

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

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GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

Notification by the United States

Addendum

The following communication received from the delegation of the United States is circulated for the information of contracting parties.

The United States in GATT document L/4299 of 13 February 1976 had the honour to inform the CONTRACTING PARTIES of the entry into force of the Generalized System of Preferences of the United States on 1 January 1976 and to provide the CONTRACTING PARTIES with, among other documentation, the text of the United States Customs Service Regulations regarding the Duty-Free Entry of Certain Merchandise from Designated Beneficiary Developing Countries (see L/4299 of 13 February 1976, pages 39-41). The United States hereby wishes to inform the CONTRACTING PARTIES that on 27 January 1977 revisions were made in the above-mentioned Customs Regulations which liberalized the United States rules of origin.

Previously, it was necessary to request GSP at the time of entry in order to receive GSP benefits, although the Certificate of Origin Form A could be provided subsequently. However, under the new regulations, shipments for which GSP was not sought at time of entry can still receive GSP treatment if otherwise eligible, provided that the liquidation of the entry has not become final. This can be done by the importer requesting such treatment, and either providing Form A, or posting bond in the normal manner for the production of Form A. In such cases, duties paid at the time of entry can be refunded. Liquidation normally occurs ninety days after entry.

The revision, published in the Federal Register (Volume No. 18 dated 27 January 1977 at page 5041), made the following changes in the above-mentioned Customs Service Regulations:

The second sentence of section 10.172 is amended to read as follows:

Section 10.172 Claim for exemption from duty under the GSP

If duty-free treatment is claimed at the time of entry, a written claim shall be filed on the entry document by placing the symbol "A" as a prefix to the tariff schedules of the United States annotated item number for each article for which such treatment is claimed. If duty-free treatment is claimed subsequent to the time of entry in accordance with section 10.112, the filing of the Certificate of Origin, or a duplicate thereof as described in section 10.173(a)(2), shall constitute the written claim.

Section 10.173 Evidence of the country of origin

(a) Shipments valued in excess of \$250.00

(1) Certificate of Origin. Except as provided in paragraph (a)(5) of this section, the importer or consignee of a shipment of eligible merchandise valued in excess of \$250.00 shall file with the district director in connexion with the entry the Generalized System of Preferences Certificate of Origin Form A, as evidence of the country of origin.

(2) Duplicate Certificate of Origin. In the event of the loss, theft, or destruction of a Certificate of Origin, the district director will accept in connexion with the entry a duplicate Certificate of Origin issued by the appropriate governmental body in the country of origin and endorsed with the word "duplicate" in box 4.

