

Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Will Undergo Major Changes Effective January 1, 2007

Due to major changes made to the international Harmonized System by the World Customs Organization (WCO), the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) will undergo significant changes effective January 1, 2007. The following notice published on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) website contains a link to the International Trade Commission (ITC) website where the proposed changes to the HTSUS can be viewed and compared to existing tariff classifications.

Harmonized Tariff to Undergo Major Changes on January 1, 2007

Harmonized Tariff to Undergo Major Changes on January 1, 2007. ([U.S. International Trade Commission](#)) Due to major changes to the international version of the Harmonized System, the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) is expected to be amended effective 1/1/07. The amendments are expected to affect the classification of many imported products.

The report recommending those changes has been sent to the President for proclamation of the changes. Upon the expiration of sixty legislative days, in the absence of Congressional action, the recommended changes will become law. The draft changes to the HTSUS can be viewed at the U.S. International Trade Commission website. ([U.S. International Trade Commission](#)) Click on "Changes to the HTSA." See especially Appendices B, C and D which contain the draft tariff language and correlation tables comparing the current HTSUS with the 2007 HTSUS.

Source: CBP Website (<http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/legal/Rulings/harmonized.xml>).

Please note that not all tariff classifications will be affected. However, the changes that do occur will be at the 6-digit level and may have an effect on other documents that require tariff classifications to be listed at the 6-digit subheading level (e.g. NAFTA Certificate of Origin).

We recommend that importers review the proposed HTSUS changes to ensure compliance with the CBP rule requiring importers to include correct, 10-digit tariff classification of all merchandise on a shipment at the time of cargo release.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact your NGJ account representative or nearest NGJ office, or send an e-mail message to our trade/compliance services department at compliance.us@ngjensen.com

To better protect yourself and your company under the law, we suggest you obtain a written ruling from Customs and Border Protection's Office of Regulations and Rulings.

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