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QUOTA UPDATES

The quota updates for this week include:

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

ON THE ANVIL

Updates being processed:

Canada
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TRADE WATCH

OFAC Designates 54 Mexican Individuals Pursuant to Kingpin Act

On Wednesday, March 24, 2010, the Office of Foreign Assets Control designated 54 Mexican principal lieutenants and enforcers for Mexico's Gulf Cartel and Los Zetas as Specially Designated Narcotics Traffickers pursuant to the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act.

RESTRICTED PARTY LIST UPDATES

HONG KONG

1. This is an update to HKMA - 13224 Sanctions list, adding 1 RPL record.
Authority: US Department of Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control
2. This is an update to HKMA - UN (Anti-Terrorism Measures) Ordinance and List of Names for Suspicious Account Reporting, adding 1 and modifying 2 RPL records.
Authority: Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and Associated Individuals and Entities

SINGAPORE

This is an update to the Monetary Authority of Singapore - Anti-Money Laundering/Countering the Financing of Terrorism List, adding 1 and modifying 2 RPL records.

Authority: Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and Associated Individuals and Entities

SWITZERLAND

This is an update to the SECO - Swiss Denied Party List based on United Nations New Consolidated Terrorism List (1267), adding 1 and modifying 2 RPL records.

Authority: Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and Associated Individuals and Entities

UNITED NATIONS

This is an update to United Nations New Consolidated Terrorism List (1267), adding 1 and modifying 2 RPL records.

Authority: Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and Associated Individuals and Entities

UNITED STATES

1. This is an update to OFAC Sanctions, adding 55 RPL records.
Authority: US Department of Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control
2. This is an update to Presidential Executive Order (13224), adding 1 RPL record.
Authority: US Department of Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control
3. This is an update to FBI Wanted Fugitives - Featured Fugitives, adding 1 RPL record.
Authority: Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
4. This is an update to U.S. Marshals Service - Top 15 Most Wanted, adding 1 RPL record.
Authority: U.S. Marshals Service - Top 15 Most Wanted

LANDED COST UPDATES

AMERICAS

CANADA

This is an update for Canada Landed Cost and French descriptions. The Canada Border Services Agency has issued this update which makes changes to the French descriptions and adds few header HTS affecting across the tariff.

Authority: Canada Border Services Agency

MIDDLE-EAST/AFRICA

ISRAEL

This is an update for change in Purchase tax and Import Increment rate, addition and deletion of HTS affecting certain products across the tariff. The following HTS chapters are affected: 02 and 22.

Authority: Israel Customs and VAT

TRADE WATCH contd...**U.S. Again Requests WTO Review of India's Textile/Apparel Export Competitiveness**

The World Trade Organization has posted another request by the U.S. that the WTO Secretariat undertake a computation of the export competitiveness of textile and apparel exports from India as the U.S. believes India has met the definition of "export competitiveness" as defined in Article 27.6 of the Subsidies and Countervailing Measures Agreement for certain products

Washington Becomes Fifth State to Ban BPA in Certain Products

According to Consumer Reports, Washington state has joined Connecticut, Maryland, Minnesota and Wisconsin in banning Bisphenol A in certain products. Under Washington's law, plastic containers made with BPA that are designed to hold food or beverages for children under three may not be manufactured, sold, or distributed in the state, effective July 1, 2011. Effective July 1, 2012, the ban will extend to plastic sports bottles

DDTC Updates List of Statutorily Debarred Parties Through March 2010

The Directorate of Defense Trade Controls announces that the Arms Export Control Act list of Statutorily Debarred Parties has been updated for the period of July 1988 through March 2010. The list includes the Federal Register cite for each debarred party.

State Dept Imposes Statutory Debarment on 32 Individuals/Entities

The State Department has imposed statutory debarment on 32 individuals and entities convicted of violating, attempting to violate or conspiring to violate Section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act, who are prohibited from participating directly or indirectly in the export of defense articles, including technical data, or in the furnishing of defense services for which a license or other approval is required.

FDA Requests Comments on Food Facility Registration Info**LANDED COST UPDATES contd...****ASIA-PACIFIC****TAIWAN**

This is an update to add and delete HTS numbers for milk and soya bean milk products. The following HTS chapters are affected: 04, 23, 25, 28, 41, 84 and 85.
Authority: Bureau of Foreign Trade

THAILAND

This is an update for addition of ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Agreement affecting various products across the Thailand tariff and inclusion of Trans-shipment rules for ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreements applicable to Thailand.
Authority: Thailand Customs Department

REGULATORY UPDATES**AMERICAS****UNITED STATES**

This is an update to US Export Controls. The Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) is publishing this final rule to amend the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) to implement the understandings reached at the September 2009 plenary meeting of the Australia Group (AG). This rule also amends the EAR to implement a decision recommended at the 2009 AG Plenary that was adopted under the AG intersessional silent approval procedures in October 2009. The Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) also published a final rule in the Federal Register on Friday, December 11, 2009, that revised the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) by amending entries for certain items that are controlled for national security reasons in Categories 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Part I (telecommunications), 5 Part II (information security), 6, 7, 8, and 9; adding new entries to the Commerce Control List, revising reporting requirements, and adding and amending EAR Definitions. That final rule contained errors that affected Export Control Classification Numbers 1A004 and 5A001. This document corrects these errors. The following Categories are affected: 1 and 2.

Authority: Bureau of Industry and Security

ASIA-PACIFIC**CHINA**

This is an Export Control rollover affecting the following controls: Licensing, Prohibitions, Inspections and Registrations, affecting various chapters.

Authority: Ministry of Commerce

TAIWAN

This is an update to add and repeal Import Controls for various products across the tariff. The affected controls are: Certificate, License, Inspection and Prohibition. The following HTS chapters are affected: 02, 04, 16 and 23.

Authority: Bureau of Foreign Trade

EUROPE**EUROPEAN UNION**

This is an update to Anti-Dumping duties of European Union affecting furfuryl alcohol. The following HTS chapter is affected: 29.

Authority: European Union Customs



TRADE WATCH contd...**Collection**

The Food and Drug Administration is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the information collection provisions of FDA's regulations that require registration for domestic and foreign facilities that manufacture, process, pack, or hold food for human or animal consumption in the U.S. Comments are due by May 17, 2010.

DOJ Announces Plea Agreement for Black Coral Lacey Act Violations

The Justice Department reports that two Taiwanese nationals that ran a business named Peng Chia Enterprise Co. Ltd. have plead guilty to conspiracy to ship internationally protected black coral from mainland China into the U.S. Virgin Islands, in violation of both the Endangered Species Act and the Lacey Act. The shipments were falsely labeled, and a Hong Kong intermediary was used.

BIS Renews for 180 Days Temporary Denial Order Against Mahan Airways

The Bureau of Industry and Security is renewing for 180 days the Order temporarily denying the export privileges of respondent Mahan Airways, as the renewal is necessary in the public interest to prevent an imminent violation of the Export Administration Regulations.

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You can also contact us at:

MANAGEMENT DYNAMICS, INC.

One Meadowlands Plaza
East Rutherford, NJ 07073
(T) 201 935 8588 (F) 201 935 5187
www.ManagementDynamics.com

CARRIER SERVICE UPDATES**ASIA**

Grand Alliance partners Hapag-Lloyd (HL), Nippon Yusen Kaisha (NYK) and Orient Overseas Container Line (OOCL) announced they will add a direct Vietnam call at Cai Mep deepwater port to their South China Sea Japan Express (SCX) service, from May 2010.

Port rotation of the SCX will be as follows:

Cai Mep/ Laem Chabang/ Singapore/ Kobe/ Nagoya/ Tokyo/ Sendai/ Los Angeles/ Oakland/ Tokyo/ Nagoya/ Kobe/ Kaohsiung/ Shekou/ Cai Mep.

EUROPE/MED

With immediate effect, Hamburg Sud will be calling at the TCEEGE Terminal in Aliaga instead of Izmir (Alsancak) on the Northern Route of its Europe - Mediterranean Service. The first port call in Aliaga will be on 26 March 2010.

The new Northern Route of EMS has the following port rotation: Felixstowe Bremerhaven Gothenburg Aarhus Antwerp Gioia Tauro Piraeus Kumport Gebze-Evyap Aliaga Gioia Tauro Valencia Felixstowe.

The Southern Route of EMS has the port rotation: Felixstowe Hamburg Antwerp Valencia Alexandria Beirut Lattakia Mersin Izmir Salerno Felixstowe.

SOUTH AMERICA/EUROPE

Maersk Line has announced a new direct service between Ecuador and Russia, called the ECUBEX service. Maersk Line's ECUBEX service is the first direct deep sea liner route between South America and Russia. The service is on a weekly basis. The weekly service calls at: Guayaquil (Ecuador), Balboa (Panama), Rotterdam (Netherlands), St. Petersburg PLP (Russia), St. Petersburg FCT (Russia), Bremerhaven (Germany), Manzanillo (Panama), Balboa (Panama), Guayaquil (Ecuador). Service will commence on 22 March in St. Petersburg.

FAR EAST - AFRICA

Maersk is pleased to announce the following change in the rotation of the FEW1 service, where the weekly call to Apapa, Nigeria will be replaced with a direct call to Tincan Island, Nigeria. The change also enables Maersk to offer direct weekly departures from the Far East to Tincan Island, Nigeria while maintaining a weekly call at Apapa, Nigeria on the FEW2 service.

The new rotation will include the following ports:

Shanghai, China; Ningbo, China; Hong Kong, Hong Kong; Nansha, China; Tanjung Pelepas, Malaysia; Lome, Togo; Cotonou, Benin and Tincan Island, Nigeria.

The FEW1 service will be calling the TICT terminal in Tincan Island, Nigeria.

The first sailing for the new rotation from Shanghai, China will be the Maersk Norwich, which will depart on 31 March 2010.

FAR EAST MIDDLE EAST

Orient Overseas Container Line Ltd., (OOCL) and COSCO Container Lines Co., Ltd. (COSCON) jointly announced changes to their existing Middle East Express service (MEX). This replaces the Middle East Express currently run by OOCL, COSCON, and TSK. The new service is expected to start on April 18, 2010 ex Shanghai, with a port rotation of Shanghai / Ningbo / Hong Kong / Shekou / Singapore / Jebel Ali / Dammam / Bandar Abbas / Singapore / Port Kelang / Hong Kong / Shanghai.

Disclaimer: This is a general-purpose update, and information provided in this alert does not contain a comprehensive analysis of each news item. No liability is accepted for acts or omissions taken based upon the contents of this alert, and readers are advised to study the full details (available from Management Dynamics on request), or seek professional advice specific to their situation, before arriving at any decision.