



Buy-American Questions and Answers for Determining Whether Substantial Transformation Occurred in the U.S for Buy-American Compliance.

Subject: GPK Products Inc. Attachments for ARRA Questionnaire Pertaining to Rigid PVC Injection Molded and Fabricated fittings.

1. Where all the components of the manufactured good manufactured in the United States, and were all of the components assembled into the final product in the U.S.? (NO)

Answer 1. GPK Products, Inc. PVC gasketed sewer fittings incorporate the use of gaskets made from rubber extruded or molded by S&B Technical Products, Inc located in Ft. Worth, Texas USA. The majority of their gaskets are manufactured in Costa Rica that is a rich source of raw materials and they supply a large part of the U.S. gaskets for various types of sewer pipes and fittings.

2. Was there a change in character or use of the good or the components in America? (Yes)

Answer 2a. – Yes, the raw materials will be changed into PVC injection molded and fabricated sewer fittings. The raw material cannot be used as it's received

Answer 2b. – Yes, the manufacturing process changed the product from one use to another. We are changing the Raw Material from Resin, Pellet form; liquid and PVC pipe into injection molded and fabricated sewer fittings.

Answer 2c – Yes, the manufacturing operation narrowed the range of uses. Our manufacturing process results in a finished product only used for sewer and drainage systems.

3. Was the process performed in the U.S. complex and meaningful? (Yes)

Answer 3a. – Yes, the process did take a substantial amount of time. The manufacturing of our product has multiple processes and can take from several minutes to several hours to complete.

Answer 3b. – Yes, the process is costly. Our company has a high amount of sophisticated machines and tooling.

Answer 3c. – Yes, the process does require a high level of skills. Our company has many skilled technicians running and maintaining equipment. Each machine operator while not a highly skilled craftsman must know multiple functions for each position.

Answer 3d. – Yes, the process required a number of different operations. The manufacturing process of our products requires many different operations from Injection Molding, Blending, Packaging, Fabricating and Shipping.

Answer 3e. - Yes, substantial value was added in the process. The manufacturing process of our products transforms raw materials into specified sewer and drainage fittings that must meet the industry standards and fulfill our customer's needs.