Business Information

Market Characteristics

The standard of living is relatively high in Iceland, as are standards of housing. Most households have a wide range of electrical appliances, a telephone, and a car.

Scandinavian styles and design have prevailed for the past 20 years. This is most apparent in furniture, household utensils and cutlery.

Labour-saving devices for housekeeping are very popular. Offices are fitted with up-to-date equipment and labour-saving devices find favour with the limited number of light industrial firms. The fishing industry is particularly well-equipped, and new devices which save labour and time will always be considered.

Marketing and Distribution

Because of the relatively small size of the market, most wholesalers and agents have to take on a number of lines, and foreign firms cannot normally expect to find an agent who specializes only in their particular line. But with so small a community, the agent, whatever his business, will probably have useful connections in other branches of commerce.

Agency Legislation

There are no special agency laws and no known hazards of which principals should be aware. In the absence of a written contract, it is understood that three months' notice of termination of an agency would be considered reasonable and sufficient.

Import Procedure

Iceland tariffs are based on the Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature. Documentation: Original invoice + 1 copy, original Bill of Lading + 1 copy. Eur 1 or 2 when appropriate. In case terms are CIF insurance certificates must be produced. Shipping terms: FOB, C&F, CIF. Methods of payment: CAD, Letter of Credit.