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IMPORT CUSTOMS PROCEDURES IN RUSSIA



Customs Procedures

Import Procedures

The Customs declaration can be made by the informant of a company that comes under Russian law and sent to the Customs office where this company has previously been registered. A company exporting to Russia can also call in a Customs broker who will take charge of carrying out Customs formalities in its name. Clearance inward, with immediate payment of duties and taxes, is the regime most commonly used by operators exporting to Russia.

The procedures and conditions to import merchandises in Russia have changed 2010 with the entry in force of the Customs Union (CU) between Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

All importation must to present a freight declaration. This declaration shall be accompanied by the following documents:

- Contracts
- Commercial invoices and packing list
- Transport documents
- Import licences (if applicable)
- Certificates of conformity
- Certificates of origin (if applicable)
- Sanitary certificates (if applicable)

Foreign good circulating in the Customs Union (CU) (Russia, Kazakhstan Belarus) area are customs cleared at the CU's border. After that, good are free to circulate in the CU area without additional customs controls.

In the case of temporary entry, goods could be full or partially exempt of customs duties and import VAT for a period up to two years.

For more information, please visit the [Customs Union](#) website.

Specific Import Procedures

There is a license system for certain specific products (pesticides, jewelry and precious materials, electrical material, etc.) which represent about 3% of all the goods imported. These licenses are issued by the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and controlled by the [State Customs Committee](#).

Importing Samples

Commercial samples are exempt of customs duties and import TVA for a period up to two years if they are used only for promotional proposes. Biological samples and samples of medicines must be accompanied by specific certificates.



To go further, check out our service [Import controls](#) and [Export controls](#).

Customs Duties and Taxes on Imports

Customs threshold (from which tariffs are required)

Shipments with a CIF value of under RUB 5,000 enter without duty or tax.

Average Customs Duty (Excluding Agricultural Products)

Since its official entry to the WTO on 22 August 2012, Russia has committed to implement all the provisions of the WTO, including an average tariff of 7.8% for goods.

Products Having a Higher Customs Tariff

Finished products (15%), foodstuffs (20%), agricultural products.

Preferential Rates

The rates displayed in the Customs tariff are applied to countries which benefit from the Most Favored Nation clause (MFN), i.e. the majority of third countries, including those of the EU. Russia has a [free trade agreement](#) with the CIS countries and Serbia. In addition, a common economic area with Belarus and Kazakhstan within the framework of the [Eurasian economic community](#) has been created.

Customs Classification

Russia implements the Harmonized Customs System. The Customs tariff includes 11 032 tariff lines.

Method of Calculation of Duties

85 % of tariff lines are taxed on an ad valorem basis. Russian regulations provide for methods of determining Customs value, generally the CIF standard in conformity with the rules of the WTO. The rest uses a combined system: the tariff applied is the maximum between the ad valorem tariff and a specific tariff, often fixed.

Method of Payment of Customs Duties

Duties and taxes are collected by the [State Customs Committee](#). Customs also collects fees for carrying out Customs formalities. Payment is made in cash when making the Customs declaration. Clearing Customs is only authorized with a certificate proving payment has been made.

Import Taxes (Excluding
Consumer Taxes) None



List of tariffs and local taxes that apply to your product on our service [Customs duties and local taxes.](#)

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