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To: All Manufacturers registered with  
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## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CEPT RULES OF ORIGIN OF THE ASEAN COMMON EFFECTIVE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF (CEPT) SCHEME FOR THE ASEAN FREE TRADE AREA (AFTA)**

With immediate effect, the ASEAN countries have introduced the following amendments to the CEPT Rules of Origin. The full text of the latest CEPT Rules of Origin and the Operational Certification Procedures are available in the ASEAN Secretariat's website at: <http://www.aseansec.org/17281.htm>

### **Highlights of the Amendments**

#### Alternative Substantial Transformation Rule (Change in Tariff Classification) for Aluminium and Wood-based Products

2. A substantial transformation rule (Change in Tariff Classification) has been adopted as an alternative to the CEPT value-added rules of origin for aluminium and wood-based products. The list of aluminium and wood-based products, with HS codes that qualify for the alternative rule, are available at: <http://www.aseansec.org/17281.htm>.

3. For products that qualify for this criterion, the exporter is required to declare the origin criterion text as "ST" in box 8 when applying for the CEPT Form D at the time of export. To minimise inconvenience at the port of clearance, you may wish to verify with your importer whether their Customs authorities can accept the new origin criterion text for aluminium and wood-based products.

## Wheat Flour

4. The substantial transformation rule (Change in Chapter) has earlier been adopted for wheat flour. With the implementation, wheat flour, aluminium and wood-based products will be considered to have undergone a substantial transformation or process if it has been transformed by means of substantial manufacturing or processing into a new and different article of commerce.

5. Please familiarise yourself with the CEPT Rules of Origin in order to take full advantage of the CEPT scheme for your exports to the ASEAN countries. In addition, please highlight the contents of this circular to other colleagues in your organisation and business partners if relevant.

## **Enquiries**

6. For enquiries, you may call our Customs Call Centre at telephone number 6355-2000 on the contents of this circular.



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