
❖ SPC&B Update ❖

A Newsletter for Clients of Sharretts, Paley, Carter & Blauvelt, P.C.

April 19, 2013

I. Canada Eliminates Duty on Babies Clothing and Certain Athletic Equipment

II. Europe Considers Lead Limit for Consumer Products



I. In an effort to provide relief to Canadian consumers, the Canadian government included in its budget for 2013 the elimination of duties on baby clothing and certain sports and athletic equipment., effective April 1, 2013. The Economic Action Plan states that certain products consistently cost more in Canada than in the United States, and this initiative, which represents \$76 million in annual tariff relief, will allow for an assessment of whether tariff elimination can help narrow the price gap. Examples of the tariff reductions are set forth in the table below:

Examples of Tariff Relief for Canadian Consumers

Product*	Current Duty Rate	Duty Rate as of 4/1/13
Baby clothing	18%	Free
Ice skates	18%	Free
Hockey equipment	2.5% - 18%	Free
Skis and snowboards	6.5% - 20%	Free
Golf clubs	2.5% - 7%	Free
Exercise equipment	6.5%	Free

* A complete listing of the affected tariff provisions is available upon request.

II. The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is seeking comments on a proposed restriction of lead to levels of 0.05% or less by weight, in consumer articles or parts of articles that can be mouthed by children. If implemented, this restriction as currently proposed would not be limited to children's products, but would apply to consumer articles that can be placed in the mouths of children or have parts that can be mouthed by children. Products specifically mentioned are:

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- Clothing (lead in metal buttons, zippers, rivets, etc., textile and polymer materials)
- Accessories such as key rings (lead in both metal and painted parts)
- Accessories such as bags, purses and cases (lead in colored polymer materials and metal details such as buckles)
- Interior decorations (lead in metal parts and polymers)
- Stationery (lead in metal parts)
- Sports and leisure equipment.

The current proposal exempts:

- Keys and locks, including padlocks
- Musical instruments

Comments must be received by June 1, 2013, and the review is intended to be concluded by September 21, 2013.

If you have any questions regarding shipping to Canada or Europe, please contact Gail Cumins at gcumins@spcblaw.com, Alli Baron at abaron@spcblaw.com or Donna Shira at dshira@spcblaw.com or call us at 212-425-0055.
