

The Division contacts U.S. Customs and other agencies on behalf of Canadian exporters and, over the years, has developed an in-depth knowledge of the interpretation and implementation of U.S. tariffs and regulations related to access for imports into the U.S. market.

The Division can also provide Canadian exporters with information and assistance regarding: labelling of food, drug, cosmetic and alcohol products; customs penalty assessments; antidumping and countervail issues; customs valuation; consumer product safety standards; and other questions related to U.S. market access.

U.S. Customs Tariff Classification, Documentation and Regulations

Request for a Binding Tariff Classification Ruling

The Tariff Affairs Division can obtain a binding tariff classification ruling from the U.S. Customs Service on behalf of a Canadian exporter, for a prospective transaction (i.e. articles which have not yet been exported to the U.S. and are not presently, nor have been previously, under consideration by the U.S. Customs Service). Such a ruling is considered "binding" inasmuch as it will be honoured at all U.S. Customs ports of entry and thereby ensures that the exporter will receive uniformity in tariff treatment regardless of which U.S. port of entry is used.

To obtain such a ruling, the following information is required, and failure to supply all of this information would only result in delays and confusion for the exporter:

- 1) a written request signed by a person who has a direct and demonstrable interest in the question, and also confirming that the merchandise or subject of the request has not been previously, nor is presently, under consideration by the U.S. Customs Service;
- 2) a full and complete description of the article;
- 3) indication of the article's chief use in the United States;
- 4) the commercial, common or technical designation of the article;