Thank you to the Section 301 Committee for taking the time to hear our comments and response to the proposed Section 301 tariffs. My name is Gozie Onyema, Associate General Counsel, International Trade Compliance for Smiths Group. One of Smiths Group's business divisions, Smiths Medical, is a medical device manufacturer headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Smiths Medical's 7,700 employees, who operate in over thirty countries around the world, provide lifesaving solutions for the world's healthcare markets. Our Infusion Therapy, Vascular Access, Vital Care, and Specialty Products are found in hospital, emergency, and home and specialty care environments. These products are used during critical and intensive care, surgery, post-operative care and for support in managing chronic illness.

Smiths Medical will be significantly and negatively impacted if the proposed list of products imported from China under the USTR's Section 301 action is not modified. Of greatest concern to Smiths Medical is the inclusion of these two sections:

1) 9018 (Instruments and appliances used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences)
2) 9019 (Mechano-therapy appliances; massage apparatus; psychological aptitude-testing apparatus)

These two sections include specific items that are highly regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") and, at present, are imported duty-free, namely:

- Needles
- Catheters
- Tracheal Tubes & Accessories
- Respiratory Therapy Mask, Filters & Bags

These items are purchased by Smiths Medical from suppliers in China and then are used either as stand-alone medical devices (e.g., needles and tracheal tubes), or as components in other medical devices that we manufacture (e.g., respiratory therapy mask, filters and bags that are included as part of a larger procedural kit of devices). Our facilities in Oakdale, Minnesota, Olive Branch, Mississippi, and Dublin, Ohio use these FDA-approved components from China to provide lifesaving medical devices to patients receiving medical care in tens of thousands of hospitals across the United States and to patients in our served export markets around the world.

If the proposed tariff on these section 9018 and 9019 components is implemented, Smiths Medical will be compelled to seek alternative, non-Chinese suppliers. This process is both expensive and time-consuming, as it would require significant changes to our supply chain (e.g., validating new suppliers), and in the case of finished medical devices, necessitating re-submissions of the impacted product regulatory approvals from FDA and potentially other global regulatory bodies.

Smiths Medical's purpose is to provide high-quality, innovative solutions and superior support to help healthcare professionals and providers ensure safety, enhance patient outcomes, and

improve the total cost of care. The proposed tariff jeopardizes all of this by introducing additional complexity, time, and cost into a substantial swath of our product portfolio.

Therefore, we respectfully request and urge the USTR to exclude the above items referenced in sections 9018 and 9019 from the proposed tariff list.

Thank you again to the Section 301 Committee. This concludes my statement. I will be happy to answer your questions at this time.