

invoice to the Italian importer for each shipment that needs a visa.

Samples. Samples deemed "of no commercial value" by Italian customs are admitted duty and tax free. Samples shipped as unaccompanied baggage or freight are treated as ordinary commercial shipments, i.e., they must be packaged, labelled and certified in the manner required for ordinary commercial shipments. For accompanied goods to be cleared as samples, the importer must be recognized as a commercial traveller by the Italian Chamber of Commerce, or have a statement to that effect notarized by an Italian consulate. A certificate of origin for the goods must be produced, verified by the foreign chamber of commerce, and a deposit must be made equal to the duty and taxes payable on the goods, but subject to refund when the goods are exported under customs supervision.

Alternatively, trade samples or goods imported for a specific purpose on a temporary basis may be duty and tax paid upon entry and a refund claim may be filed for reimbursement of these charges upon proof of export. Importers wishing to avail themselves of this system must make prior arrangements with Italian Customs authorities.

A simplified procedure, using a Carnet, is available to Canadian traders as Italy is a signatory to the convention concerning the ATA Carnet. Carnets are usually inexpensive (depending on the product) and are available from your local chamber of commerce or from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce (see Chapter 1, "Temporary Entry — Carnets"). While this simplifies many customs procedures, the Carnet holder must check the goods covered into and out of each country visited. Experienced Carnet users allow extra time for this procedure both on arrival at and departure from each country visited.

It is important to note again that all samples of food products must be packaged, labelled and accompanied by all the documentation required for normal commercial shipments.

Special Regulations. Numerous products, including the following, are subject to special import regulations: ceramic products, concrete, televisions, beeswax and honey, foodstuffs, synthetic detergents, logs and lumber, electric tools, insecticides, animal feeds, motorcycles, motor vehicles, cosmetics, footwear and toys.