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New Import Authorization System. Update on Label Regulation.

Report Categories:

Exporter Guide

Trade Policy Monitoring

WTO Notifications

Policy and Program Announcements

FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

Argentine Government implemented a new system for import authorizations on December 23, 2015, repealing the DJAI (*Declaracion Jurada Anticipada de Importaciones*) system which had been used to restrict imports of both agricultural and non-agricultural products. Most agricultural imports will be subject to authorization through what the new Argentine Government has announced to be a less restrictive expedited approval system (approvals should take place within 10 days). On a related note, government sources indicate that Resolution No. 420/2015 (Pre-Approval of Food Labels Regulation) will be revoked soon.

Import Authorization System

Official General Resolution 3823/2015, published on December 21, 2015, in *Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina* (Official Bulletin), creates an Overall System for Import Control (Sistema Integral de Monitoreo de Importaciones – SIMI), which replaces the DJAI (*Declaración Jurada Anticipada de Importaciones*) system.

In addition, Official Resolution 5/2015, published on December 23, 2015, in the Official Bulletin, establishes the list of products to be imported for consumption through a system based on the granting of what the resolution calls Automatic (AIL) and Non-Automatic Import Licenses (NAIL).

Agriculture related products that will require NAILS are paper and pulp, wool, cotton products, and wood products (See HTS Codes included in Annexes II through XVII, Point (1) of Resolution 5/2015 in the following link: <http://www.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/255000-259999/257251/norma.htm>) NAILS require detailed information on the import's production process and may require an additional approval from the relevant technical authorities in Argentina (there is no set timeframe for approval of the applications).

For all other products falling under the AIL system, the relevant authorities will normally make a decision on the license application within 10 days, although this can be extended if deemed necessary. The information required includes importer, origin country, HS code, product description, state of merchandise, number of units, and value of shipment in U.S. dollars FOB.

Selected Sections of Resolution 5/2015 (Unofficial Translation)

Article 1 - All merchandise included in all HTS codes of the Mercosur Common Nomenclature (NCM, in Spanish) whose destination is import for consumption must request an AIL, except those HTS codes which are included in this resolution.

Article 3 - Merchandise included in HTS codes within the NCM whose destination is import for consumption, and are included in point (1) of Annexes II through XVII must request a NAIL.

Article 5 - For the merchandise subject to NAILS, the Competent Authority (CA) might request the importer information or documentation on every aspect of the operation and/or the involved merchandise. In addition, the CA might request input from appropriate technical organizations or consider own or other sources of information and, if necessary, it might request further clarification.

Article 8 – Import Licenses will be valid for ninety (90) days as of the SIMI approval date.

Status of Pre-Approval of Food Labels Regulation

On October 14, 2015, the Secretariat of Commerce (under the leadership of the previous government) published Resolution No. 420/2015. It established a Label Supervision System and affected several products for human consumption and human handling, including imported food and beverage products (F&B), cosmetics, personal care products and household cleaning products sold in Argentina. Sources

from the new government have stated that this regulation will be revoked in the near future (see GAIN report "[Argentina - New Labeling Regulation 11-13-2015](#)" for additional information).