



March 23, 2018

Re: Aluminum and Steel Import Duties

Dear Valued Client,

Earlier this month, the White House signed an order that imposes additional tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from all foreign countries with the exception of Canada and Mexico. The stated reason supporting these safeguards is the “failure of countries to agree on measures to reduce global excess capacity and the continued high level of imports since the beginning of the year.”

In the case of steel, “steel articles” are subject to an additional 25% duty and in the case of aluminum, “aluminum articles” are subject to an additional 10% duty effective March 23, 2018. This is effective as of 12:01 am, eastern daylight time on March 23, 2018 for goods entered or withdrawn from a warehouse for consumption.

An amendment has been made exempting several countries from the additional steel and aluminum tariffs through April 30th. The exempt countries are as follows:

Canada, Mexico, Australia, Argentina, South Korea, Brazil and member countries of the European Union (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom).

On May 1, 2018, all countries will be subject to the additional duties.

Impacted Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) are specified as follows:

Steel - 7206.10 through 7216.50 (including ingots, bars, rods and angles), 7216.99 through 7301.10 (including bars, rods, wire, ingots, and sheet piling), 7302.10 (rails), 7302.40 through 7302.90 (including plates and sleepers), and 7304.10 through 7306.90 (including tubes, pipes and hollow profiles).

Aluminum - (a) unwrought aluminum (HTS 7601); (b) aluminum bars, rods, and profiles (HTS 7604); (c) aluminum wire (HTS 7605); (d) aluminum plate, sheet, strip, and foil (flat rolled products) (HTS 7606 and 7607); (e) aluminum tubes and pipes and tube and pipe fitting (HTS 7608 and 7609); and (f) aluminum castings and forgings (HTS 7616.99.51.60 and 7616.99.51.70).



Also, this week the President announced additional tariffs against China. The tariffs could be applied to as many as 100 Chinese products, which the administration believes were made by stealing U.S. patents, trademarks and copyrights or by forcing U.S. companies to give the Chinese producers such IPR rights in exchange for access to the Chinese market.

The White House has instructed the Trade Representative to publish a proposed list of products and any tariff increases within 15 days of the announcement. After a period of notice and comment, the Trade Representative will publish a final list of products and tariff increases.

Please direct any questions that you may have to your JAS representative.

Sincerely,

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