

**Hallmarking.** All imported articles of gold or silver plate, except work of an oriental pattern and antiques manufactured prior to 1880, must be assayed, stamped and marked at the Dublin Assay Office.

**Certificates.** Phytosanitary certificate requirements for shipments of plants, vegetables, cut flowers, etc., are specified in various sanitary and plant quarantine regulations. Because of the complexity of these regulations, exporters should seek current information about export requirements from Canadian agricultural authorities at the time of shipment. Specific import licence regulations also apply to imports of animals, fish, poultry, wines, eggs, meat, dairy products, food additives and medical preparations.

**Samples.** Samples of negligible value are duty free. Other types of commercial samples can be entered temporarily by posting a bond (cancelled or refunded at re-export) to cover the amount of normal customs duty and taxes chargeable. Canadian exporters can facilitate temporary free entry of Canadian samples into Ireland by obtaining an ATA Carnet (see Chapter 1, "Temporary Entry — Carnet").

**Special Regulations.** Licensing requirements are in effect for a number of products including domestic pets, poultry imports, fowl pest vaccine, meat, animal and dairy products and bottles. Other regulations apply to cosmetics, clothing, proprietary medicines, eggs, hydrocarbon oils, etc. Verification of regulations affecting commodities may be made through the importer.

**Free Trade Zone.** A duty-free airport is located at Shannon. It is excluded from the scope of all laws with a few exceptions relating to the importation of goods between the airport and foreign countries. Among the restrictions which remain in force are those relating to public health, animal and plant diseases, currency, dangerous drugs and used clothing. Goods stored in a free zone are exempt from examination. Processing, sorting, grading or repacking may take place within its boundaries, and buildings required may be erected by interested persons or concerns leased from the State. There are no customs-free seaports in Ireland.