

Company Profile: The Hongda Group / KaDi Resources (High Point, North Carolina)

A. Company Information

Hongda Group Limited, LLC

Headquarters: 603-C Eastchester Drive, High Point, North Carolina, USA.

Website: Unavailable.

KaDi Resources LLC

Headquarters: 603-C Eastchester Drive, High Point, North Carolina, USA.

Website: Unavailable. See related company, [Eco World Research and Development Group](#).

Hongda and the related company, KaDi Resources, distribute chemicals that are made in China. Hongda is described in court documents as a distributor of chemicals from China to a worldwide market, “sometimes using regional distribution warehouses in Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Missouri.”¹ KaDi was formed “to assist Burling Chemical in the sale of surfactants, a chemical used in detergents.”² Burling is likely a misspelling for Burlington Chemical, which has a warehouse in Greensboro, NC.

KaDi Resources LLC holds a trademark for “non-ionic surfactants as raw materials for use in the manufacture of industrial products, consumer and household products.”³ The company name likely is derived from the first names of two members of the company, **K**athryn Dodson McKnight and **D**ianne Perkins Scott.

Gary David McKnight is the agent and manager for both KaDi Resources and the Hongda Group. He is also a prolific inventor.⁴

In 2019, Hongda lost a \$27.8 million judgment resulting from complaints filed by a chemical manufacturer based in China, Shangyu Sunfit Chemical. Shangyu said Hongda did not pay what it owed for importing Sunfit’s N-(n-Butyl) thiophosphoric triamide (NBPT). The lawsuit also claimed that Hongda “had secretly imported NBPT from other suppliers.”⁵

McKnight’s latest venture is Eco World Research and Development Group, at the same address (603-C Eastchester Drive, High Point, NC). It offers chemicals used in “household, industrial and institutional products, textile processing and reaction chemistry.”⁶

Hongda Chem USA dissolved in 2015⁷; however, Hongda Group Limited and and remains an active LLC registered in the state of North Carolina.⁸ The High Point, NC, address shared by Hongda and KaDi is a [small office building](#).

B. Unreported Toxic Chemical Imports

Neither Hongda nor KaDi are identified in any Chemical Data Reports for 2016, as published by EPA.

Typically, importers of certain substances are required to file reports with the US Environmental Protection Agency if those imports exceed 25,000 pounds in a year. Smaller companies only have to report imports in excess of 100,000 pounds for many chemicals. In the 2016 CDR filing period, a small business was defined as one with total sales of under \$40 million in the year 2015. Companies with sales under \$4 million in 2015 did not have to report anything, regardless of the volumes or toxicity of those imports in any of the reportable years (2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015).

The combined sales of Hongda and KaDi, based upon the estimated value of their chemical imports⁹, appear to be between \$4 million and \$40 million.

Hongda imported in excess of 100,000 pounds of at least one toxic chemical, anthraquinone, in 2013.

Also, combined, Hongda and KaDi imported very close to (but not in excess of) 100,000 pounds of Bisphenol-S in 2014.

Anthraquinone (CAS No. 84-65-1)

Anthraquinone is a California Proposition 65 listed carcinogen.¹⁰ It also is acutely hazardous to the aquatic environment.¹¹ It is used to deter birds from eating grains. Anthraquinone also is a feedstock in the manufacture of dyes, and also is used in textile and pulp industries.

Anthraquinone shipments to Hongda¹²

Year	Exporter	Country	Importer	Metric Tons	Port
2013	Shandong Shengong Chemical	China	Hongda Group Limited	63.87	Savannah

Hongda's imports of anthraquinone in 2013 exceeded 100,000 pounds (45.36 metric tons). According to regulations at the time, these imports should have been reported to EPA in 2016.

Five companies filed reports for anthraquinone in 2016. EPA provided the names of each of these companies; none is related to Hongda or KaDi.

Bisphenol-S (CAS No. 84-65-1)¹³

Bisphenol S - a common replacement for Bisphenol A in epoxy coatings - is listed by the International Chemical Secretariat (ChemSec), and TEDX, as a substance of very high concern due to its potential for endocrine disruption.¹⁴

Bisphenol-S shipments to KaDi / Hongda

Year	Exporter	Country	Importer	Tons	Port
2013	Zhangjiagang Free Trade Zone Gangru	China	Kadi Resources	19.86	Savannah
2013	Jiangsu Aolunda High-Tech Industry	China	Kadi Resources	15.21	Charleston
2014	Zhangjiagang Free Trade Zone	China	Hongda Group Limited	25.6	Charleston
2014	Zhangjiagang Free Trade Zone Gangru	China	Kadi Resources	19.68	Charleston
2018	Ningbo Vitax Biotech Co.	China	Kadi Resources	10.04	Savannah

Combined, Kadi and Hongda's imported nearly 100,000 pounds (99,825 pounds; or, 54.28 metric tons) of Bisphenol-S in 2014. Assuming that KaDi/Hongda's annual sales revenues for 2015 were in the \$4 million to \$40 million range, they were not only required to report imports in excess of 100,000 pounds. If the companies' total sales were higher than \$40 million they would have to report imports of over 25,000 pounds, including the 2014 shipments of Bisphenol-S from the Zhangjiagang Free Trade Zone of China.

Six companies filed CDRs with EPA for Bisphenol-S in 2016. Two of these companies are unidentifiable due to EPA's agreement to conceal their names and locations as "confidential business information." It is theoretically possible, but unlikely, that Hongda or KaDi filed these CBI reports.

¹ <https://casetext.com/case/hongda-chem-usa>

² <https://www.casemine.com/judgement/us/5aac8283342cca6ec6b6abd7>

³ <https://trademarks.justia.com/owners/kadi-resources-llc-2696728/>

⁴ <https://patents.google.com/?inventor=gary+david+mcknight&oq=gary+david+mcknight>

⁵ <https://brookspierce.com/news-insights/brooks-pierce-attorneys-win-chemical-company-75-million-verdict>

⁶ <https://ecoworldlab.com/>

⁷ <https://www.docketbird.com/court-documents/Hongda-Chem-USA-LLC-et-al-v-Shangyu-Sunfit-Chemical-Company-Ltd/MEMORANDUM-OPINION-AND-ORDER-signed-by-JUDGE-N-C-TILLEY-JR-on-09-26-2018-adopting-the-Magistrate-Judge-039-s-Memorandum-Opinion-and-Recommendation-except-as-set-out-ORDERED-THAT-YMS-Agriculture-International-Cor-p-039-s-Motion-for-Summary-Judgment-Do/ncmd-1:2012-cv-01146-00209>

⁸ https://www.sosnc.gov/online_services/Search/Business_Registration_profile?Id=9779470

⁹ As estimated in the Datamyne commercial trade database.

¹⁰ <https://oehha.ca.gov/proposition-65/chemicals/anthraquinone>

¹¹ <http://www.pharosproject.net>

¹² Datamyne.

¹³ Datamyne.

¹⁴ Pharos Project, Healthy Building Network, <http://www.pharosproject.net>