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Russian Federation

Trade Policy Monitoring

Russia Enacts Country of Origin Labeling for CIS Countries

2003

Approved by:

Allan Mustard
American Embassy, Moscow

Prepared by:

Mark Petry

Report Highlights:

The Russian Government recently approved a resolution that requires a country of origin certificate for a wide range of products, including agricultural goods. This measure is meant to prevent transshipment of third country products, which were intentionally mislabeled in order to gain tariff preferences, through Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries to Russia.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Moscow [RS1]
[RS]

Unofficial Translation:

**Government of the Russian Federation
Resolution #716 of November 27, 2003**

On establishing cases for presenting a certificate of origin during its import into the customs territory of the Russian Federation;

In accordance with clause 2 of article 34 of the Customs Code of the Russian Federation, the Government of the Russian Federation decrees the following:

1. During the import of a commodity to the customs territory of the Russian Federation from a CIS state, excluding Belarus, a certificate of origin should be presented as requested by a customs entity of the Russian Federation for verifying the origin of a commodity in accordance with the annex.
2. A certificate of origin is presented when a customs entity of the Russian Federation discovers signs that the declared information on the country of origin affecting the application of customs duty rates, taxes and (or) bans or restrictions established in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation on the state regulation of foreign trade is incorrect.
3. The present decree enters into force January 1, 2004.

Signed
Prime Minister,
Russian Federation
M. Kasyanov

Annex: List of commodities for which a certificate of origin may be requested during import to the customs territory of the Russian Federation from CIS countries, excluding Belarus.

The annex includes agricultural commodities under the following tariff codes: 0201, 0202, 0206, 0207, 0210, 0402, 0408, 0506, 07104, 071190300, 0901, 0902, 110610, 130219, 1501, 1502, 1504, 1506, 1507-1515, 1701, 1905, 1806, 2008, 2009, 2101, and 210330900.

Comment: This Resolution is intended to prevent third country exports from entering Russia using tariff preferences granted to CIS countries. Russian producers complain that third country products are often mislabeled so that they can take advantage of lower tariffs granted to CIS trading partners. However, it is difficult to ascertain if this new requirement will deter a CIS exporter/trader who is otherwise willing to illegally mislabel and/or smuggle a product into Russia. End Comment.