



AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS NOTICE NO. 2006/58

AUSTRALIA–UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT – HS2007 RULES OF ORIGIN

On 1 January 2007 some of the classifications in the *Customs Tariff Act 1995* will change as a result of the 2007 amendments to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS2007 changes). Detailed information on the HS2007 changes is available in Australian Customs Notices 2006/44, 45 and 51 and 57 which are available on the Customs web page at <http://www.customs.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=5663>.

These changes affect some of the Rules of Origin in the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA). *The Customs (Australia-US Free Trade Agreement) Regulations 2004* (the AUSFTA Regulations) have been amended to take account of the changes*. The changes have been made to ensure that the rules of origin continue to grant preferential status to US originating goods.

Importers into Australia should refer to the Tariff Concordance to see if there has been a change in classification as a result of the HS2007 changes: The Tariff Concordance is available at <http://www.customs.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=5663>.

To assist in determining whether a particular Rule of Origin has been affected, Customs has produced the following documents:

- AUSFTA Rules of Origin Summary of HS2007 Changes*; and
 - Amended Manual 8C – the amended Manual 8C contains the new Rules of Origin. The existing Manual 8C (containing the Rules of Origin valid until 1 January 2007) will remain available until 1 January 2007*.
- * These documents, along with the consolidated AUSFTA Regulations, are available on the Rules of Origin – Preferential Origin United States Customs web page at <http://www.customs.gov.au/site/page.cfm?5342>.

Exporters to the United States should be aware that the US International Trade Commission has issued an important note concerning its HS2007 changes, which will not be implemented in the US on 1 January 2007. Further information is available at http://www.usitc.gov/concerning_2007_hts.asp. For goods exported from Australia, the Export Declaration should be based on the HS2007 AHECC. Further information on the AHECC is available on the ABS website at <http://www.abs.gov.au/Websitedbs/c311215.nsf/20564c23f3183fdaca25672100813ef1/2ef1/2eb425f3785b9185ca25712500734ff6!OpenDocument>.

Further Information

Enquiries in relation to the AUSFTA Rules of Origin may be directed to Origin, Trade Branch by email at origin@customs.gov.au or telephone on (02) 6275 6556.

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