

Global Trade Alert

Neville Peterson LLP

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EU Publishes New Duty Suspensions, Seeks Applications for 2011 Suspensions

January 31 Deadline in Most Member States

The European Union recently published its new regulation establishing temporary duty suspensions which go into effect on January 1, 2010 and will remain in effect through the end of 2013. The regulation, attached hereto, covers hundreds of discrete products for which duties have been temporarily eliminated.

Companies that believe their products may be covered by these suspensions may wish to seek Binding Tariff Information (BTI) rulings from EU Customs authorities, classifying their products under suspension provisions. A favorable BTI is of great value to the holder, as it is binding on Customs authorities in all EU member states, for a period of up to 6 years (subject to renewal). Our firm would be happy to provide assistance in securing BTI rulings.

The EU has also initiated its administrative procedure for seeking new duty suspensions, to become effective January 1, 2011. The application deadline in most EU member states is January 31, 2010.

In general, successful duty suspension applications will involve products for which there is no domestic production in the EU, which are ingredients or components rather than finished

products, and which involve annual revenue losses of less than 20,000 ECU.

Our firm stands ready to furnish any additional information or assistance which firms may require concerning this duty savings opportunity.

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