



**Asia-Pacific
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United States Importer-Based Certification and Verification Overview

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U.S. Importer-Based Certification and Verification Overview

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U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)



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The U.S. Importer-Based System

- Importer-based Certification
- Process for Importing Goods into the United States
- Verification of Trade Preference Claims
- Recordkeeping Requirements
- Importer Certification/Declaration
- Supporting Documentation
- Key Advantages



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Importer-Based Certification

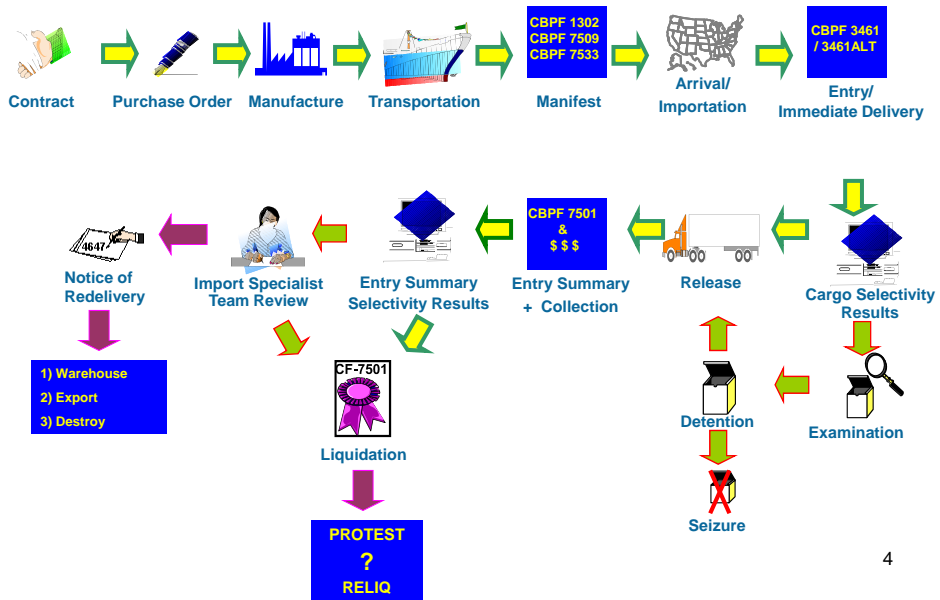
- Allows an importer to make a claim for trade preference based on:
 - Importer knowledge of the production process
 - Reliance on certification by the producer or exporter with knowledge of the production process



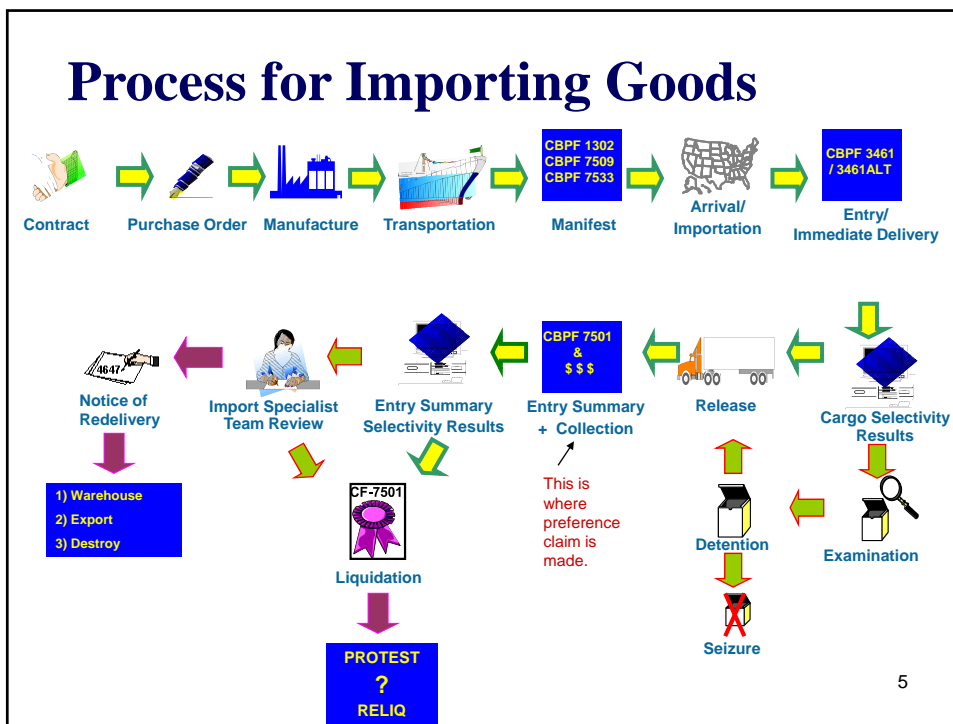
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Process for Importing Goods



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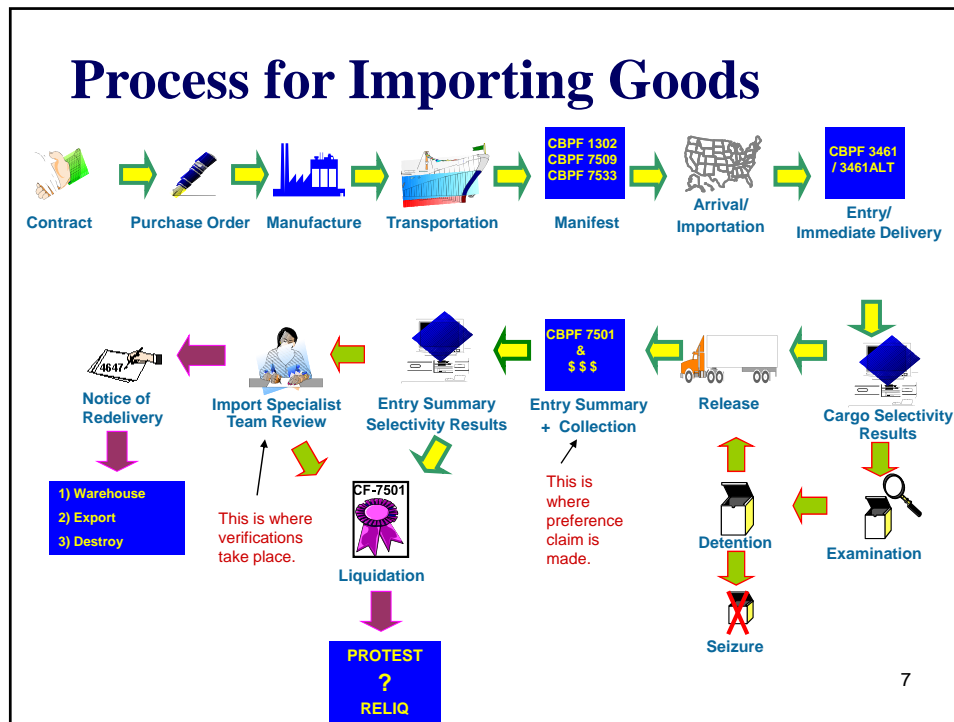


CBP Form 7501

The Special Program Indicator is placed before the Harmonized Tariff Schedule number on the CBP Form 7501.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U.S. Customs and Border Protection				ENTRY SUMMARY		1. File Code/Entry No. 888-00104929		2. Entry Type 01		3. Summary Date 10-08-xx	
8. Importer Name S.S. SANTA MARIA				9. Mode of Transportation 11		10. Country of Origin TW		11. Import Date 10-03-XX		12. Entry Type 10-03-XX	
13. U.S. Port No. NOSU 21233382				14. Manufacturer ID TWFGINC40TA1		15. Country of Origin TW		16. Port Code 1702		17. Import Date 08-03-XX	
18. U.S. Port No. L538				19. U.S. Port No. 56-168234000		20. U.S. Port No. 56-168234000		21. U.S. Port No. 1702		22. U.S. Port No. 1702	
23. Importer Name and Address CVS Pharmacy Inc. One CVS Drive Attn: Import Department Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895-6195 City State				24. Importer Name and Address CVS Pharmacy Inc. One CVS Drive Attn: Import Department Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895-6195 City State		25. Importer Name and Address CVS Pharmacy Inc. One CVS Drive Attn: Import Department Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895-6195 City State		26. Importer Name and Address CVS Pharmacy Inc. One CVS Drive Attn: Import Department Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895-6195 City State		27. Importer Name and Address CVS Pharmacy Inc. One CVS Drive Attn: Import Department Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895-6195 City State	
28. Line No.				29. Description of Merchandise		30. HTSUS No.		31. Quantity		32. Value	
001				775 CTN PVC DOLLS		9502.10.0060		13185 KG		7,750 NO	
				Dolls representing only human beings and parts and accessories thereof. Dolls, whether or not dressed...Other				\$78,175		FREE	
				MERCHANDISE PROCESSING FEE						0.21%	
										\$164.16	
Other Fee Summary for Block 30				35. Total Entered Value		CBP USE ONLY		TOTALS			
MPF 449 \$164.16				\$ 78,175.00		A. LIQ CODE		B. Accretion Duty		37. Duty 0.00	
HMF 501 \$ 97.72				Total Other Fees \$ 261.88		REASON CODE		C. Accretion Fee		38. Fee 261.88	
36. DECLARATION OF IMPORTER OF RECORD (OWNER OR PURCHASER) OR AUTHORIZED AGENT				I declare that I am the <input type="checkbox"/> Importer of record and that the actual owner, purchaser, or consignee for CBP purposes is as shown above. OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> owner or purchaser or agent thereof. I further declare that the merchandise was obtained pursuant to a purchase or agreement to purchase and that the prices set forth in the invoice are true, OR <input type="checkbox"/> was not obtained pursuant to a purchase or agreement to purchase and the statements in the invoice as to value or price are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also declare that the statements in the documents herein filed fully disclose to the best of my knowledge and belief the true prices, values, quantities, rebates, drawbacks, fees, commissions and royalties and are true and correct, and that all goods or services provided to the seller of the merchandise either free or at reduced cost are fully disclosed. I will immediately furnish to the appropriate CBP officer any information showing a different state of facts.		D. Accretion Other		39. Other 261.88		40. Total 261.88	
41. Declarant Name D. J. POWERS CHB President				42. Signature D.J.Powers		43. Title President		44. Date 10-08-XX		45. Signature D.J.Powers	

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Verification of Trade Preference Claims

- CBP verifies trade preference claims after goods are released
- Verification candidates chosen based on risk management principles.
 - Not every trade preference claim verified
- Import specialist review:
 - Records requested from importer
 - Determination made and issued in writing by import specialist
- There is also a post-release audit process under which verifications may take place.
 - Same rules apply

Recordkeeping Requirements

- Importers must have information available to substantiate their trade preference claim upon request by CBP
 - Certification/Declaration
 - Supporting documentation
- U.S. free trade agreements have a 5-year recordkeeping requirement for any party that certified that the good qualifies for a preference
 - Exporter/producer must maintain records if he supplied a certification to the importer that goods originate.



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Importer Certification/Declaration

- No set format required
- Does not need to be signed and in importer's possession at the time of the claim
- May apply to a single shipment of goods, or multiple shipments of identical goods within a specified period (usually one year in U.S. free trade agreements).



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Importer Certification/Declaration

– Typical elements on an importer certification/declaration:

- Name and address of importer, exporter and producer
- Description of the good
- HS tariff classification number
- Preference criterion
- Commercial invoice number for single shipments
- Blanket period for multiple shipments of identical goods
- Authorized signature of company representative with their information and date of certification
- Certification



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Supporting Documentation

– Supporting documentation requested by CBP depends on how a good claims to be originating under a free trade agreement. Some examples of documents that may be requested include:

- Affidavits from growers (wholly obtained)
- Bill of materials showing classification and country of origin of all materials (tariff shift rules)
- Bill of materials showing country of origin and value of all materials (value-added rules)
- Invoices for the purchase of materials used to produce final good
- Production records



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Key Advantages

- Aligns importer obligations with benefits
- Reduces costs
- Provides greater flexibility to both importers and customs



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