



AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS NOTICE NO. 2007/52

Special Safeguards on Prepared or Preserved Tuna from Thailand

By Notice published in the Commonwealth Gazette on 17 October 2007, and registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments, the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has imposed special safeguards on imports of prepared or preserved tuna from Thailand. The provisions derive from Article 509 of the Thailand – Australia Free Trade Agreement and relate to tuna classified under tariff subheading 1604.14.00.

The effect of the provisions is that instead of being free of duty, all prepared or preserved tuna (HS classification 1604.14.00) imported from Thailand will attract the general rate of duty of 5% from 18 October 2007 until 31 December 2007 (Preference Scheme 'GEN' in ICS), unless 'in-transit' provisions apply (Preference Scheme 'THSS' in ICS). Please also refer to **ACN 2005/27** for more information on claiming preferential rates of duty in the ICS.

To qualify for 'in-transit' provisions, the goods must meet the requirements of being Thai originating, have a valid Thai Certificate of Origin at time of importation, and be exported from Thailand on or before 17 October 2007, under a contract entered into on or before 17 October 2007.

The safeguards will cease to apply to goods imported on or after 1 January 2008, but may be re-imposed if the limit of 24,734,136 kilograms is reached in 2008. Customs will provide further advice to importers if that occurs.

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, or fax number (02) 6275 6477.

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CANBERRA ACT

19 October 2007