

Circular No: 13/2018 12 Dec 2018 (updated on 13 Dec 2024)

All Manufacturers and Traders

Dear Sir/Madam

RULES OF ORIGIN UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE AND PROGRESSIVE AGREEMENT FOR TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (CPTPP)

The CPTPP is a Free Trade Agreement between 12 countries: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, the United Kingdom and Vietnam. The CPTPP provides comprehensive market access and fosters greater regional integration in the Asia-Pacific region.

2 The Agreement will enter in force on **30 Dec 2018**. This circular outline the salient points of the Rules of Origin requirements and operational procedures for exports of Singapore-originating goods claiming preferential tariff treatment in countries who are a party to the CPTPP ("CPTPP country"). With effect from the following dates, preferential tariff treatment for Singapore-originating goods can be claimed in the respective CPTPP country:

a. 30 Dec 2018 for Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico and New Zealand; and

- b.14 Jan 2019 for Vietnam.
- c. 19 Sep 2021 for Peru.
- d. 29 Nov 2022 for Malaysia.
- e.21 Feb 2023 for Chile.
- f. 12 Jul 2023 for Brunei Darussalam.
- g. 15 Dec 2024 for the United Kingdom

3 The CPTPP does not have a common list of products which are subjected to a common tariff reduction. Instead, each country has a list of products that are subjected to tariff reductions at different rates. Manufacturers and Traders are advised to refer to Annex 2-D of Chapter 2 (National Treatment and Market Access for Goods) in the agreement to obtain the appropriate preferential tariff rate for the import of your goods into a CPTPP country. The legal text of the CPTPP is available via the Enterprise Singapore website at www.fta.gov.sg.

CPTPP Rules of Origin criteria for determination of CPTPP Originating Goods

4 Your goods may qualify for preferential tariff treatment for importation into a CPTPP country if they fulfill the following Rules of Origin:

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Rules of Origin under the CPTPP				
Goods Wholly Obtained or Produced	Goods Wholly Obtained and Produced in Singapore as specified in Article 3.3 of Chapter 3 of the CPTPP			
Goods Produced Entirely from Originating Materials	Goods are last manufactured in Singapore entirely from materials which are considered originating under the CPTPP			
Goods Produced Entirely from Non- Originating Materials	Goods are last manufactured in Singapore and satisfies the requirement under Annex 3-D of Chapter 3 of the CPTPP (Product Specific Rules)			

Rules of Origin for Manufactured Products

5 Goods will be considered originating in Singapore if they meet the Product Specific Rules (PSR) in the CPTPP. The PSR can be found in Annex 3-D of Chapter 3 of the CPTPP. Generally, the PSR requires the final product to be substantially transformed in Singapore. Companies are encouraged to do their own due diligence to cross check the PSR and ensure that only products that meet the rules of origin in CPTPP are self-certified as originating goods. The following are examples of substantial transformation:

- a) A Change in Tariff Classification (CTC) between non-originating materials and the end good must have occurred in Singapore. The CTC is based on the Harmonised System (HS) of Classification and requires the good to have a different 2-digit HS Chapter, 4-digit HS Heading, or 6-digit HS subheading from the non-originating materials used in its production;
- b) Processing conducted in Singapore as defined by the Chapter or Section Notes in the PSR. This rule is mainly applicable to chemical products between HS chapters 27 – 39; and
- c) Meeting the specified Regional Value Content (RVC) percentage for each good under the CPTPP. There are 4 different methods of RVC Calculation as follows:
 - i) Focused Value Method: Based on the Value of Specified Non-Originating Materials

$$RVC = \frac{Value \ of \ the \ Good - FVNM}{Value \ of \ the \ Good} \ X \ 100$$

ii) Build-down Method: Based on the Value of Non-Originating Materials

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$$RVC = \frac{Value \ of \ the \ Good - VNM}{Value \ of \ the \ Good} \ X \ 100$$

iii) Build-up Method: Based on the Value of Originating Materials

$$RVC = \frac{VOM}{Value \ of \ the \ Good} \ X \ 100$$

iv) Net Cost Method (for Automotive Goods Only)

$$RVC = \frac{NC - VNM}{NC} X \ 100$$

Where:

RVC is the regional value content of a good, expressed as a percentage;

VNM is the value of non-originating materials, including materials of undetermined origin, used in the production of the good;

NC is the net cost of the good determined in accordance with Article 3.9 (Net Cost);

FVNM is the value of non-originating materials, including materials of undetermined origin, specified in the applicable product-specificrule (PSR) in Annex 3-D (Product-Specific Rules of Origin) and used in the production of the good. For greater certainty, non-originating materials that are not specified in the applicable PSR in Annex 3-D (Product-Specific Rules of Origin) are not taken into account for the purpose of determining FVNM; and

VOM is the value of originating materials used in the production of the good.

Accumulation

6 The CPTPP countries are treated as a single production area. This means that an originating good or material of one or more of the Parties that is used in the production of another good in the territory of another Party is considered as originating in the territory of the other Party, provided the good or material satisfies the Rules of Origin under the CPTPP and is supported by a certification of origin. Additionally, production undertaken on a non-originating material in Singapore or a CPTPP country may contribute towards the originating content of a good for the purpose of determining the originating status of the good, regardless of whether production was sufficient to confer originating status to the material itself. Accumulation can only be from CPTPP countries for whom the agreement has entered into force.

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Documentation Procedures

7 The CPTPP will operate on a self-certification basis except for CPTPP parties that elect to start with authorised certificates of origin or certificates issued by approved exporters as set out in Annex 3-A. Singapore has not made such an election. Accordingly, for exports from Singapore seeking CPTPP preferential tariff treatment, to enable the importer in a CPTPP country to claim such preferential tariff treatment under the CPTPP, the exporter, the producer or the importer shall complete a certification of origin as set out in Article 3.20. While the certification of origin does not need to follow a specific format, it does have to contain a set of minimum data requirements as set out in Annex 3-B of Chapter 3 of the CPTPP (replicated at Annex A of this circular) and must describe the goods in sufficient detail to enable its identification by the importing customs authority. It is also important to ensure that the correct HS classification is used for the goods. For further clarity on the HS classification when importing into a CPTPP country, you may seek the advice of the relevant authority in the importing CPTPP country.

8 In the corresponding TradeNet declaration for your export permit, please ensure that "PRI" is selected under the "Preferential Indicator" field. It is mandatory to select "PRI" if the importer intends to claim preferential tariff treatment under FTAs with self-certification regimes. This is an indication that the importer intends to claim preferential tariff treatment when the goods are imported into any CPTPP country. Please check with your TradeNet software vendor if you are unable to locate the "Preferential Indicator" field.

9 Singapore exporters who issue the certification of origin under the CPTPP and producers of the goods should be well-acquainted with the qualifying origin criteria of their goods. There are many PSRs included in CPTPP such as extensive process rules for the petrochemical sector and specific RVC calculations for the automotive sector. We thus encourage you to familiarise yourself with the origin criteria set out in the ROO text and PSR annex so that you will be able to take advantage of the benefits of the agreement when you export to a CPTPP country. Please share the contents of this circular with other colleagues in your organisation and business partners if relevant.

Retention of Documents

10 For post-verification checks under Article 3.27 (Verification of Origin), documents relating to the production and export shipments accompanied by the certification of origin should be kept for at least 5 years from the date on which the certification of origin was issued. The retention period of other records required under Singapore legislations remains. The importing party authorities may conduct a verification of any claim of preferential tariff treatment by a written request for information from the exporter or producer of the good. If there is unsupported representations or insufficient information received relevant to a claim that the good is originating, the importing party may deny the claim for preferential tariff treatment.

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Preferential Tariff Treatment for Imports under the CPTPP

11 Another circular, No. 14/2018 dated 12 Dec 2018 (updated on 13 Dec 2024), relating to the claiming of preferential tariff treatment for imports into Singapore under the CPTPP is separately issued. Both circulars can be downloaded from <u>www.customs.gov.sg</u>.

Clarification

12 Please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the Rules of Origin under the CPTPP in **Annex B** for more details or you may send your enquiries to <u>customs roo@customs.gov.sg</u> for further clarifications on the contents of this <u>circular</u>.

13 For other clarifications on the CPTPP, you may email Enterprise Singapore at <u>enquiry@enterprisesg.gov.sg.</u>

Yours faithfully

Chua Yock Chin Head Tariffs and Trade Services for Director-General of Customs Singapore Customs

(This is a computer-generated circular. No signature is required.)

We hope that this circular has been written in a way that is clear to you. If not, please let us have suggestions on how to improve this circular at <u>customs_roo@customs.gov.sg</u>.

Annex A

MINIMUM DATA REQUIREMENTS

A certification of origin that is the basis for a claim for preferential tariff treatment under this Agreement shall include the following elements:

1. Importer, Exporter or Producer Certification of Origin

Indicate whether the certifier is the exporter, producer or importer in accordance with Article 3.20 (Claims for Preferential Treatment).

2. Certifier

Provide the certifier's name, address (including country), telephone number and e-mail address.

3. Exporter

Provide the exporter's name, address (including country), e-mail address and telephone number if different from the certifier. This information is not required if the producer is completing the certification of origin and does not know the identity of the exporter. The address of the exporter shall be the place of export of the good in a CPTPP country.

4. Producer

Provide the producer's name, address (including country), e-mail address and telephone number, if different from the certifier or exporter or, if there are multiple producers, state "Various" or provide a list of producers. A person that wishes for this information to remain confidential may state "Available upon request by the importing authorities". The address of a producer shall be the place of production of the good in a CPTPP country.

5. Importer

Provide, if known, the importer's name, address, e-mail address and telephone number. The address of the importer shall be in a CPTPP country.

6. Description and HS Tariff Classification of the Good

- (a) Provide a description of the good and the HS tariff classification of the good to the 6-digit level. The description should be sufficient to relate it to the good covered by the certification; and
- (b) If the certification of origin covers a single shipment of a good, indicate, if known, the invoice number related to the exportation.

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7. Origin Criterion

Specify the rule of origin under which the good qualifies.

8. Blanket Period

Include the period if the certification covers multiple shipments of identical goods for a specified period of up to 12 months as set out in Article 3.20.4 (Claims for Preferential Treatment).

9. Authorised Signature and Date

The certification must be signed and dated by the certifier and accompanied by the following statement:

I certify that the goods described in this document qualify as originating and the information contained in this document is true and accurate. I assume responsibility for proving such representations and agree to maintain and present upon request or to make available during a verification visit, documentation necessary to support this certification.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1: Is my good eligible for preferential tariff treatment under the CPTPP?

A1: You may refer to Annex 2-D to Chapter 2 (National treatment and Market Access for Goods) of the CPTPP's legal text via the URL provided in the circular for the relevant details. Alternatively, you may use the Tariff Finder Tool available <u>here</u>.

Q2: I am a registered manufacturer with Singapore Customs and have exported products under other Free Trade Agreements. Can my product be automatically considered as an originating good under the CPTPP?

A2: Each FTA has its own unique origin qualifying criteria. Your registration with Singapore Customs as a manufacturer does not automatically qualify your good as originating under the CPTPP. You would need to do your own due diligence to ensure that your product meets the qualifying criteria as set out in Chapter 3 and its annexes and self-certify this as an originating good under the CPTPP to be considered for preferential tariff treatment when imported into a CPTPP country.

Q3: I have exported some goods originating from Singapore to the United Kingdom before 15 Dec 2024. Can I request for tariff concession to be granted for these shipments upon the entry into force of the Agreement?

A3: The import may be eligible for preferential tariff treatment only if it enters the United Kingdom on or after 15 Dec 2024 and fulfils the relevant conditions set out in the CPTPP. For further clarity, you may wish to advise your importer to contact their customs authority directly.

Q4: How can I apply for a Preferential Certificate of Origin (PCO) with Singapore Customs for my exports to CPTPP country under the CPTPP?

A4: Singapore Customs will not be issuing PCOs under the CPTPP. To enable your importer in CPTPP country to claim preferential tariff treatment, please follow the procedures set out in paragraph 7 of this circular.

Q5: What is the recordkeeping requirement for documents relating to my exports to CPTPP country under the CPTPP?

A5: You are required to keep the relevant documents (which include, but are not limited to, a copy of the certification of origin, shipping documents such as the commercial invoice, and production records) for a period of at least 5 years from the date on which the certification of origin was issued



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Paragraph	Current Details	Updated Details	Date of
			Update
2	The Agreement will enter in	The Agreement will enter in	13 Dec
	force on 30 Dec 2018 . This	force on 30 Dec 2018 . This	2024
	circular outline the salient	circular outline the salient	
	points of the Rules of	points of the Rules of	
	Origin requirements and	Origin requirements and	
	operational procedures for	operational procedures for	
	exports of Singapore-	exports of Singapore-	
	originating goods claiming	originating goods claiming	
	preferential tariff treatment	preferential tariff treatment	
	in countries who are a	in countries who are a	
	party to the CPTPP	party to the CPTPP	
	("CPTPP country"). With	("CPTPP country"). With	
	effect from the following	effect from the following	
	dates, preferential tariff	dates, preferential tariff	
	treatment for Singapore-	treatment for Singapore-	
	originating goods can be	originating goods can be	
	claimed in the respective	claimed in the respective	
	CPTPP country:	CPTPP country:	
	a. 30 Dec 2018 for	a. 30 Dec 2018 for	
	Australia, Canada,	Australia,	
	Japan, Mexico and	Canada, Japan,	
	New Zealand; and	Mexico and New	
	b. 14 Jan 2019 for	Zealand; and	
	Vietnam.	b. 14 Jan 2019 for	
	c. 19 Sep 2021 for	Vietnam.	
	Peru.	c. 19 Sep 2021 for	
	d. 29 Nov 2022 for	Peru.	
	Malaysia.	d. 29 Nov 2022 for	
	e. 21 Feb 2023 for	Malaysia.	
	Chile.	e. 21 Feb 2023 for	
	f. 12 Jul 2023 for	Chile.	
	Brunei	f. 12 Jul 2023 for	
	Darussalam	Brunei	
		Darussalam.	
		g. 15 Dec 2024 for the	
		United Kingdom	

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11	Another circular, No. 14/2018 dated 12 Dec 2018 (updated on 12 Jul 2023), relating to the claiming of preferential tariff treatment for imports into Singapore under the CPTPP is separately issued. Both circulars can be downloaded from <u>www.customs.gov.sg</u> .	Another circular, No. 14/2018 dated 12 Dec 2018 (updated on 15 Dec 2024), relating to the claiming of preferential tariff treatment for imports into Singapore under the CPTPP is separately issued. Both circulars can be downloaded from <u>www.customs.gov.sg</u> .	13 Dec 2024
Annex B (Frequently Asked Question) Q3:	Q3: I have exported some goods originating from Singapore to Brunei Darussalam before 12 Jul 2023. Can I request for tariff concession to be granted for these shipments upon the entry into force of the Agreement?	Q3: I have exported some goods originating from Singapore to the United Kingdom before 15 Dec 2024. Can I request for tariff concession to be granted for these shipments upon the entry into force of the Agreement?	13 Dec 2024
	A3: The import may be eligible for preferential tariff treatment only if it enters Brunei Darussalam on or after 12 Jul 2023 and fulfils the relevant conditions set out in the CPTPP. For further clarity, you may wish to advise your importer to contact their customs authority directly.	A3: The import may be eligible for preferential tariff treatment only if it enters the United Kingdom on or after 15 Dec 2024 and fulfils the relevant conditions set out in the CPTPP. For further clarity, you may wish to advise your importer to contact their customs authority directly.	