

Our Ref : DB.AS.129.2004.00 (23)

Circular No: 14/2006

Date : 14 Jul 2006



**SINGAPORE CUSTOMS**

55 Newton Road  
#07-01 Revenue House,  
Singapore 307987

**REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

Telephone : 6355 2000  
Telefax : 6250 9606  
Homepage : <http://www.customs.gov.sg>  
E-mail : [customs\\_documentation@customs.gov.sg](mailto:customs_documentation@customs.gov.sg)

All Traders and Declaring Agents



## **OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR IMPORTS FROM PANAMA UNDER THE PANAMA-SINGAPORE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (PSFTA)**

The PSFTA will be implemented on 24 July 2006. This circular outlines the procedures for claiming of preferential tariff for originating goods from Panama under the PSFTA.

### **Preferential Tariff for Imports**

2. With effect from 24 July 2006, imports of stout/porter, beer including ale, medicated samsu and other samsu (under HS codes 22030010, 22030090, 22089010, 22089020, 22089030 and 22089040) originating from Panama will be zero-rated. However, excise duty on these items will still be applicable at their respective rates.

### **Procedures for Claiming Preferential Tariff**

3. An importer may claim preferential tariff using a certification of origin completed and signed by the exporter or producer, as the case may be. The minimum data elements to be included in the certification of origin are attached at Annex A for your reference. If the certification of origin is available at the time of import of the goods, traders can claim for preferential tariff when declaring the customs permits. However, if the value of the consignment does not exceed US\$1,000.00, the requirement for a certification of origin will be waived.

4. If the certification of origin is not available at the time of import, no preferential treatment will be accorded to the goods. However, if the trader wishes to claim for preferential tariff, he must declare both the import and excise duty rates under 'Duty rate 1' and 'Duty rate 2' fields in the TradeNet declaration and also indicate in the 'Remarks' field the intention to claim for preferential tariff. In this instance, the trader is required to furnish the certification of origin to Singapore Customs, Documentation Specialists Branch at Level 7, Revenue House, 55 Newton Road Singapore 307987, within one week of release of the goods from the Customs Checkpoint for verification.

*An Active and Valuable Partner for the Trading Community  
Your Satisfaction, Our Pride*

## Procedures for Release of Goods for Local Consumption

5. Traders claiming preferential tariff for **conventional** goods are required to produce the certification of origin, and the Duty Payment (DP) Permit showing the 'Duty rate 1' field as blank, together with the goods at the checkpoint for clearance. Officers from the Immigration and Checkpoint Authority (ICA) will endorse and retain the declaration or CO before releasing the goods at the checkpoints.

6. Traders claiming preferential tariff for **containerized** goods are required to produce the certification of origin, and the Duty Payment (DP) Permit, together with the goods to the Customs Officer at the place of unstuffing for verification. For goods bonded in a Licensed Warehouse (LW), traders can transmit either the Joint or Pure Inward Permit at preferential rate (ie with 'Duty rate 1' field blank) for release of the goods. For Direct Duty payment, the goods can be released to the importer immediately after unstuffing.

## **Rules of Origin for Exports to Panama and other Details**

7. Information on Rules of Origin for exports to Panama under PSFTA can be found in circular (No 15/2006) dated 14 Jul 2006 which can be downloaded at <http://www.customs.gov.sg/>.

8. For other details on the PSFTA, please refer to MTI's website at <http://app.fta.gov.sg/asp/fta/ftapage.asp?id=61>

## **Enquiries**

9. If you need further clarification on the contents of this circular, please call our Customs Call Centre at telephone number 6355-2000.



WINSTON TAY WEE HUA  
HEAD  
DOCUMENTATION SPECIALISTS BRANCH  
For DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF CUSTOMS

## CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN

The list of data elements of the certification of origin are as follows:

**1. Name and address of the exporter or producer:**

The full legal name, address (including city and country), telephone number, and email address if applicable of the exporter or producer(s). State whether the exporter is also the producer.

**2. Name and address of the importer:**

The full legal name, address (including city and country), telephone number, and email address if applicable of the importer.

**3. Description of goods:**

This entails a full description of each good. The description should contain sufficient detail to relate it to the invoice description and to the Harmonised System (HS) description of the good. If the certification covers a single shipment of goods, it should list the quantity and unit of measurement of each good, including the series number, if possible, as well as the invoice number, such as the shipping order number, purchase order number or any other number that can be used to identify the goods.

**4. HS Tariff Classification number:**

The HS tariff classification to six digits, or as otherwise specified in the Rules of Origin, for each good.

**5. Preference Statement:**

The exporter or producer of the goods covered by this certification of origin declares that these goods meet the Panama-Singapore Free Trade Agreement Rules of Origin.

**6. Authorised Signature:**

This includes the date and signature of the exporter or producer.