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To: All Manufacturers and Traders
Registered with Singapore Customs

UPDATES TO THE RULES OF ORIGIN UNDER THE SINGAPORE –AUSTRALIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (SAFTA)

Further to our Circulars Nos. 24/2003 and 25/2003 dated 15 Jul 2003 (available in our Customs website at <http://www.customs.gov.sg/topNav/new/cir/2003+Circulars.htm>), we wish to inform you that with immediate effect, arising from the amendments made to the issuance of Certificate of Origin of the SAFTA, manufacturers and exporters exporting goods and importers importing goods under the SAFTA will benefit from the improved procedures.

2 The highlights of the changes effected under Chapter 3 – Rules of Origin, Section C – Documentary Evidence, are as follows:

Article 11 – Certification of Origin

- a) An Exporter's Declaration need not be required where a Certificate of Origin (CO) is to be used for a single shipment.
- b) Where a CO is to be used for multiple shipments, an Exporter's Declaration is not required for the first shipment but shall be required for all subsequent shipments. (Previously, an Exporter's Declaration is required for all shipments, ie. inclusive of the first shipment.)
- c) A CO may now be issued after the goods has been shipped out but have not entered the territory of the importing Party. (Previously, the exporter of the goods must provide a Declaration/Certificate of Origin prior to the export of those goods).

Article 12 – Claim for Preferential Tariff Treatment

d) If you are a local importer claiming preferential tariff for imports of Australia origin goods into Singapore you may wish to take note of the following procedures:

(1) An original CO is required for preferential tariff claim if it is used for:

- i) a single shipment or
- ii) first shipment (for CO to be used for multiple shipments); or

(2) A valid CO (e.g. a photocopy of the original CO) and an original Exporter's Declaration are required when the CO is used for subsequent multiple shipments.

Enquiries

3 You may download the details of the amendments from the legal text of the FTA at the following website - http://www.fta.gov.sg/fta_safta.asp?hl=4. For enquiries, you may email to: "customs_roo@customs.gov.sg".



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