



## Canadian customs and global trade alert

### Notice of intent to impose countermeasures action against the United States in response to tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminum products

June 4, 2018

On May 31, 2018, the United States announced increased tariffs on certain aluminum and steel products originating from Canada. In response, the Canadian Department of Finance issued a notice (the Notice) announcing Canada's intention to impose surtaxes or similar trade-restrictive countermeasures against up to CDN\$16.6 billion of goods originating from the United States. This is the strongest trade action Canada has taken in the post-war era, and the Government of Canada is considering whether or not additional measures are warranted.

**Contacts:**

**Custom Leads:**

[Daniel Kiselbach](#)

Partner, Deloitte Tax Law  
Tel: 604-640-3821

[Frank Caruso](#)

Eastern Canada Customs Leader,  
Global Trade Advisory Services,  
Deloitte  
Tel: 416-601-5281

The goods that may be the subject of countermeasures are listed in Tables 1 and 2 to the Notice. Goods selected from Table 1 (ranging from iron and non-alloy steel ingots to tubes, pipes and hollow profiles, seamless, of iron) will be subject to a 25 per cent surtax or similar trade-restrictive measures. Goods selected from Table 2 (ranging from yogurt to felt-tipped pens) will be subject to a 10 percent surtax or similar trade-restrictive measures. The Notice indicates that the countermeasures will be effective on July 1, 2018 and shall remain effective unless and until the United States eliminates its trade-restrictive measures against Canada.

Interested persons may provide comments and general enquiries to:

International Trade Policy Division (U.S. 232 Retaliation Consultations),  
Department of Finance,  
James Michael Flaherty Building,  
14th Floor, 90 Elgin Street,  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0G5

Fax: 613-369-4024  
Email: [fin.tariff-tarif.fin@canada.ca](mailto:fin.tariff-tarif.fin@canada.ca)

This consultation period will end on June 15, 2018. A link to the notice can be found at: <https://www.fin.gc.ca/activty/consult/cacsap-cmpcaa-eng.asp>.

Persons engaged in international trade should consider the degree to which increased U.S. tariffs and Canada's countermeasures will impact their businesses, as well as strategies and options for dealing with these changes.

For more information on whether and how to make submissions to the Department of Finance, or on the many recent developments in international trade, please contact Canada's Global Trade Advisory team.

*For more information, please contact [Daniel Kiselbach](#) or [Frank Caruso](#).*

#### **Deloitte LLP**

Bay Adelaide Centre, East Tower  
8 Adelaide Street West, Suite 200  
Toronto, ON M5H 0A9

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#### **Other contacts:**

##### **Vancouver**

[Janice Roper](#)

Partner, National Indirect Tax  
Leader, Deloitte  
Tel: 604-640-3353

[Satinder Bains](#)

Senior Manager, Deloitte  
Tel: 604-640-5074

[Elizabeth Peon Valle](#)

Manager, Deloitte  
Tel: 604-640-3354

##### **Toronto**

[Doug Myrden](#)

Partner, National Indirect Tax  
Leader, Deloitte  
Tel: 416-601-6197

[Angela Grant](#)

Partner, Deloitte  
Tel: 416-643-8446

##### **Montreal**

[Michel Lagrange](#)

Partner, Deloitte  
Tel: 514-393-7124

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Bay Adelaide Centre, East Tower  
22 Adelaide Street West, Suite 200  
Toronto, ON M5H 0A9

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