

LEI News Letter

December 2005

Meat Products Derived from Beef from Japan

Effective Nov. 9, 2005 the Canadian Food Inspection Agency is allowing the importation of meat products derived from fresh, frozen or chilled beef from Japan. The Conditions for Importation of Meat Products from Japan to Canada are;

CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY Conditions for importation of meat products from Japan

1. Meat Inspection systems approved:

1.1. beef, slaughter, cutting, deboning and offal, natural salted animal intestinal casings #

2. Types of meat products accepted for import:

(Based on animal health restrictions)

2.1. fresh meat and raw processed meat products (chilled or frozen):

2.1.1. Deboned skeletal muscle meat (excluding mechanically separated meat) ,Fresh, chilled or frozen beef meat see 3.1. - additional certification statements required

3. Additional certification statements/attestations required on the OMIC*:

3.1. for fresh (frozen, chilled), beef meat products:

The beef meat is derived from animals w hich / La viande de boeuf est dérivée d' animaux qui:

3.1.1. Were 30 months of age or less;

3.1.2. were not subjected to a stunning process, prior to slaughter, with a device injecting compressed air or gas into the cranial cavity, or to a pithing process;

3.1.3. were subject to ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections and were not suspect or confirmed BSE cases,

3.1.4. the meat was prepared in such a manner as to avoid contamination with the following tissues:

-the skull including the brain, trigeminal ganglia and eyes, the spinal cord and the vertebral column, from all bovine animals aged 30 months or older, and the small intestine and tonsils from bovine animals of all ages

4. Additional certificates (documents) required:

4.1. Animal Health Import Permit, issued by the Animal Health and Production Division of the CFIA**.

The Port of Vancouver Launches Extended Gates Program

On Nov. 24, 2005 the Port of Vancouver made an announcement which is reproduced here, in part;

The Vancouver Port Authority, P&O Ports Canada and TSI Terminal Systems Inc. are announcing plans to implement extended hours of operations at container terminal truck gates in the Port of Vancouver, beginning January 2006.

The program is intended to increase truck gate operations at Vanterm, Centerm and Deltaport by an average of 20 per cent, per year, over the next five years.

“Extending gate hours will not only increase capacity, it will help alleviate congestion at the terminals, which will also speed up transaction times,” said Captain Gordon Houston, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Vancouver Port Authority. For this initiative to be successful the port will have to work closely with all stakeholders, including local municipalities and the provincial government. “Extended hours of operations will also make more efficient use of the regions road networks, by spreading truck traffic over a longer period, reducing congestion during traditional peak times, while also reducing emissions,” said Houston.

In addition to extended gate hours, the port has also implemented a system to monitor waiting times for trucks outside of the terminals’ gates. The data collected from this monitoring system will assist the port as it evaluates the effectiveness of extended gates and other operational issues.

The Port of Vancouver is Canada’s largest and most diversified port, trading \$43 billion in goods with more than 90 trading economies annually. Port activities generate 69,200 jobs in total with \$4 billion in Gross Domestic Product and \$8.9 billion economic output.

CTSA Announces Fuel Recovery Charge Adjustment

The major trans-pacific shipping lines of the Canada Transpacific Stabilization Agreement (CTSA) have announced their fuel recovery charge will be adjusted to the following effective the first quarter of 2006;

US\$ 450.00 per 20 ft. container
US\$ 590.00 per 40 ft. container
US\$ 660.00 per 40 ft. high cube container
US\$ 760.00 per 45 ft. container
US\$ 13.00 per W/M

CP Ships Announces Changes to Demurrage and Detention Free Time

CP Ships (Canada) Ltd. has announced that effective Jan. 1, 2006 the following free time and per diems will be applicable to all import cargo arriving through a Canadian Gateway Port;

Demurrage

Dry Containers – 3 free working days
Upon expiration of free time, per diem charges at \$100.00 USD per container.

Refrigerated Containers – 2 free working days.
Upon expiration of free time, per diem charges at \$225.00 USD per container.

Container Detention

Dry Containers – 3 free working days
Upon expiration of free time, per diem charge of \$100.00 USD per container.

Refrigerated Containers – 2 free working days
Upon expiration of free time, per diem charges at \$225.00 USD per container.

Flat Hot-Rolled Carbon and Alloy Steel Sheet and Strip – Anti Dumping

The following is provided by the Canadian International Trade Tribunal;

The Canadian International Trade Tribunal (the Tribunal) hereby gives notice that it will, pursuant to subsection 76.03(3) of the *Special Import Measures Act (SIMA)*, initiate an expiry review of its finding made on August 17, 2001, in Inquiry No. NQ-2001-001, concerning the dumping of certain flat hot-rolled carbon and alloy steel sheet and strip originating in or exported from Brazil, Bulgaria, the People's Republic of China, Chinese Taipei, India, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro (formerly the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia), South Africa and Ukraine, and the subsidizing of certain flat hot-rolled carbon and alloy steel sheet and strip originating in or exported from India.

Notice of Expiry No. LE-2005-004, issued on October 11, 2005, informed interested persons and governments of the impending expiry of the finding. On the basis of available information, including representations requesting or opposing the initiation of an expiry review and responses to these representations received by the Tribunal in reply to the notice, the Tribunal is of the opinion that a review of the finding is warranted. The Tribunal has notified the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), as well as other interested persons and governments, of its decision.

The Tribunal will hold a public hearing relating to this expiry review in the Tribunal Hearing Room, 18th floor, Standard Life Centre, 333 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, Ontario, commencing on the 19th day of June 2006, at 9:30 a.m., to hear evidence and representations by interested parties.

Each interested person or government wishing to participate at the hearing as a party must file a notice of participation with the Secretary on or before April 10, 2006. Each counsel who intends to represent a party at the hearing must file a notice of representation, as well as a declaration and undertaking, with the Secretary on or before April 10, 2006.

Bill C-259, Amendment to the Excise Act

On Nov. 25, 2005 the Senate passed Bill C-259, an Act to amend the Excise Act (elimination of the excise tax on jewellery). The received Royal Assent the same day.

The excise tax on all watches has been eliminated as of Nov. 25, 2006. The excise tax on clocks, except those specially designed for the use of the blind, will increase to 10% of the amount by which the sale price or duty-paid value exceeds fifty dollars, as of Nov. 25, 2006. The tax on clocks will be eliminated in 2009.

Under existing legislation all articles made of semi-precious stones, jewellery, articles made of precious and semi-precious stones, goldsmiths' and silversmiths' products remain subject to 8% excise tax and are subject to the rate reduction schedules currently in place. The excise tax on these items and the excise tax on clocks will be eliminated on Mar. 1, 2009.

Should there be any questions on any issue contained in this news letter, please contact your nearest LEI office.

On behalf of all of us at Locher Evers International and LEI Customs Brokers Inc., we wish our clients a very safe and happy Holiday Season and a healthy and prosperous New Year.