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Bulgaria
Canada
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DENIED PARTY UPDATES

CANADA

3 denied parties have been added.
Source: CA Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

EU

3 denied parties have been added and 2 deleted.
Source: Official Journal of the European Union

US

32 denied parties have been added.
Source: Office of Foreign Assets Control

QUOTA UPDATES

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.



LANDED COST UPDATES

MIDDLE-EAST/AFRICA

IRAN

Update on Iran - Pakistan Preferential Trade Agreement, affecting various chapters.
Source: Iran Customs

ISRAEL

Israeli Customs and VAT have announced changes in default duty for tomatoes, cucumbers and other edible vegetables as per the Customs Tariff Notification No. 1527. The following HTS chapter is affected: 07.
Source: Israeli Customs and VAT

MOROCCO

1. Enhancement of content for Morocco by addition of Morocco-Agadir Free Trade Agreement affecting many products across the Tariff.
2. Suspension of Import Duty and Value Added Tax for certain Livestock Food products. The following HTS chapters are affected: 07, 10, 12 and 23.
Source: Morocco Customs

SOUTH AFRICA

Change in HS description for Isobutyl acetate. The following HTS chapter is affected: 29.
Source: South African Revenue Services (SARS)

EUROPE

BULGARIA

VAT rates and Exemptions have been added affecting all the chapters.
Source: Bulgarian National Revenue Agency

REGULATORY UPDATES

AMERICAS

MEXICO

Update on Tariff Rate Quotas for synthetic fibers that fall under the Free Trade Agreement between Mexico and Colombia. The following HTS chapters are affected: 54 and 55.
Source: Secretariat of Economy

EUROPE

EU

The EU commission has published the updated ECN list. The following ECCN categories are affected: 01 to 09.
Source: EU Commission

ON THE ANVIL**Updates being processed:**

Argentina
 Australia
 Austria
 Botswana
 Brazil
 Canada
 Chile
 China
 EU
 India
 Israel
 Lesotho
 Malaysia
 Mexico
 Namibia
 New Zealand
 Saudi Arabia
 South Africa
 Swaziland
 Switzerland
 Taiwan
 Turkey
 US
 Venezuela
 Vietnam

**CONTRACT ASSESSORIAL UPDATES contd...****Fuel Surcharge Updates:****US-EUR**

TACA members announce that BAF levels will remain unchanged through April 15th:
 Atlantica/Gulf Coast Ports: \$607/20', \$1214/40'-45', WM \$61
 Pacific Coast Ports: \$911/20', \$1822/40'-45', WM \$91

CARRIER SERVICE UPDATES**EUR-MED**

Hapag-Lloyd has restructured its European Express Service (EEX) between North Europe and Greece/Turkey. The service will run in cooperation with MSC shipping line and will call the following ports: Izmir, Piraeus, Istanbul, Thessaloniki, Gemlik, Felixstowe, Antwerp, Le Havre, and Sines. The service's first departure will take place in mid-February.

CARIBBEAN

Tropical Shipping is pleased to announce that it will be enhancing its service from Marsh Harbour to the Abaco Cays. Effective February 16th, the new service will be available for LCL, FCL, and refrigerated cargo, and will call the following locations: Palm Beach, Scotland Cay, Elbow Cay, Man O' War Cay, and Guana Cay.

Effective February 26th, the company will also make changes to their Puerto Plata service. The revised sailing schedule will offer direct weekly dry and refrigerated full container load service.

TRADE WATCH**US to Join Sectoral Negotiations with Four Asia-Pacific Countries**

The Office of the US Trade Representative has issued a press release announcing that the US will join negotiations on investment and financial services set to begin in March among Singapore, Chile, New Zealand and Brunei, known as the "P-4" group of countries, which have negotiated their own free trade agreement, the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership, based largely on the US FTAs with Singapore and Chile. The US will also determine whether it should participate in the full Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership.

PHMSA Extends Comments on Proposed Loading/Unloading Practices

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration has issued a notice extending the comment period until March 14, 2008 on its January 4, 2008 notice concerning proposed recommended practices for bulk loading and unloading of hazardous materials to consider strategies for enhancing the safety of operations, including whether additional regulatory requirements may be necessary.

NAM Against Expanding Public Nuisance Lawsuits into Product Liability

The National Association of Manufacturers has issued a press release announcing that it has joined six other associations in filing an amicus brief asking the Rhode Island Supreme Court to overrule a lower court decision which NAM says applied a so called "public nuisance" lawsuit to product litigation in a case involving lead-based paints. NAM states that the lower court decision "vastly expanded" the reach of public "nuisance lawsuits".

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