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SINGAPORE CUSTOMS

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REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

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All Traders and Declaring Agents



OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR IMPORTS FROM CHINA UNDER THE CHINA-SINGAPORE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (CSFTA)

The CSFTA will be implemented on 1 January 2009. This circular outlines the procedures for the claiming of preferential tariff for goods originating from China under CSFTA.

Preferential Tariff for Imports

2. With effect from 1 January 2009, preferential tariff will be accorded to goods originating from China under CSFTA.
3. Imports of stout/porter, beer including ale, medicated samsu and other samsu (under HS codes 22030010, 22030090, 22089010, 22089020, 22089030 and 22089040) originating from China will be zero-rated. However, excise duty on these items will still be applicable at their respective rates.

Procedures for Claiming Preferential Tariff

4. An importer may claim preferential tariff based on a valid Certificate of Origin (CO) issued by the government authority designated by China. A specimen copy of the CO is attached at Annex A for your reference. If the CO 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\$600.00, the requirement for a CO will be waived.
5. If the CO 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 customs and excise duty rates under 'Customs Duty Rate' and 'Excise Duty Rate' fields in the TradeNet[®] declaration and also indicate in the 'Remarks' field the intention to claim for preferential tariff. Please submit the CO to Singapore Customs, Procedures and Processing Branch at Level 7, Revenue House, 55 Newton Road Singapore 307987, **within one week** of cargo release for verification.

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Procedures for Release of Goods for Local Consumption

6. Traders claiming preferential tariff for **conventional** goods are required to produce the CO, and the In-Payment Permit showing the 'Customs Duty Rate' 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 CO before releasing the goods at the checkpoints.

7 Traders claiming preferential tariff for **containerized** goods are required to produce the CO, and the In-Payment 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 an In-Payment Permit at preferential rate (ie with 'Customs Duty Rate' 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 China and other Details

8. Information on Rules of Origin for exports to China under CSFTA can be found in circular (No 22/2008) dated 9 Dec 2008. Both circulars can be downloaded at <http://www.customs.gov.sg/>.

9 For other details on the CSFTA, please refer to the Singapore's FTA website at http://www.fta.gov.sg/fta_csfta.asp?hl=27

Enquiries

10. If you need further clarification on the contents of this circular, please send your enquiries to customs_documentation@customs.gov.sg.



KAREN LIM
HEAD
PROCEDURES AND PROCESSING BRANCH
For DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF CUSTOMS

SAMPLE CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Annex A

<p>1. Goods consigned from (Exporter's business name, address, country)</p>		<p>Reference No. CHINA-SINGAPORE FREE TRADE AREA PREFERENTIAL TARIFF CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN (Combined Declaration and Certificate)</p> <p>Issued in _____ (Country) See Notes Overleaf</p>			
<p>2. Goods consigned to (Consignee's name, address, country)</p>		<p>4. For Official Use</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Preferential Treatment Given Under CHINA-SINGAPORE Free Trade Area Preferential Tariff</p> <hr/> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Preferential Treatment Not Given (Please state reason/s)</p> <hr/> <p>..... Signature of Authorised Signatory of the Importing Country</p>			
<p>3. Means of transport and route (as far as known)</p> <p>Departure date</p> <p>Vessel's name/Aircraft etc.</p> <p>Port of Discharge</p>					
<p>5. Item number</p>	<p>6. Marks and numbers on packages</p>				
<p>11. Declaration by the exporter</p> <p>The undersigned hereby declares that the above details and statement are correct; that all the goods were produced in</p> <p>..... (Country)</p> <p>and that they comply with the origin requirements specified for these goods in the China-Singapore Free Trade Area Preferential Tariff for the goods exported to</p> <p>..... (Importing Country)</p> <p>..... Place and date, signature of authorised signatory</p>		<p>12. Certification</p> <p>It is hereby certified, on the basis of control carried out, that the declaration by the exporter is correct.</p> <p>..... Place and date, signature and stamp of certifying authority</p>			

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