



Portfolio Media, Inc. | 860 Broadway, 6th Floor | New York, NY 10003 | www.law360.com
Phone: +1 646 783 7100 | Fax: +1 646 783 7161 | customerservice@portfoliomedia.com

Rising Star: Akin Gump's J. David Park

By **Ben James**

Law360, New York (April 09, 2010) -- Not only has Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP partner J. David Park played a significant role in every major U.S. trade remedies case filed against South Korea since 2004, he's put together an impressive track record on behalf of clients including South Korean steel producer Hyundai Hysco, landing him a spot on Law360's list of 10 international trade lawyers under 40 to watch.

Park, 38, is a partner in Akin Gump's international trade practice group, and head of the firm's Korea practice. He spends the bulk of his time working on trade remedies litigation and is based in Washington.

Park is currently lead counsel to Hyundai Hysco, one of South Korea's biggest steel producers and Pohang Iron and Steel Co. — South Korea's largest steel producer — in numerous ongoing anti-dumping duty administrative reviews of corrosion-resistant carbon steel flat products before the U.S. Department of Commerce, as well as related litigation in the U.S. Court of International Trade.

He also served as lead counsel for Hyundai Hysco in the 2004-2005 and 2008 anti-dumping duty investigations of South Korean circular welded carbon quality line pipe. In both investigations, Park successfully demonstrated that the company wasn't selling its line pipe at less than fair value.

The U.S. companies behind the investigations withdrew their petitions in both instances, and all South Korean shipments of line pipe to the U.S. are free from anti-dumping duties.

South Korea's biggest paper manufacturer, Hansol Paper, had Park on board as lead counsel in a 2007 anti-dumping duty investigation of lightweight thermal paper in the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Park won a negligibility finding on behalf of not only Hansol, but the entire South Korean industry, and the ITC terminated the investigation.

Park was also Hansol's lead counsel in the 2006-2007 anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigations of coated free sheet paper from South Korea. He was successful in showing that the company wasn't selling its merchandise at less than fair value or receiving countervailable subsidies from the government. As a result, Hansol's shipments of coated free sheet paper are free from U.S. anti-dumping and countervailing duties.

Park pointed to his past and current work for Hyundai Hysco, as well as his representation of Hansol, as parts of his career that he was particularly proud of.

Park, who is originally from South Korea and has lived in Nigeria, Colombia and Canada, as well as the U.S., said his interest in the law didn't start to take shape until the latter part of his undergraduate years at Tufts University.

Before that, all he knew for sure was that he didn't want to be a career South Korean diplomat like his father, said Park, who is married and has two children.

At this point, his goal is to keep growing as an attorney and build on the success he's already achieved, he said.

"I just want to continue to expand my business and my practice," Park said. "You can always do better in the next case."

Akin Gump is a particularly good firm for young attorneys, he said, adding that the firm was "laid back" in terms of junior attorneys being able to open lines of communication with established, senior lawyers.

"It's not a stuffy law firm," Park said. "You have access to knock on a partner's door and start talking to them."

He has multiple mentors at Akin Gump and was quick to attribute his success to what senior people at the firm taught him.

Park said his client base, primarily South Korean, had generally accepted him despite his relatively young age and the significance of seniority in Korean culture. Park and Akin Gump have put together a string of positive results that's been more important than age in terms of winning clients' trust, he noted.

"The proof has been in the pudding," Park said.

**AKIN GUMP
STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP**