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**AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS NOTICE NO. 2006/62**

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**SINGAPORE - AUSTRALIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT - IMPACT OF HS 2007**

On 1 January 2007 changes to some classifications will occur as a result of amendments to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS2007 changes)<sup>1</sup>. Consequently, a number of changes to Annex 2C and Annex 2D to the Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) are needed. These changes are required to ensure the ongoing preferential treatment of the goods specified in those annexes after implementation of HS 2007.

The process of formally amending SAFTA to reflect HS 2007 is yet to be completed between the two countries. The following is provided to assist importers in clearing goods during this interim period.

The range of goods covered by the two annexes after 1 January 2007 will be unaffected. Goods presently entitled to preferential provisions of either Annex 2C or Annex 2D will continue to be able to claim preferential duty treatment after 1 January 2007.

HS 2007 will affect the classification of only some goods included in the annexes. These classification changes may be at heading (4-digit), subheading (6-digit) or classification (8-digit) level.

The following guidance for entering goods into Australia under the provisions of Annex 2C or Annex 2D has been developed to assist importers.

1. Refer to the concordance to see if there has been a change from HS2002<sup>2</sup>.
2. If no change in classification resulting from the HS2007 changes, the current classification should be used when entering the goods. (The 2002 classification on the SAFTA Certificate of Origin should be identical to the 2007 classification.)
3. Where a tariff classification in a SAFTA Certificate of Origin changes as a result of the HS 2007 changes, importers must use the HS 2007 classification when entering goods.

Enquiries in relation to SAFTA may be directed to Origin Section, Trade Branch by email to [origin@customs.gov.au](mailto:origin@customs.gov.au) or by telephone on (02) 6275 6556.

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14 December 2006

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<sup>1</sup> Information on these changes is available in Australian Customs Notices (ACNs) 2006/44, 45, 51 and 57 on the Customs web page at: <http://www.customs.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=5663>.)

<sup>2</sup> Australia's tariff classification concordance is available on the Customs website at: <http://www.customs.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=5663>.