

IN THIS ISSUE

Argentina
Botswana
Chile
Ecuador
Egypt
EU
Hungary
Mexico
Morocco
Pakistan
South Africa
Taiwan
US
Venezuela

DENIED PARTIES

US

13 denied parties have been added and 2 deleted.

Source: Office of Foreign Assets Control and Department of Commerce (Bureau of Industry and Security)

QUOTA UPDATE

The quota updates for this week include:

1. EU Quota fill-rates
2. US Absolute Quota fill-rates
3. US Tariff Rate Quota fill-rates.

ON THE ANVIL

Updates being processed:

Argentina
Australia
Austria
Botswana
Brazil
Canada
Chile
China
EU
India
Israel
Lesotho
Malaysia
Mexico

LANDED COST UPDATES

AMERICAS

ECUADOR

Changes in duty rates and HTS numbers across the Tariff.

Source: Ecuador Customs

VENEZUELA

1. Duty and VAT rates have been updated for several agricultural products like milk wheat, etc. The following HTS chapters are affected: 1, 4, 5, 7, 10, 12, 19, 23, 29, 39, 48, 70 and 73
2. Bi-weekly update on price band controls affecting several food products such as barley, sugar and whole milk. The following HTS chapters are affected: 2, 4, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, 23, 35 and 38.

Source: Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Agriculture and Land and Ministry of Food; Andean Community

ASIA-PACIFIC

PAKISTAN

Addition of Preferential Duty Rates for Malaysia, issued by Ministry of Finance and Revenue affecting products across the Tariff.

Source: Pakistan Customs

TAIWAN

Tariff Update for the year 2008 including the following preferential programs: Taiwan-Nicaragua FTA; LDCs duties affecting products across the Tariff.

Source: Directorate General Customs

MIDDLE-EAST/AFRICA

BOTSWANA

Change in General duty & EFTA preferential for certain products related to Paper, Paper Pulp & Paperboard. The following HTS chapter is affected: 48.

Source: South African Revenue Services (SARS)

EGYPT

Enhancement of content for Egypt by addition of Egypt-Agadir Free Trade Agreement affecting products across the Tariff.

Source: Egypt Customs

MOROCCO

Enhancement of Content for Morocco by addition of Bilateral Trade Agreement with Turkey and US respectively, affecting many products across the Tariff.

Source: Morocco Customs

SOUTH AFRICA

Change in general duty, EU preferential & EFTA preferential for certain products



TRADE WATCH**Indonesia, Barbados Open Market to US Beef**

The Foreign Agricultural Service has issued a statement by Acting Agriculture Secretary Chuck Conner announcing that Indonesia and Barbados have fully complied with international trade standards regarding beef and beef products by allowing complete market access for US beef and beef products of all ages. Under this new agreement, USDA estimates that US beef exports to Indonesia could potentially double in 2008 and 2009 and adds that exports of US beef and beef products to Barbados were roughly \$2.7 million in 2007 (January - November) with partial market access.

EC Signs Economic Partnership Agreements

The European Commission's delegation to the US reports that as of mid-January 2008, 35 countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP) had signed either interim or full Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the EC. The EC intends to upgrade the interim agreements into comprehensive EPAs throughout 2008.

According to an EC press release, the EPAs eliminate European Union (EU) duties and quotas for all products (other than short transition periods for sugar and rice) and provide security for traders and investors with no more waivers, time limits or periodic renewals. The EPAs also require gradual trade liberalization in ACP countries, generally over 5 to 25 years. Unlike the system they replace, the EC states that the EPAs meet World Trade Organization (WTO) rules.

Argentina Extends Specific Minimum Duties on Textiles etc.

The Office of Textiles and Apparel has issued a notice announcing

LANDED COST UPDATES contd...

related to Paper, Paper Pulp & Paperboard. The following HTS chapters are affected: 2, 4, 42, 48, 82 and 85.

Source: South African Revenue Services (SARS)

EUROPE**EU**

The HM Revenue & Customs has published its monthly electronic Tariff file. This includes an update to the HS numbers, import duties and preferential duties.

Source: EU Commission

HUNGARY

Changes in VAT. The following HTS chapters are affected: 5, 12, 13, 19, 28, 29, 30, 38, 39, 40, 41, 48, 49, 56, 61 to 66, 71, 82, 83, 84, 87, 90, 91 and 94.

Source: Hungary Commission

REGULATORY UPDATES**AMERICAS****ARGENTINA**

Update on the elimination of Anti Dumping Duties and Tariff Rate Quotas on drilling tools and chemical fertilizers. The following HTS chapters are affected: 31 and 82.

Source: Ministry of Economy and Production

CHILE

Update on import prohibitions for Rofecoxib, Pergolide and Veralipride. The following HTS chapter is affected: 30.

Source: Agriculture and Livestock Service

MEXICO

Update on the elimination of Anti Dumping Duties on pipes from Guatemala, regardless of the country of manufacture. The following HTS chapter is affected: 73.

Source: Secretariat of Economy

US

Wassenaar Arrangement update. The following HTS chapters are affected: 1, 3 and 5 to 8.

Source: Department of Commerce (Bureau of Industry and Security)

CONTRACT ASSESSORIAL UPDATES**Fuel Surcharge Updates:****CAN-EUR**

Canada Conference members advise the following IFP effective March 1, 2008: 20' US \$654; 40' US \$1308

EUR-M.EAST

EMERA member lines announce the following BAF levels, effective March 1, 2008: From/to UK, North West Continent, Scandinavia and Baltic FCL Cargo USD 370/TEU

EUR-MED

EMTA lines advise BAF will remain the same through March:

Eire, North Continent, Scandinavia, Baltic/East Med Southbound EUR 178 per TEU
Eire, East Med/North Continent, Scandinavia, Baltic Northbound EUR 178 per TEU
UK - East Med Southbound GBP 128 per TEU

TRADE WATCH contd..

that on December 27, 2007, the Argentina Ministry of the Economy and Production issued a resolution extending specific minimum duties (DIEMs) scheduled to expire at the end of 2007 on most textile, apparel and footwear imports until December 31, 2010. Products currently subject to DIEMs include textiles (woven fabrics, non-woven fabric, felts, floor coverings, special woven fabrics, fabrics impregnated / coated / laminated with plastics, knitted fabric and textile made-ups), apparel, footwear and certain toys.

China Agreed Quota Textiles Require Electronic Visa

Since April 2005, the U.S. and China negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishing agreed quotas through December 31, 2008, for certain textiles and textile products. This quota arrangement requires the transmission of an electronic visa in order for the subject goods to be admissible.

The MOU also requires, upon CBP's request, the submission of a quota charge statement. CBP states that it does not require the document to be presented at the time of entry but that it be produced, within reasonable time when requested.

CONTRACT ASSESSORIAL UPDATES contd...

East Med - UK Northbound GBP 128 per TEU
NWC, Scandinavia and Baltic to Cyprus EUR 187
UK to Cyprus Southbound GBP 135
Cyprus to NWC, Scandinavia and Baltic EUR 93
Cyprus to UK Northbound GBP 67

Israel Southbound: USD 272/TEU
Israel Northbound: USD 136/TEU

EUR-ASIA

FEFC members advise shippers that BAF will remain unchanged through March: USD 456/TEU; USD 22.80 W/M LCL
Low Sulphur Surcharge: USD 5/TEU; USD 0.25 W/M

W.ASIA-EUR

IPBCC member lines advise customers of the following BAF levels, effective March 1, 2008:

From/to UK, North West Continent, Scandinavia and the Baltic
FCL Cargo: USD 315.00 per TEU; LCL Cargo: USD 31.50 W/M; Breakbulk Cargo: Plus 87%

From/to the Mediterranean

FCL Cargo: USD 310.00 per TEU; LCL Cargo: USD 31.00 W/M; Breakbulk Cargo: Plus 87%

M.EAST-MED

MARCO member lines advise that the following BAF will be effective March 1, 2008: FCL Cargo USD 280/TEU

Other Surcharge Updates:**ASIA**

Emirates Shipping Line announces its participation in the North China India Express (NIX) service operated by KMTC and CNC. Commencing February 22nd, the service will provide direct port connection across Korea, Northern China, and Nhava Sheva. Port rotation will include the following locations: Xingang, Qingdao, Pusan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Port Klang, and Nhava Sheva.

CARRIER SERVICE UPDATES**ASIA**

Emirates Shipping Line announces its participation in the North China India Express (NIX) service operated by KMTC and CNC. Commencing February 22nd, the service will provide direct port connection across Korea, Northern China, and Nhava Sheva. Port rotation will include the following locations: Xingang, Qingdao, Pusan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Port Klang, and Nhava Sheva.

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