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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.

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