



AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION NOTICE NO. 2011/33

Australia-New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement – changes to Product Specific Rules

The Australia-New Zealand Closer Economic Trade Agreement (ANZCERTA) has been in force since 1983. The agreement addresses a range of issues, including Tariffs, Rules of Origin (ROO) and Quarantine Harmonisation.

Annex G of ANZCERTA contains product specific rules (PSR), which determine the eligibility of goods not wholly obtained or produced for preferential tariff treatment. Such rules prevent the benefits of trade agreement tariff commitments extending to goods produced or manufactured in countries other than Australia and New Zealand.

In negotiating ROO, both countries agreed to include in ANZCERTA a provision requiring the review of ROO within three years of the new rules taking effect. The ROO took effect on 1 January 2007.

In late 2008, Australian and New Zealand officials commenced a review of those ROO and completed it in March 2010 resulting in an agreement to amend the text of ANZCERTA Article 3 (Rules of Origin) and the related Product Specific Rules in Annex G.

The new PSR are contained in the *Customs (New Zealand Rules of Origin) Amendment Regulations 2011* and can be viewed via the following link:

<http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2011L01593>

These changes will take effect from 1 September 2011.

Changes to ANZCERTA Article 3, outlining non-qualifying operations, are currently before the Parliament. A further Australian Customs and Border Protection Notice will be issued when the legislative process has completed.

Inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to origin@customs.gov.au, or to the Valuation and Origin Section on telephone number (02) 6275 6556.

(Signed)
Geoffrey Johannes
National Manager
Trade Services Branch
CANBERRA ACT

25 August 2011