye on the increasing level of imports of raw materials, Sanjeev Bhatt, vice chairman of SAPMA, warned at the association's recent AGM.

Sanjeev told the meeting that some South African paint producers had applied for a temporary rebate on the import duty that applied to titanium dioxide which will assist in lowering the cost of locally manufactured coatings. Solvent-borne resin producers had also applied for duty protection on acrylic resins following the sudden spurt of resin imports from countries such as Taiwan, Egypt and the UAE. "I would urge coatings manufacturers to keep a close watch on imported products landing in South Africa to ensure that the volume of cheap and sub-standard imports is controlled," Sanjeev urged the meeting.

SAPMA has already in the past expressed concern about the lack of suitable import duty protection to prevent the dumping of raw materials and resins, and reminded the DTI that any product imported into SA would have to meet the compulsory specifications of the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS). SAPMA implored the DTI to utilise the services of the NRCS to control any imports that could threaten the survival of the industry.

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