

Customs Flash

News you can count on



General edition, volume 9, number 8
10 March 2014

El Salvador, Guatemala and Panama granted GSP+

With our Customs Flash of 7 January 2014, we informed you about the latest changes regarding the European Union's (EU) Generalised System of Preferences (GSP). One of the topics in that Customs Flash was the request of Guatemala and Panama to be granted benefits from the GSP+ arrangement. On 27 February 2014, the European Commission has published an amendment to the GSP with which Panama and Guatemala are granted access to the GSP+ arrangement. In this same Regulation, El Salvador, which in the meantime, also made a request for GSP+ status, is also granted access to this arrangement.

As we informed you in our Customs Flash of 4 October last year, El Salvador has (also) concluded a Trade Agreement with the European Union, which became applicable on 1 October 2013. Trade Agreements between Panama, Guatemala and the EU are applicable since 1 August 2013 and 1 December 2013 respectively. The aforementioned means that EU importers may choose between two preferential arrangements when importing products originating in these three countries, GSP+ or the Trade Agreement. As different customs duty rates may be applicable, one arrangement may be more beneficial than the other. However, EU importers need to keep in mind that these arrangements both have their own sets of origin provisions, rules and certificates.

As countries are not eligible for the GSP anymore when preferential Trade Agreement is concluded with the EU, El Salvador, Panama and Guatemala may be excluded from the GSP(+) arrangement again in the future. A transitional period is taken into account in this respect. Of course we keep you informed in this regard.

What does it mean for you?

If you import products originating in El Salvador, Guatemala or Panama you may possibly now benefit from the preferential customs duty rates of the GSP+ arrangement.

What to do?

When importing products originating from Panama, Guatemala or El Salvador, you may want to check if these are eligible for GSP+. At the same time, it can however be more beneficial to use the Trade Agreement instead. Be aware that The GSP and the Trade Agreements have different origin rules and provisions and require different certificates of origin.

If you want to know if you can benefit from one of these arrangements or how to benefit from these arrangements, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are happy to assist you.

Contact

Any questions concerning the items in this publication? Please contact your usual tax consultant at Deloitte or:

- Klaas Winters, klwinters@deloitte.nl, +31 (0)88 288 2125
- Johan Hollebeek, jhollebeek@deloitte.nl, +31 (0)88 288 1992
- Fernand Rutten, frutten@deloitte.com, + 32 2 600 66 06
- Nick Moris, nmoris@deloitte.com, + 32 2 600 66 03
- Julien Pauwels, jpauwels@deloitte.com, +32 2 600 66 25
- Tom Verbrugge, tverbrugge@deloitte.com, + 32 2 600 66 20

Related links

Links

Deloitte Customs Publications

Follow the latest Tax news on



[Home](#) | [Security](#) | [Legal](#) | [Privacy](#)

Wilhelminakade 1
3072 AP Rotterdam
Netherlands

Berkenlaan 8b
1831 Diegem
Belgium

Deloitte refers to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, a UK private company limited by guarantee, and its network of member firms, each of which is a legally separate and independent entity. Please see www.deloitte.nl/about for a detailed description of the legal structure of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited and its member firms.

Deloitte provides audit, tax, consulting, and financial advisory services to public and private clients spanning multiple industries. With a globally connected network of member firms in more than 150 countries, Deloitte brings world-class capabilities and high-quality service to clients, delivering the insights they need to address their most complex business challenges. Deloitte has in the region of 200,000 professionals, all committed to becoming the standard of excellence.

This communication contains general information only, and none of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, its member firms, or their related entities (collectively, the “Deloitte Network”) is, by means of this publication, rendering professional advice or services. Before making any decision or taking any action that may affect your finances or your business, you should consult a qualified professional adviser. No entity in the Deloitte Network shall be responsible for any loss whatsoever sustained by any person who relies on this communication.

© 2014 Deloitte The Netherlands

www.deloitte.nl

[Unsubscribe](#) / [Subscribe](#)

