

April 29, 2025

Dear Valued Partners,

Over the past several years, Frymaster/DEAN has manufactured economy fryers (SR/ESG/GF), portable filters (PF), and caddies (CDC/PSDU) at our Welbilt factories in China.

New tariffs have been introduced since February 2025, raising the overall tariff on fryers from 7.5% to 152.5%.

Continuing to import fryers at this tariff level is not feasible, as it would require a price increase of over 90% just to maintain our dollar margin. Therefore, we have decided to pause fryer production in China, while we develop a plan to move production to another Welbilt factory in a low-tariff country. However, it will take several months to implement production changes, so we expect availability issues as equipment shipped before the tariff hike is depleted.

Frymaster/DEAN remains committed to the economy segment of our business. Therefore, to mitigate availability gaps, we will move the production of GF open pot economy fryers back to the US starting in late June. Since the GF family was recently moved to China, reactivating the supply chain and assembly process in Shreveport, LA, will be relatively straightforward, unlike the SRs and ESGs. This will ensure we have at least one economy fryer option available while we make long-term arrangements for the production of our economy line.

That said, most fryers in stock or currently on the water were or will be subject to the 10% + 10% "fentanyl" tariff implemented in February/March 2025. Additionally, the new SR/ESG manufacturing location will be more expensive than China, pre-tariff hike. Furthermore, the cost of US-made GFs will be higher.

Due to these factors, **we will implement a 10%-25% price increase on all SR/ESG/GF fryers, effective for fryers shipped from July 1, 2025, regardless of the PO date.**

Due to limited availability, in an effort to support our loyal partners, we will push back on orders placed for shipment prior to 7/1/25 that are clearly in excess of historical purchase volume. We will share inventory availability with our dealer partners regularly (weekly or bi-weekly) starting next week until availability goes back to normal.

As for **PF/CDC/PSDU**: the tariff increase on portable filters, caddies, and shortening disposal units has a more limited impact on landed cost than fryers. Therefore, we will continue production in China for the foreseeable future, with a **15%-40% price increase necessary to cover the increased tariffs, effective for equipment shipped from July 1, 2025, regardless of the PO date.**

We will provide the exact percentages by model at least 30 days before the effective date as we progress with our mitigation strategy and evaluate any further update on tariffs.

We appreciate your patience and support as we work to continue meeting your demand at an effective price point.

Best regards,



Oscar Villa
President, Frymaster/DEAN