

2012/CTI/WKSP/009 Session 2

#### SMEs' Best Practices of Free Trade Agreement Utilization and Korea Customs Service Outreach Program

Submitted by: Korea



Workshop on Increasing Free Trade Agreement Utilization by SMEs Tokyo, Japan 7 August 2012

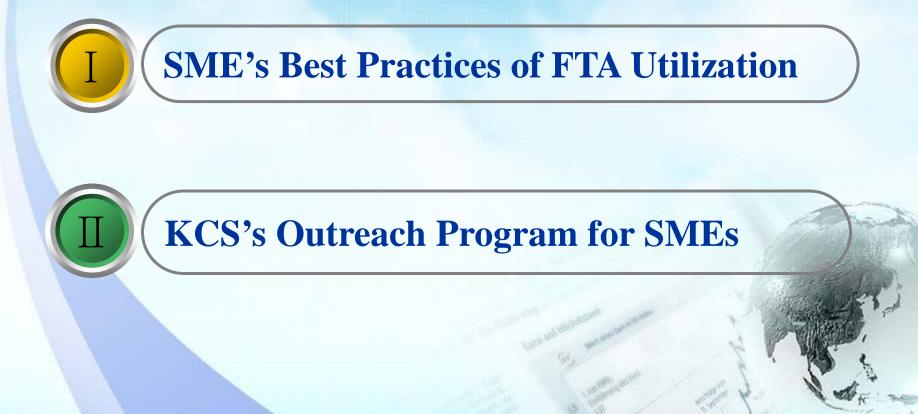
## SME's Best Practices of FTA Utilization & KCS Outreach Program

# August 7, 2012, Tokyo. APEC Horkshop

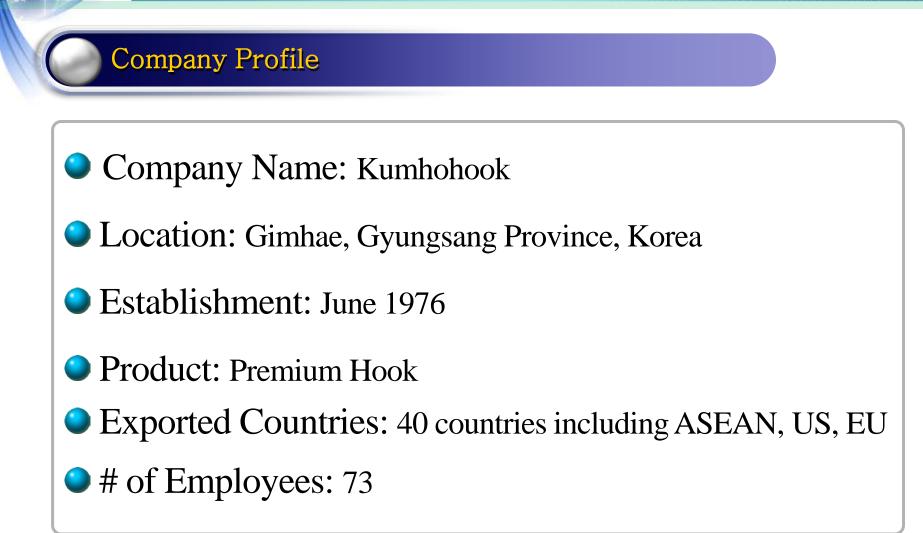


관세청 KOREA CUSTOMS SERVICE

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## I. SME's Best Practices of FTA Utilization



#### Situation and Implications

- (Economic Recession) experienced 'Domino Effect' of the bankruptcy taken place within the fishing industry as a result of economic recession in domestic markets.
  - in 2006, there was no hope for shaving off bankruptcy due to dishonored bill of USD 1.3 million
- Output (Difficulties in Use of FTA) Lack of knowledge in FTA utilization and unable to manage the goods' origin, which makes the company hard to gain benefits from preferential tariff treatment.

#### **Barriers of FTA Utilization**

#### Complexity of Rules of Origin under the FTA

- Goods entitled to Preference: Goods that fulfill Rules of Origin under the Agreement
- Rules of Origin, Applied Tariff Rates, and Proof of Origin etc. differ from each Agreement in terms of determining the origin of the goods in question
- In order to correctly determine the origin of the goods in question, management of HS code and origin-related data of the goods shall be conducted from the very first stage

In process of utilizing FTA, Small and Medium Enterprises are undergoing a huge amount of difficulties in origin management due to shortage of capital and human resources

#### Why do we have to assist SMEs?

#### It is difficult for SMEs to utilize FTA due to the shortage of;

- Origin expertise;
- Capital; and
- Human resources

#### Hence,

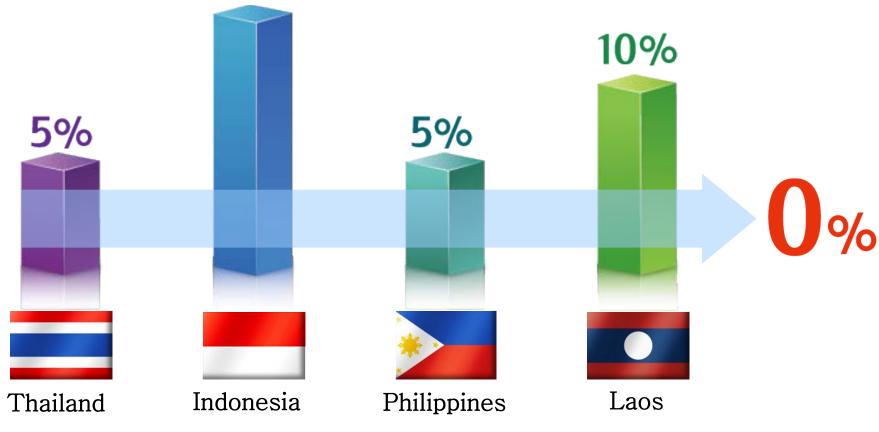
- we have to assist them at the government level
  - ⇒ Maximization of FTA Utilization
  - ⇒ Promotion of Trade and Investment

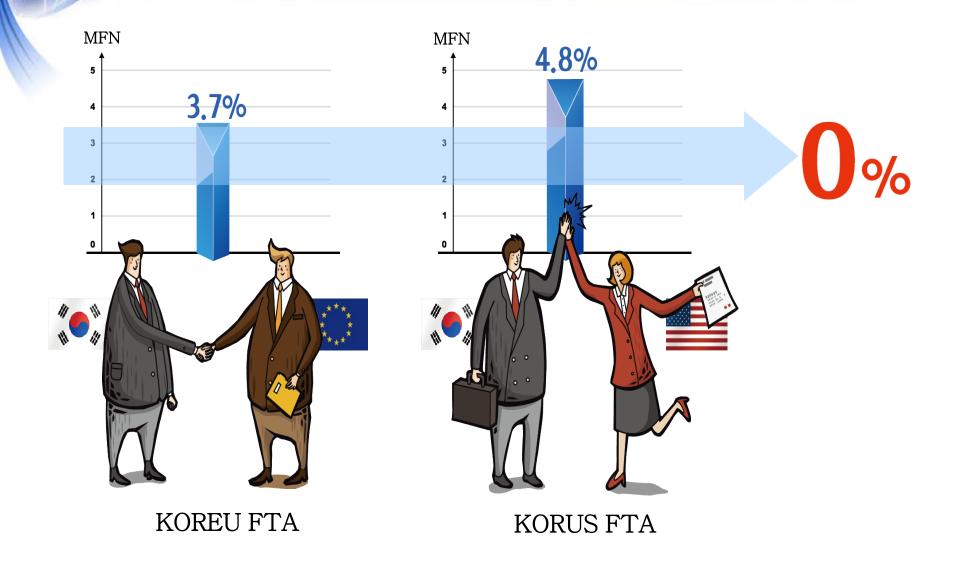
#### Overcoming crisis through the FTA

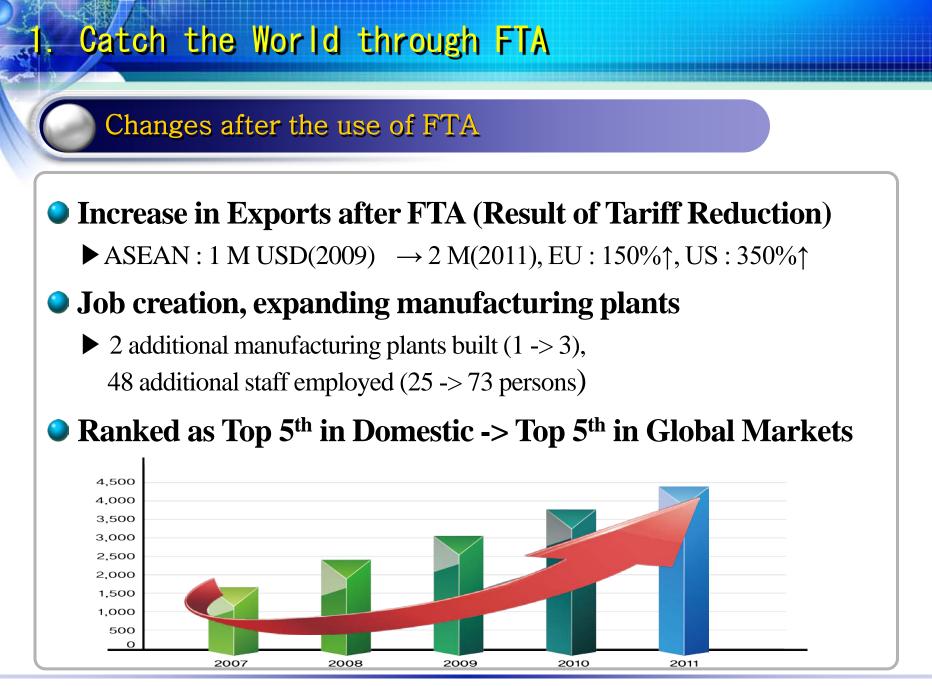
- State-of-art Technology) on-going development of the technology and investment put into the R&D generated Patents of Invention (3), Patents on new device (12), and design rights (2)
- (Effective Use of FTA) FTAs with the Major exported countries including ASEAN, EU and the US have come into force. This resulted in tariff elimination which enabled the company gain competitive advantage in the product price.
  - C/Os are issued to FTA partner countries for all export cases
  - Built capacity in FTA utilization through reinforced support from Busan Main Customs

# <Changes of Tariff Rates > for Hooks of ASEAN under the FTA









#### www.customs.go.kr

#### Catch a global through FTA



#### • CEO's Support and interests toward FTA

• Establishment of Task Force in charge of FTA

(Person in charge allocated per FTA)

#### Close and Cooperative Relationships with Customs

 Participating in 1:1 consultation program, Pre-examination of origin of their goods, taking seminars and trainings provided from Customs officials, and use of FTA-PASS (KCS Origin Management System-software)

#### 2. Maximizing Profits by Simultaneous Use of KorEU and KorUS FTA



- Company Name: Y Special Metal
- Location: Asan, Chung-Cheong Province, Korea
- Setablishment: March 1963
- Product: Rod Wire for electric railway, materials for welding etc.
- Exported Countries: the US, EU, China and Australia etc.
- # of Employees: 53

#### . Maximizing Profits by Simultaneous Use of KorEU and KorUS FTA

#### Motive of FTA Utilization

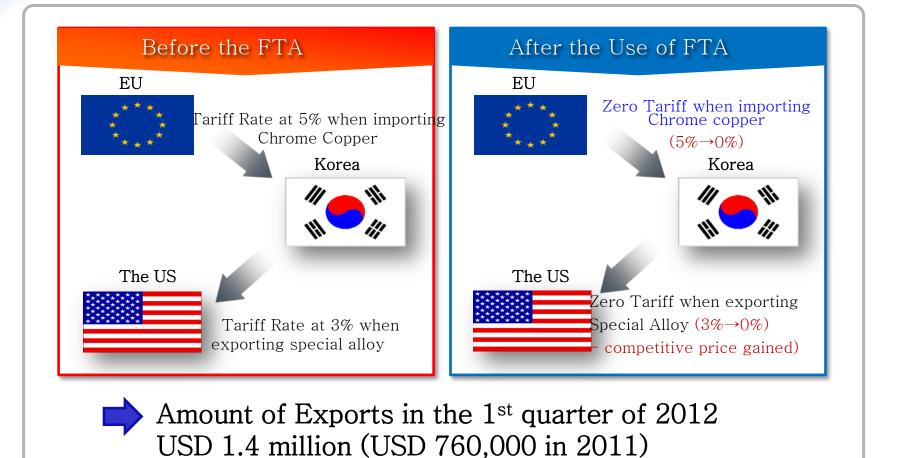
## Personalized Consultation from Customs

- To provide personalized consultations after selecting companies with large volume of export, and deemed to enjoy the most of preferential tariff treatment
- Training programs and consultations are provided to raw material suppliers, in order to help fulfill Rules of Origin under the FTA

Designating a person in charge of FTA related work, and assist him to build his capacity in FTA utilization

#### . Maximizing Profits by Simultaneous Use of KorEU and KorUS FTA

#### Maximizing Profit from Use of FTA





## Overcoming Crisis by the Use of Korea-US FTA

#### Situation and Implications

- 70% of all production rely on exportation, and ½ of the exports destinate EU countries currently undergoing economic crisis.
   This resulted in stopped production and downsizing etc.
- FTA is getting expanded. However, the rules are too complex and it requires experts in FTA-related tasks.

<Rules of Origin for gloves under Korea-US FTA>

▶ Yarn-Forward rule : Yarn has to originate in Korea or the US, in order to claim for

preferential tariff treatment

▶ Practically, China-originating yarn is used to reduce raw material costs

## Overcoming Crisis by the Use of Korea-US FTA

Stepping in to New Markets, with Korea-US FTA

#### Tariff Elimination, contributed to the enormous US markets

▶  $13.2\% \rightarrow 0\%$  + abolition of MPF

#### Establishment of its own origin management department

consultations and training programs provided from the govt. at free of charge, in order to build capacities in dealing with FTA

#### Changing raw material suppliers

Use of Korea-originating yarn to fulfill rules of origin under Korea-US FTA



Decisive Action is essential!!

## Overcoming Crisis by the Use of Korea-US FTA

#### Effects of FTA Utilization (Quantitative results)

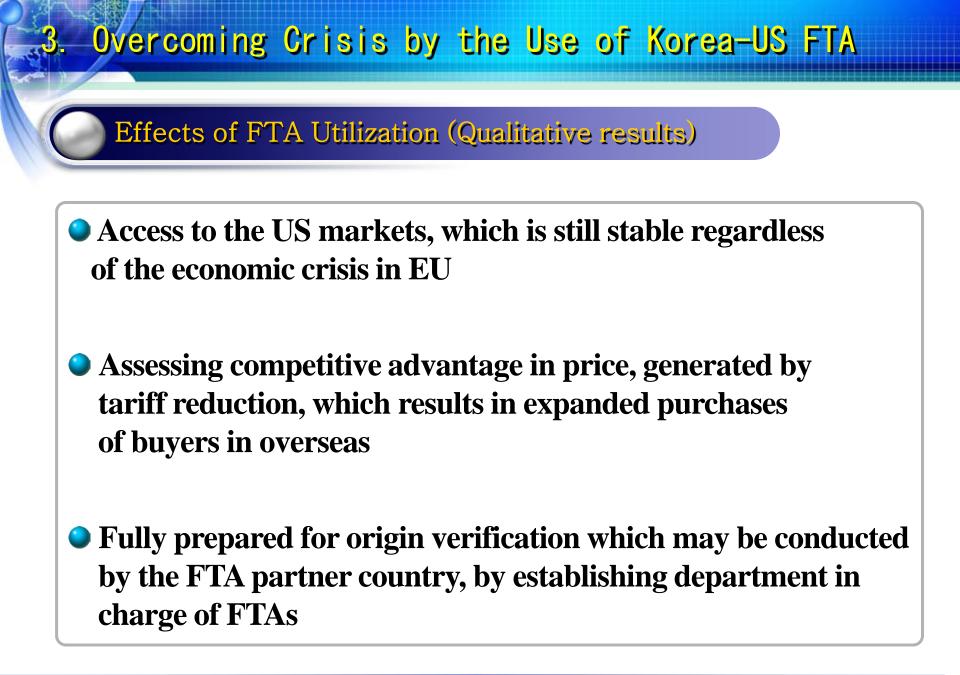
Unit: USD 1,000

1.800 1.600 1.400 1.200 1,000 800 600 400 200 0 2011년 2012년

#### **Amount of Export to the US** In 2011: USD 675,000 In 2012 : USD1,633 million

Preference Tariff :  $13.2\% \rightarrow 0\%$ Benefited amount : 263,342 USD

#### Amount of Exports to the US



## **II. KCS's Out reach Program for SMEs**

## Customs Service Activities

## One-on-One Consulting for SME

- Customized advice for FTA utilization of each company
- Dissemination of FTA Success Story by Size and Business Type
- Operation of FTA-focused Call Center at HQ
   via email, phone, internet and fax

#### FTA Portal Site (http://fta.customs.go.kr]



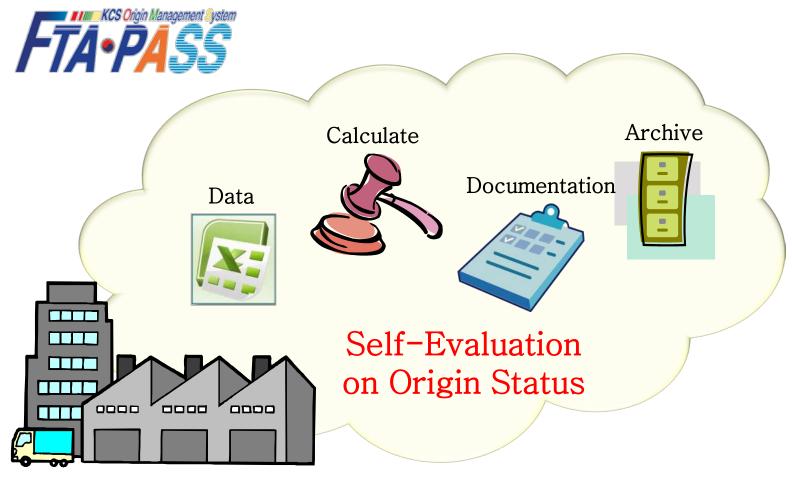
#### www.customs.go.kr

## Smart FTA Application



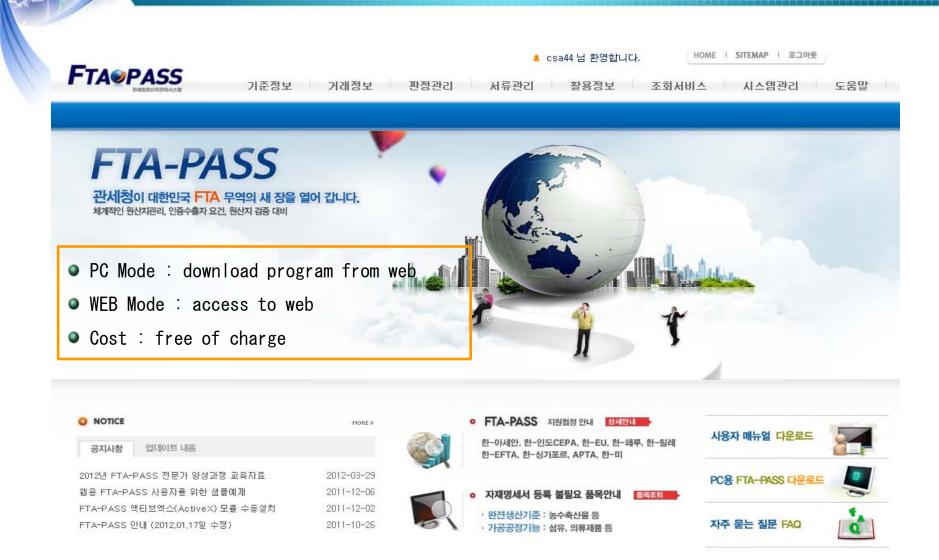
#### www.customs.go.kr

## . E-FTA Origin Management System (FTA-PASS)

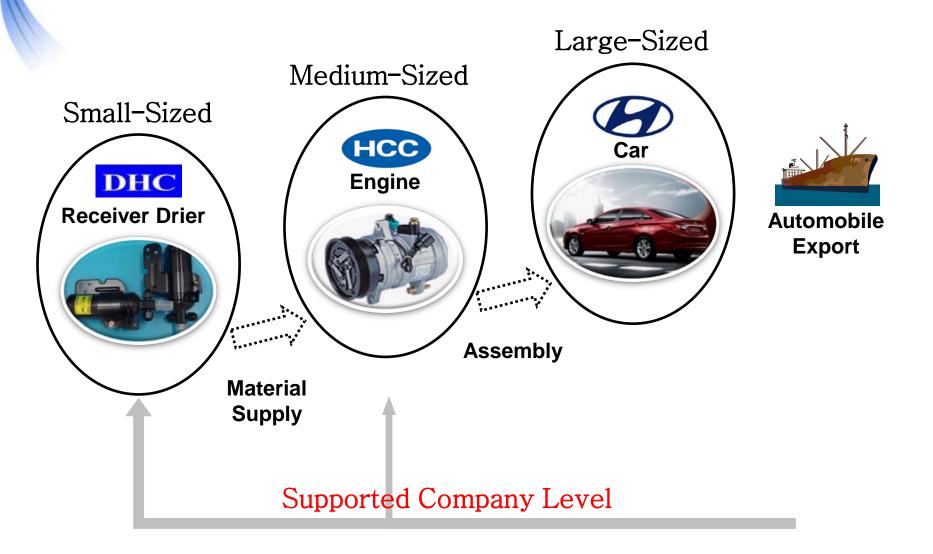


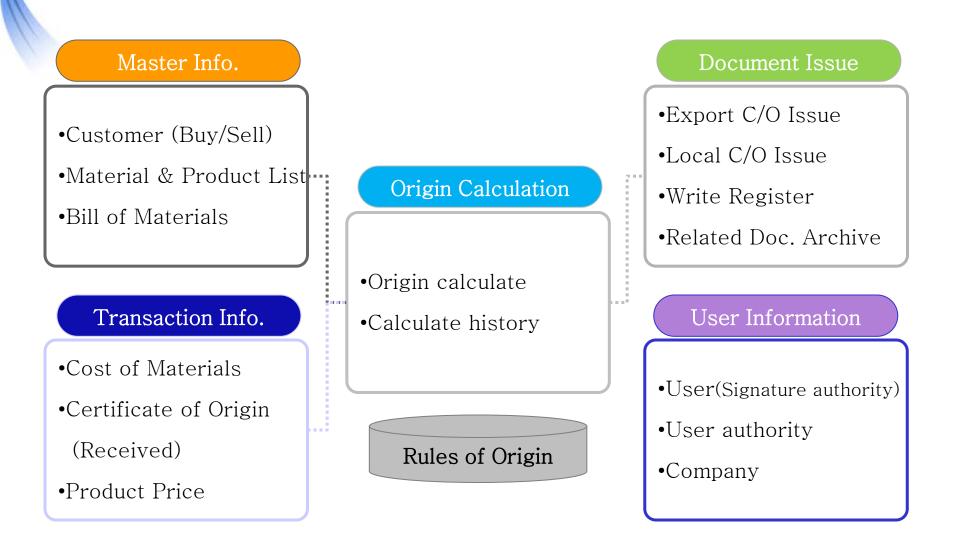
Manufacturer / Exporter

#### http://www.ftapass.or.kr

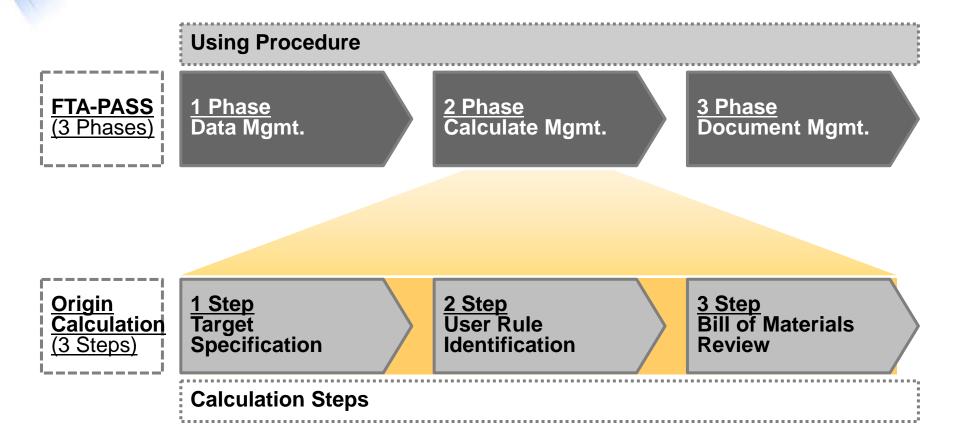


#### 4.1 Supported Target





#### 4.3 Procedures of using FTA-PASS



## Advance FTA Preference Subject Notification

#### For importers

System screen at their import declaration

by showing how much duty they can save if they claim for preferential tariff treatment

> If they miss the chance at the import declaration, they can use it within one year after the import declaration is accepted by the Customs

## Automatic FTA Preference Subject Notification

## For exporters

System screen at their export declaration

 by showing that this item is subject to preferential tariff benefit in FTA partner country

> By providing the MFN rate and FTA rate in ASEAN, Chile, EU, Peru countries

## Advance Origin Compliance Program

## Outline

- provided by the Korea Customs
- for exporters who can be an origin target
- at their request
- by checking their goods' originating status
- by simulated origin verification procedure
- Evaluation(Comment & Recommendation)

## Achievements

- 50 companies for Korea-US FTA utilization



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