

Chapter 5: Trade Regulations and Standards

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Import Tariffs

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Sweden entered into the European Union in 1995 and has since applied EU laws and coherent regulations, as well as common customs tariffs from the United States and other non-EU countries. The basis of EU Customs Tariff is the ten-digit Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS), which indicates the duty that should be applied and whether an import license or permit is required for the commodity in question. The Integrated Tariff of the Community, TARIC, is a database available online and shows all third country and preferential duty rates. Most industrial products are subject to duty varying from 0% to 20%. Duty rates for foodstuffs can be higher as they are based on the weight of the commodity.

Customs procedures, including the classification and valuation of imported goods, are governed by EU rules. As a member of the EU, Sweden maintains duty-free entry on all products originating in other EU countries.

The value for customs purposes is directly based on the value of transaction and the following additional costs:

- Freight costs up to the place of importation to EU
- Insurance costs
- Loading/other handling costs
- Broker fees
- Package costs
- Royalties or license fees
- The seller's yield in case of further sale to a third party

Most goods imported to Sweden are subject to customs duty and also a value-added-tax (VAT). The general VAT rate is 25%, with a lower rate of 12% for food and certain services, and 6% for books and periodicals.

There are several cases when the importer can apply for reduced Customs Duty or even exemption, the most straightforward being a proof that the goods originate from a country with which EU has a free trade agreement. Other common cases are:

- Temporary importation (e.g. testing or exhibiting purposes)
- Inward processing when a product is imported in order to be processed further, repacked and re-exported

Scientific instrument imports

Trade Barriers

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For information on existing trade barriers, please see the National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers, published by USTR and available through the following website:
http://www.ustr.gov/Document_Library/Reports_Publications/2007/2007_NTE_Report/Section_Index.html?ht= .

Information on agricultural trade barriers can be found at the following website:
<http://www.useu.usmission.gov/agri/usda.html>.

To report existing or new trade barriers and get assistance in removing them, contact either the Trade Compliance Center at <http://www.trade.gov/tcc> or the U.S. Mission to the European Union at <http://www.buyusa.gov/europeanunion>.

Import Requirements and Documentation

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The documents required from the exporter include a commercial invoice, a bill of lading, and other special certifications as may be necessary. Certificate of origin (or certification of origin as part of the invoice) is required for textile products, based on EU legislation.

There are no stipulations as to the form of commercial invoices, bills of lading, or other shipping documents. According to both the Swedish (and EU) customs regulations the invoice must contain the following information:

- Name and address of the seller
- Name and address of the buyer
- Date the invoice was issued
- Number and type of packages, gross weight and information on how the Packages are marked
- Trade description of the goods
- Quantity of the goods

- Price for each item
- Discounts, if any, and what kind
- Delivery and payment terms

A pro-forma invoice may be presented for shipments free of charge, such as:

- Replacement deliveries and commodities supplied under guarantee
- Samples and advertising items
- Gifts
- Goods returned to sender
- Printed advertising materials

Shipping documents may be made out in the English language. The standard bill of lading (or an airway bill) suffices for shipment to Sweden. The bill of lading should be completed in accordance with the invoice.

Sanitary certificates, which show the country of origin, are required for goods that may carry contagious animal or vegetable diseases or for goods for which special stipulations are prescribed. Goods subject to these sanitary certificates include live animals, animal products (meat, meat products and animal feed) and vegetable products such as potatoes, live plants and seeds. The certificate must be authorized by a competent legal authority in the country of production or export.

Batteries

EU battery rules changed in September 2006 following the publication of the Directive on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators (Directive 2006/66). This Directive replaces the original Battery Directive of 1991 (Directive 91/157). The updated Directive applies to all batteries and accumulators put on the EU market including automotive, industrial and portable batteries. It aims to protect the environment by restricting the sale of batteries and accumulators that contain mercury or cadmium (with an exemption for emergency and alarm systems, medical equipment and cordless power tools) and by promoting a high level of collection and recycling. It places the responsibility on producers to finance the costs associated with the collection, treatment, and recycling of used batteries and accumulators. The Directive also includes provisions on the labeling of batteries and their removability from equipment. EU Member States must implement the EU Directive into their national law by September 26, 2008. For more information, see our market research report:

http://www.buyusainfo.net/docs/x_8086174.pdf

REACH

REACH is a major reform of EU chemicals policy that was adopted in December 2006 and became national law in the 27 EU Member States in June 2007. Virtually every industrial sector, from automobiles to textiles, could be affected by the new policy. REACH stands for the "Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals." As of

June 1 2008, REACH will require all chemicals produced or imported into the EU in volumes above 1 ton per year to be registered with a central European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), including information on their properties, uses and safe ways of handling them. Most chemicals currently imported into the EU are eligible for pre-registration which provides ECHA with basic information on the substance and allows the continued imports until a later registration deadline. ECHA will accept pre-registrations from 1 June 2008 until 1 December 2008. US companies should take advantage of the pre-registration period if possible. The full registration period for chemicals which are pre-registered ranges from three to eleven years depending on the volume of the substance and its hazard properties. Substances not pre-registered must be registered to stay on the market. Chemicals of very high concern, like carcinogens, will need an authorization for use in the EU. U.S. exporters to Europe should carefully consider this piece of EU environmental legislation. For more information, see the CSEU REACH webpage at: <http://www.buyusa.gov/europeanunion/reach.html>.

WEEE & RoHS

EU rules on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), while not requiring specific customs or import paperwork, may entail a financial obligation for U.S. exporters. They require U.S. exporters to register the products with a national WEEE authority, or arrange for this to be done by a local partner. Similarly, related rules for EEE restricting the use of the hazardous substances (RoHS) lead, cadmium, mercury, hexavalent chromium, PBBs, and PBDEs, do not entail customs or importation paperwork. However, U.S. exporters may be asked by a European RoHS enforcement authority or by a customer to provide evidence of due diligence in compliance with the substance bans on a case-by-case basis. U.S. exporters seeking more information on WEEE and RoHS regulations should visit: <http://www.buyusa.gov/europeanunion/weee.html>

U.S. Export Controls

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Export license applications for both military equipment and dual-use goods are handled by the National Inspectorate of Strategic Products (ISP). While ISP makes routine licensing decisions, matters of fundamental significance should be referred to the Swedish Government for decision.

The legal basis for export control of military equipment is the Military Equipment Act (1992:1300) and the Military Equipment Ordinance (1992:1303). The legal basis for export control of dual use goods is the Council Regulation (EC) No. 3381/94 and on a national basis complemented by Act (1998:397) on Strategic Products and Ordinance (1998:400) on Strategic Products.

Temporary Entry

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Goods can be completely exempt from customs duty and/or VAT when they are imported into EU temporarily, to be re-exported unmodified. Goods that fall into this category include materials for trade shows and exhibitions, some professional equipment, special tools used for assembling goods to be exported, replacement machinery or equipment during warranty repairs, samples, works of art to be exhibited, some medical, surgical and laboratory and scientific equipment used in hospitals, other medical institutions and for teaching and research purposes. The importer should always check with the local customs office to verify that the goods meet the criteria for complete or partial exemption of import costs.

Sweden honors the ATA carnet, an international customs document designed to simplify customs procedures for business and professional people taking commercial samples, advertising materials, film, medical or professional equipment into specified countries for a short period. More than 40 countries participate in the carnet system.

Labeling and Marking Requirements

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Sweden does not require country of origin marking for imports. However, goods carrying incorrect designations of origin are prohibited, and products made to appear as produced or manufactured in Sweden may not be imported unless the correct foreign origin is clearly and durably marked thereon.

Special marking regulations and labeling requirements exist for pharmaceuticals, chemicals, food products and other product categories. Sweden has very strict health, sanitary and labeling rules and sophisticated capabilities for monitoring product quality.

A retail-size food package must show the name of the manufacturer, packer or importer, commercial name of the product, net metric weights or volume, ingredients in descending order of weight, last recommended date of consumption, and storage instructions if perishable or intended for infants. The information described above should be in Swedish and the local importers can assist NTM companies in arranging for proper labeling information.

Inspection and food labeling requirements were changed to conform to EU regulations when Sweden became a member of the EU on January 1, 1995.

An overview of EU mandatory and voluntary labeling and marking requirements has been compiled in a market research report that is available at:
http://www.buyusainfo.net/docs/x_4171929.pdf.

More information on labeling can be obtained from the following sources:

Food labeling:

Livsmedelsverket (National Food Administration)
Box 622
S-751 26 Uppsala
Tel: 4618 17 55 00
Fax: 4618 10 58 48
www.slv.se
Email: livsmedelsverket@slv.se

Cosmetics and pharmaceuticals labeling:
Lakemedelsverket (Medical Products Agency)
Box 26
S-751 03 Uppsala
Tel: 46 18 17 46 00
Fax: 4618 54 85 66
<http://www.mpa.se/eng/index.shtml>
Email: cwik@mpa.se

Other chemical products:
Kemikaleinspektionen (National Chemicals Inspectorate)
Box 1384
S-171 27 Solna
www.kemi.se
Email: kemi@kemi.se
Tel: 46 8 783 11 00
Fax: 46 8 735 76 98

Prohibited and Restricted Imports

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After Sweden's entry into the EU import licenses permits are required for a number of commodities, such as some textiles, steel and iron products, agricultural products, arms, hypodermic needles and syringes, animals and plants of endangered species, wines and alcoholic beverages and certain products from the Republic of China. The license has to be obtained and available prior to customs clearance. The entities to be contacted before import to the country are:

- for agricultural products, Swedish Board of Agriculture <http://www.sjv.se>
- for fish products, National Board of Fisheries <http://www.fiskeriverket.se>
- for any other products, National Board of Trade <http://www.kommers.se>

A complete list of restrictions and licensing requirements is available at <http://www.tullverket.se>, the official website of Swedish Customs.

Certain goods, such as weapons, explosives, drugs, and poisons may be imported only by authorized persons and institutions, and require import licenses or special permits.

The TARIC is designed to show various rules applying to specific products being imported into the customs territory of the EU or, in some cases, when exported from it. To determine if a product is prohibited or subject to restriction, check the TARIC for that product for the following codes:

CITES	Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species
PROHI	Import Suspension
RSTR	Import Restriction

For information on how to access the TARIC, see the Import Requirements and Documentation Section above.

Key Link: http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/common/databases/taric/index_en.htm

Customs Regulations and Contact Information

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The Swedish Customs website lists and updates both the Swedish and the EU regulations and laws pertaining to import and applicable directives from other government agencies. On EU level, information on customs valuation is contained in Title II, Chapter Three, of Council Regulation (EEC) 2913/92, establishing the Community Customs Code, titled, "Value of Goods for Customs Purposes" (Articles 28 through 36). The primary basis for determining customs value set out in Article 29 is: "... the transaction value, that is, the price actually paid or payable for the goods when sold for export to the customs territory of the Community..." Article 29 lists the following conditions, which must be met in determining customs value:

- There are no restrictions as to the disposal or use of the goods by the buyer, other than restrictions which are imposed or required by a law or by the public authorities in the community, limit the geographical area in which the goods may be resold, or do not substantially affect the value of the goods;
- The sale or price is not subject to some conditional consideration for which a value cannot be determined with respect to the goods being valued;
- No part of the proceeds of any subsequent resale disposal or use of the goods by the buyer will accrue directly or indirectly to the seller, unless an appropriate adjustment can be made in accordance with Article 32; and
- The buyer and seller are not related, or, where the buyer and seller are related, that the transaction value is acceptable for customs purposes.

The "price actually paid or payable" in Article 29 refers to the price for the imported goods. Thus the flow of dividends or other payments from the buyer to the seller that do not relate to the imported goods are not part of the customs value.

Articles 32 and 33 provide for adjustments to the value for customs purposes. Article 32 lists charges that are added to the customs value, such as, commissions and brokerage, costs of containers, packing, royalties and license fees, and the value of goods and services supplied directly or indirectly by the buyer in connection with the production

and sale for export of the imported goods. Article 33 lists charges that are not included in the customs value, such as, charges for transport, charges incurred after importation, charges for interest under a financing arrangement for the purchase of the goods, charges for the right to reproduce imported goods in the Community, and buying commissions.

Effective July 1, 1995, the Commission amended Article 147(1) of Regulation 2454/93 of the Customs Code which affects valuation in the case of successive sales. This amendment "defaults" valuation to the last sale, but allows the value of an earlier sale if it can be demonstrated that such a sale took place for export to the EU. The evidentiary requirements to support the bona fides of any earlier sales will be based upon commercial documents such as purchase orders, sales contracts, commercial invoices, and shipping documents.

Key Link: http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/customs/index_en.htm

For contact information at national customs authorities, please visit:
http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/common/links/customs/index_en.htm

The Swedish contact information:

Swedish Board of Customs
Box 12854
112 98 Stockholm
Sweden
Ms. Karin Starrin, Director General
Email: tullverket@tullverket.se
<http://www.tullverket.se/en>

Standards

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Overview

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Products tested and certified in the United States to American standards are likely to have to be retested and re-certified to EU requirements as a result of the EU's different approach to the protection of the health and safety of consumers and the environment.

Where products are not regulated by specific EU technical legislation, they are always subject to the EU's General Product Safety Directive as well as to possible additional national requirements.

European Union standards created under the New Approach are harmonized across the 27 EU Member States and European Economic Area countries to allow for the free flow of goods. A feature of the New Approach is CE marking. While harmonization of EU legislation can facilitate access to the EU Single Market, manufacturers should be aware that Regulations and technical standards might also function as barriers to trade if U.S. standards are different from those of the European Union.

The European Union is currently undertaking a major revision of the New Approach that will enhance some aspects, especially in the areas of market surveillance. To follow the revision, please visit:

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/regulation/internal_market_package/index_en.htm

Agricultural Standards

The establishment of harmonized EU rules and standards in the food sector has been ongoing for several decades, but it took until January 2002 for the publication of a general food law establishing the general principles of EU food law. This Regulation introduced mandatory traceability throughout the feed and food chain as of Jan 1, 2005. For specific information on agricultural standards, please refer to the Foreign Agricultural Service's website at: <http://useu.usmission.gov/agri/>.

The supreme body for the Swedish standardization system is the Swedish Standards Council, SSR. The Council's members include the state, the Federation of County Councils, Association of Local Authorities, Confederation of Swedish Enterprises, Federation of Swedish Commerce and Trade and the Swedish Bankers Association.

SSR manages the register of both adopted and withdrawn Swedish standards and approves the standardization bodies in Sweden. All standardization is currently carried out by three accredited standardization bodies: The Swedish Standards Institute (SIS) handles most business areas, Informationstekniska Standardiseringen (ITS) handles telecommunication issues and Svenska Elektriska Kommissionen (SEK) handles electronic and electro-technical application standards.

All three standardization bodies are working on both European and global levels. Products tested and certified in the U.S. to American standards are likely to have to be retested and re-certified to European Union (EU) requirements as a result of the EU's different approach to the protection of the health and safety of consumers and the environment.

SIS is the Swedish member of the Council and Technical Board of ISO and serves on both the administrative and technical boards of the European Committee for Standardization. ITS acts as the national standardization body for Sweden at ETSI, European Telecommunication Standards Institute, and SEK is the Swedish member of

both International Electrotechnical Commission, IEC and European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization, CENELEC.

Standards Organizations

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The organizations that develop standards in Sweden are:

Swedish Standards Institution, SIS

P.O. Box 3295,

S-103 66 Stockholm

Sweden

Tel: 46-8-610 3000

Fax: 46-8-30 1850

<http://www.sis.se>

CEN, European Committee of Standardization

<http://www.cen.eu/cenorm/homepage.htm>

- SIS develops or revises over 1,300 Swedish and international standards annually within most business areas, by working closely with the private sector, Swedish authorities, consumer representatives and other stakeholders

Informationstekniska Standardiseringen, ITS

The Swedish Telecommunication Standardization Organization

Box 1284

S-16429 Kista

Sweden

Tel. 46 8 444 1424

Fax. 46 8 444 1430

<http://www.its.se>

European Telecommunications Standards Institute ETSI

<http://www.etsi.org>

- Since March 2002, ITS has been recognizing European standards (EN) directly instead of transposing them to Swedish SS standards. All new proposals of standards and changes/adoption of technical regulations should be determined and adjusted in respect to existing international and European standards

Svenska Elektriska Kommissionen, SEK

The Swedish Electro-technical Standardization Body

Box 1284

S-16429 Kista

Sweden

Tel. 46 8 444 1400

Fax. 46 8 444 1430

<http://www.sekom.se>

European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization CENELEC

<http://www.cenelec.org>

- SEK coordinates the electro-technical standardization through technical committees that directly reflect the work done on the international level at both IEC and CENELEC. The standardization and revision process is open to all Swedish organizations, companies, institutions and public sector offices.

Due to the EU's vigorous promotion of its regulatory and standards system as well as its generous funding for its business development, the EU's standards regime is wide and deep - extending well beyond the EU's political borders to include affiliate members (countries which are hopeful of becoming full members in the future) such as Albania, Croatia, FYR of Macedonia, and Turkey. Another category, called "partner standardization bodies" includes the standards organizations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Moldova, Egypt, Serbia, the Russian Federation, Tunisia, the Ukraine, Armenia and Australia, which are not likely to join the EU or CEN any time soon, but have an interest in participating in specific CEN technical committees. They agree to pay a fee for full participation in certain technical committees and agree to implement the committee's adopted standards as national standards. Many other countries are targets of the EU's extensive technical assistance program, which is aimed at exporting EU standards and technical Regulations to developing countries, especially in the Mediterranean and Balkan countries, Africa, as well as programs for China and Latin America.

NIST Notify U.S. Service

Member countries of the World Trade Organization (WTO) are required under the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT Agreement) to report to the WTO all proposed technical regulations that could affect trade with other Member countries. **Notify U.S.** is a free, web-based e-mail subscription service that offers an opportunity to review and comment on proposed foreign technical regulations that can affect your access to international markets. Register online at Internet URL: <http://www.nist.gov/notifyus/>

Conformity Assessment

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Conformity Assessment is a mandatory step for the manufacturer in the process of complying with specific EU legislation. Bodies that perform analysis, testing and certification in accordance with certain EC directives (medical devices, contracting (building and civil engineering) machinery, pressure vessels, toys etc.) must be notified to the European Commission. In Sweden, SWEDAC is the entity responsible for assessing and appointing these bodies, known as "Notified Bodies", by formally notifying them to the European Commission and exercising oversight on them. SWEDAC is also responsible for assessing Conformity Assessment Bodies.

SWEDAC, Styrelsen for Ackreditering och Teknisk Kontroll
Swedish Board for Accreditation and Conformity Assessment
Box 878,

S-501 15 Boras, Sweden
Tel: 46-33-177 700
Fax: 46-33-101 392
<http://www.swedac.se>

To promote market acceptance of the final product, there are a number of voluntary conformity assessment programs. CEN's certification systems are the Keymark, the CENCER mark, and the European Standard Agreement Group. CENELEC has its own initiative. ETSI does not offer conformity assessment services.

You can find conformity assessment bodies in each individual member state country at <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newapproach/nando/>

Product Certification

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To sell products on the EU market of 27 Member States as well as Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland, U.S. exporters are required to apply CE marking whenever their product is covered by specific product legislation. CE marking product legislation offers manufacturers a number of choices and requires decisions to determine which safety/health concerns need to be addressed, which conformity assessment module is best suited to the manufacturing process, and whether or not to use EU-wide harmonized standards. There is no easy way for U.S. exporters to understand and go through the process of CE marking, but hopefully this section provides some background and clarification.

Products manufactured to standards adopted by CEN, CENELEC and ETSI, and published in the Official Journal as harmonized standards, are presumed to conform to the requirements of EU Directives. The manufacturer then applies the CE marking and issues a declaration of conformity. With these, the product will be allowed to circulate freely within the EU. A manufacturer can choose not to use the harmonized EU standards, but then must demonstrate that the product meets the essential safety and performance requirements. Trade barriers occur when design, rather than performance, standards are developed by the relevant European standardization organization, and when U.S. companies do not have access to the standardization process through a European presence.

The CE marking addresses itself primarily to the national control authorities of the Member States, and its use simplifies the task of essential market surveillance of regulated products. Although CE marking is intended primarily for inspection purposes by Member State inspectors, the consumer may well perceive it as a quality mark. The CE marking is not intended to include detailed technical information on the product, but there must be enough information to enable the inspector to trace the product back to the manufacturer or the authorized representative established in the EU. This detailed information should not appear next to the CE marking, but rather on the declaration of conformity, the certificate of conformity (which the manufacturer or authorized agent must be able to provide at any time, together with the product's technical file), or the documents accompanying the product.

Swedish Bodies

The Swedish National Testing and Research Institute is accredited for certification in the fields of environment (ISO14001, EMAS, Environmental product declarations, EPD), quality (ISP9000 series, QS 9000, EU directives), the workplace in accordance with the National Board of Occupations Safety and Health Code Statutes AFS 2001:1) and products (CE marking, P-marking).

The certification requirements are set out in product standards, voluntary specifications or specified by public authorities.

SP Swedish National Testing and Research Institute

Box 857

S-501 15 Borås

Sweden

Tel. 46 33 16 50 00

Fax. 46 33 13 55 02

<http://www.sp.se>

SEMKO-DEKRA Certification AB, an approved certification body accredited by SWEDAC, offers certification to the ISO 9000 series, QS 9000, ISO 14001 and QS 9000, AFS 1996:6 (Working Environment) and validations under EMAS, and also certification to SS 627799 (Information Security), and EPD (Environmental Product Declaration).

SEMKO-DEKRA Certification AB

Head Office/Stockholm

Box 1103

S-164 22 KISTA

Tel: 46 8750 0333

Fax: 46 8750 0307

info@semko-dekra.se

www.semko-dekra.se

Accreditation

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SWEDAC is the national accreditation body, working under the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. SWEDAC assesses the competence of laboratories, certification and inspection bodies and is also the public authority responsible for regulations and surveillance in the field of legal metrology.

SWEDAC assesses the independence of laboratories and their competence to perform analysis, tests or calibration within IT, building technology, legal metrology, foodstuffs, medical technology, electrical technology, chemistry, clinical chemistry, mechanics, materials testing, water analysis or calibration within many different quantities.

The accreditation is performed in accordance with the international SS EN ISO/IEC 17025 standard. SWEDAC also issues certificates for Good Laboratory Practice (GLP)

in accordance with OECD rules (OECD/GD[92] 32 - Paris 1992) to laboratories that perform investigations of chemicals other than pharmaceuticals, hygienic or cosmetic products.

In conjunction with the Chemicals inspectorate, SWEDAC is also responsible for accreditation of bodies for testing of plant protection products in efficacy trials in accordance with GEP, 'Good Efficacy Practice' (EPPO Guidelines 152, 181).

Swedac, Styrelsen for Ackreditering och Teknisk Kontroll
Swedish Board for Conformity and Technical Control
Box 878
S-501 15 Boras, Sweden
Tel: 46-33-177 700
Fax: 46-33-101 392
<http://www.swedac.se>

Independent certification bodies, known as notified bodies, have been officially accredited by competent authorities to test and certify to EU requirements. However, under U.S.-EU Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs), notified bodies based in the United States and referred to as conformity assessment bodies, are allowed to test in the United States to EU specifications, and vice versa. The costs are significantly lower which results in U.S. products becoming more competitive. At this time, the U.S.-EU MRAs cover the following sectors: EMC (in force), RTTE (in force), medical devices (in transition), pharmaceutical (on hold), recreational craft (in force) and marine equipment (in force). The U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), has a link on its website to American and European Conformity Assessment bodies operating under a mutual recognition agreement.

Key Link: <http://ts.nist.gov/Standards/Global/mra.cfm>

Accreditation is handled at Member State level. "European Accreditation" (http://www.european-accreditation.org/default_flash.htm) is an organization representing nationally recognized accreditation bodies. Membership is open to nationally recognized accreditation bodies in countries in the European geographical area that can demonstrate that they operate an accreditation system compatible with EN45003 or ISO/IEC Guide 58.

Publication of Technical Regulations

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When it comes to technical regulations Sweden abides by the EU directives and WTO agreements and accordingly reports all proposals to both EU and WTO. The entity responsible for information and notification procedures for new national technical regulations is the National Board of Trade.

All the Swedish proposals are listed on an electronic newsletter Notnytt, available at the National Board of Trade's website, where the proposals can also be commented on. The

final regulations are listed on the EU data base TRIS, Technical Regulations Information System.

The National Board of Trade
Box 6803
113 86 Stockholm
Sweden
Tel. 46 8 690 4800
Fax. 46 8 30 67 59
Email: kerstin.carlsosn@kommers.se
<http://www.kommers.se>

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/tris/>

The Official Journal is the official gazette of the European Union. It is published daily on the internet and consists of two series covering draft and adopted legislation as well as case law, questions from the European Parliament, studies by committees, and more (<http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/JOIndex.do?ihmlang=en>). It lists the standards reference numbers linked to legislation

(<http://www.newapproach.org/Directives/DirectiveList.asp>). National technical Regulations are published on the Commission's website <http://ec.europa.eu/comm/enterprise/tris/> to allow other countries and interested parties to comment.

Member countries of the World Trade Organization (WTO) are required under the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement to report to the WTO all proposed technical Regulations that could affect trade with other member countries.

Notify U.S. is a free, web-based e-mail subscription service that offers an opportunity to review and comment on proposed foreign technical Regulations that can affect your access to international markets. Register online at Internet URL: <http://tsapps.nist.gov/notifyus/data/index/index.cfm>

Labeling and Marking

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order of weight, last recommended date of consumption, and storage instructions if perishable or intended for infants. The information described above should be in Swedish and the local importers can assist NTM companies in arranging for proper labeling information.

Inspection and food labeling requirements were changed to conform to E.U. regulations when Sweden became a member of the E.U. on January 1, 1995.

Manufacturers are advised to take note that all labels require metric units although dual labeling is also acceptable until end of December 2009. The use of language on labels has been the subject of a Commission Communication, which encourages multilingual information, while preserving the right of Member States to require the use of language of the country of consumption.

The EU has mandated that certain products be sold in standardized quantities. Council Directive 2007/45/EC, to replace 80/232/EC in April 2009, harmonizes packaging of wine and spirits throughout the EU. Existing national sizes will be abolished with a few exceptions for domestic producers.

Key Link: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/prepack/packsiz/packsiz_en.htm

The Eco-label

EU legislation in 1992, revised in 2000, distinguishes environmentally friendly products and services through a voluntary labeling scheme called the Eco-label. Currently, the scheme applies to 7 product groups: cleaning products, appliances, paper products, clothing, lubricants, home and garden products and tourism services. The symbol, a green flower, is a voluntary mark. The Eco-label is awarded to producers who can show that their product is less harmful to the environment than similar products. This "green label" also aims to encourage consumers to buy green products. However, the scheme does not establish ecological standards that all manufacturers are required to meet to place product on the market. Products without the EU Eco-label can still enter the EU as long as they meet the existing health, safety, and environmental standards and Regulations.

The EU Eco-label is a costly scheme (up to EUR 1,300 for registration and up to EUR 25,000/year for the use of the label, with a reduction of 25% for SMEs) and has therefore not been widely used so far. However, the Eco-label can be a good marketing tool and, given the growing demand for green products in Europe, it is likely that the Eco-label will become more and more a reference for green consumers.

http://buyusainfo.net/docs/x_4284752.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/environment/ecolabel/index_en.htm

<http://www.eco-label.com/>

More information on labeling can be obtained from the following sources:

Food labeling:

Livsmedelsverket (National Food Administration)
Box 622
S-751 26 Uppsala
Email: livsmedelsverket@slv.se
Tel: 4618 17 55 00
Fax: 4618 10 58 48

Cosmetics and pharmaceuticals labeling:
Lakemedelsverket (Medical products Agency)
Box 26
S-751 03 Uppsala
Tel: 46 18 17 46 00
Fax: 4618 54 85 66

Other chemical products:

Kemikaleinspektionen (National Chemicals Inspectorate)
Box 1384
S-171 27 Solna
Email: kemi@kemi.se
Tel: 46 8 783 11 00
Fax: 46 8 735 76 98

Contacts

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US Embassy Stockholm
Dag Hammarskjolds Vag 31
115 89 Stockholm, Sweden
Tel. 46 8 783 5300
Fax. 46 8 660 9181
Post Standards Contact: Tuula Javanainen, tuula.javanainen@mail.doc.gov

Swedish Standards Institution, SIS
P.O. Box 3295,
S-103 66 Stockholm, Sweden
Tel: 46-8-610 3000
Fax: 46-8-30 1850
<http://www.sis.se>

Informationstekniska Standardiseringen, ITS
The Swedish Telecommunication Standardization Organization
Box 1284
S-16429 Kista, Sweden
Tel. 46 8 444 1424
Fax. 46 8 444 1430
<http://www.its.se>

Svenska Elektriska Kommissionen, SEK
The Swedish Electro-technical Standardization Body
Box 1284
S-16429 Kista
Sweden
Tel. 46 8 444 1400
Fax. 46 8 444 1430
<http://www.sekom.se>

SWEDAC, Styrelsen for Ackreditering och Teknisk Kontroll
Swedish Board for Accreditation and Conformity Assessment
Box 878,
S-501 15 Boras, Sweden
Tel: 46-33-177 700
Fax: 46-33-101 392
<http://www.swedac.se>

SP Swedish National Testing and Research Institute
Box 857
S-501 15 Boras
Sweden
Tel. 46 33 16 50 00
Fax. 46 33 13 55 02
<http://www.sp.se>
SEMKO-DEKRA Certification AB
Head Office/Stockholm
Box 1103
S-164 22 KISTA
Tel: 46 8750 0333
Fax: 46 8750 0307
info@semko-dekra.se
www.semko-dekra.se

The National Board of Trade
Box 6803
113 86 Stockholm
Sweden
Tel. 46 8 690 4800
Fax. 46 8 30 67 59
Email: kerstin.carlsosn@kommers.se
<http://www.kommers.se>

Livsmedelsverket (National Food Administration)
Box 622
S-751 26 Uppsala
Email: livsmedelsverket@slv.se

Tel: 4618 17 55 00
Fax: 4618 10 58 48

Lakemedelsverket (Medical products Agency)
Box 26
S-751 03 Uppsala
Tel: 46 18 17 46 00
Fax: 4618 54 85 66

Kemikaleinspektionen (National Chemicals Inspectorate)
Box 1384
S-171 27 Solna
Email: kemi@kemi.se
Tel: 46 8 783 11 00
Fax: 46 8 735 76 98

Trade Agreements

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Importers from certain countries and/or groups of countries and economic areas are entitled to lower or no customs duty when exporting to EU countries, including its member state Sweden. This applies to the majority of goods originating from these countries. The origin of goods must be established by a Certificate of Origin, issued by a legal authority in the country of export.

Preferential treatment of imports into the EU is possible for import of goods originating from the following countries and areas/zones:

- EES (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway)
- EFTA
- The Faroes
- Andorra
- Central-and Eastern Europe
- Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Federal Republic of Yugoslavia including Kosovo)
- Slovenia
- Turkey
- Israel
- The West Bank and Gaza
- Maghreb (Alger, morocco, Tunis)
- Mashrek (Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, Syria)
- South Africa
- Mexico
- ACP Countries (African, Caribbean and Pacific States)
- OCT (Overseas Countries and Territories)
- Developing countries

More information on these agreements can be found at <http://www.tullverket.se/en>

Web Resources

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Swedish Customs <http://www.tullverket.se/en/Business/>

National Inspectorate of Strategic Products ISP

<http://www.isp.se/nyaengelska/indexeng.htm>

Livsmedelsverket (National Food Administration) www.slv.se

Lakemedelsverket (Medical Products Agency) <http://www.mpa.se/eng/index.shtml>

Kemikaleinspektionen (National Chemicals Inspectorate) www.kemi.se

Swedish Board of Agriculture <http://www.sjv.se>

National Board of Fisheries <http://www.fiskeriverket.se>

National Board of Trade <http://www.kommers.se>

Swedish Standards Institution SIS www.sis.se

European Committee of Standardization www.cenorm.be

Swedish Telecommunication Standardization Organization www.its.se

European Telecom Standards Institute www.etsi.se

Swedish Electro-Technical Standardization Body www.sekom.se

European Committee of Electrotechnical Standardization www.cenelec.org

Swedish Board of Accreditation and Conformity Assessment www.swedac.se

EU Conformity Assessment Bodies <http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/nando-is/home/index.cfm>

Swedish National Testing and Research Institute www.sp.se

Certification body www.semko-dekra.se

European accreditation www.european-accreditation.org