

for any other quantity or for fractional parts of a barrel. The tax on beer shall be determined at the time of importation, or, if entered into customs custody, at the time of removal from such custody.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1333, as amended, 1334, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5051, 5054))

[T.D. 6644, 28 FR 3165, Apr. 2, 1963. Redesignated at 40 FR 16835, Apr. 15, 1975, and amended by T.D. ATF-48, 44 FR 55853, Sept. 28, 1979]

**§251.46 Computation of tax.**

The tax on imported beer shall be computed on the basis of the actual quantity in a container, at the rate prescribed by law.

(72 Stat. 1333, as amended; 26 U.S.C. 5051)

[T.D. 6644, 28 FR 3165, Apr. 2, 1963. Redesignated at 40 FR 16835, Apr. 15, 1975]

COLLECTION OF INTERNAL REVENUE  
TAXES

**§251.48 Imported distilled spirits, wines, and beer.**

Internal revenue taxes payable on imported distilled spirits, including perfumes containing distilled spirits, and on wines and beer, are collected, accounted for, and deposited as internal revenue collections by directors of customs in accordance with customs requirements: *Provided*, That the taxes on distilled spirits withdrawn from customs custody without payment of tax under the provisions of subpart L and thereafter withdrawn from bonded premises of a distilled spirits plant subject to tax shall be collected and paid under the provisions of part 19 of this chapter.

(72 Stat. 1314, 1366; 26 U.S.C. 5001, 5232)

[20 FR 3561, May 21, 1955, as amended by T.D. 6477, 25 FR 6204, July 1, 1960; T.D. 7006, 34 FR 2250, Feb. 15, 1969. Redesignated at 40 FR 16835, Apr. 15, 1975]

EDITORIAL NOTE: For FEDERAL REGISTER citations affecting §251.48, see the List of CFR Sections Affected in the Finding Aids section of this volume.

**§251.48a Payment of tax by electronic fund transfer.**

(a) Each importer who was liable, during a calendar year, for a gross

amount equal to or exceeding five million dollars in distilled spirits taxes combining tax liabilities incurred under this part and parts 19 and 250 of this chapter, a gross amount equal to or exceeding five million dollars in wine taxes combining tax liabilities incurred under this part and parts 240 and 250 of this chapter, or a gross amount equal to or exceeding five million dollars in beer taxes combining tax liabilities incurred under this part and parts 25 and 250 of this chapter, shall use a commercial bank in making payment by electronic fund transfer (EFT), as defined in paragraph (c) of this section, of such taxes during the succeeding calendar year. Payment of such taxes by cash, check, or money order is not authorized for an importer who is required, by this section, to make remittances by EFT. For purposes of this section, the dollar amount of tax liability is to be summarized separately for distilled spirits taxes, wine taxes, or beer taxes, and is defined as the gross tax liability on all taxable withdrawals from premises in the United States and importations (including products of the same tax class brought into the United States from Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands) during the calendar year, without regard to any drawbacks, credits, or refunds, for all premises from which such activities are conducted by the taxpayer.

(b) For the purposes of this section, a taxpayer includes a controlled group of corporations, as defined in 26 U.S.C. 1563, and implementing regulations in 26 CFR 1.1563-1 through 1.1563-4, except that the words "at least 80 percent" shall be replaced by the words "more than 50 percent" in each place it appears in subsection (a) of 26 U.S.C. 1563, as well as in the implementing regulations. Also, the rules for a "controlled group of corporations" apply in a similar fashion to groups which include partnerships and/or sole proprietorships. If one entity maintains more than 50% control over a group consisting of corporations and one, or more, partnerships and/or sole proprietorships, all of the members of the controlled group are one taxpayer for the purpose of determining who is required to make remittances by EFT.

(c) Electronic fund transfer or EFT means any transfer of funds, other than a transaction originated by check, draft, or similar paper instrument, which is initiated through an electronic terminal, telephonic instrument, or computer of magnetic tape, so as to order, instruct, or authorize a financial institution to either debit or credit an account, in accordance with procedures established by the U.S. Customs Service.

(d) An importer who is required by this section to make remittances by EFT shall make the EFT remittance in accordance with the requirements of the U.S. Customs Service.

(Act of August 16, 1954, 68A Stat. 775, as amended (26 U.S.C. 6302); Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1335, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5061))

[T.D. ATF-245, 52 FR 533, Jan. 7, 1987]

EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN SAMPLES FROM  
INTERNAL REVENUE TAXES

**§251.49 Commercial samples of alcoholic beverages.**

Samples of distilled spirits, beer, and wine, to be used in the United States by persons importing alcoholic beverages in commercial quantities, are, subject to the limitations in this section, exempt from the payment of any internal revenue tax imposed on, or by reason of, importation. This exemption applies only to samples to be used for soliciting orders for products of foreign countries. In no case shall this exemption apply to more than one sample of each alcoholic beverage product admitted during any calendar quarter for the use of each such person. No sample of beer shall contain more than 8 ounces, no sample of wine shall contain more than 4 ounces, and no sample of distilled spirits shall contain more than 2 ounces.

(76 Stat. 72; 19 U.S.C. 1202)

[T.D. 6300, 23 FR 5168, July 8, 1958; T.D. ATF-2, 37 FR 22740, Oct. 21, 1972. Redesignated at 40 FR 16835, Apr. 15, 1975]

**Subpart E—General Requirements**

PERMIT FOR IMPORTATION OF DISTILLED  
SPIRITS, WINES AND BEER

**§251.55 Federal Alcohol Administration Act permit.**

Under the Federal Alcohol Administration Act and the regulations issued pursuant thereto (Regulations 1, 27 CFR part 1), any person except an agency of a State or political subdivision thereof, or any officer or employee of any such agency, intending to engage in the business of importing distilled spirits, wines or beer for non-industrial use is required to procure a permit (Form 1631) therefor.

(Sec. 3, 49 Stat. 978, as amended; 27 U.S.C. 203)

PACKAGING AND MARKING OF DISTILLED  
SPIRITS

**§251.56 Distilled spirits containers of a capacity of not more than 1 gallon.**

Bottled distilled spirits imported into the United States for sale shall be bottled in liquor bottles which conform to the requirements of subpart N of this part and part 5 of this chapter. Empty bottles imported for the packaging of distilled spirits shall conform to the requirements of subpart N of this part. (For Customs requirements as to marking, see 19 CFR parts 11 and 12.)

[T.D. ATF-206, 50 FR 23955, June 7, 1985]

**§251.57 Containers in excess of 1 gallon.**

Imported containers of distilled spirits in excess of 1 gallon are required to be marked in accordance with customs regulations (19 CFR parts 11 and 12).

[20 FR 3561, May 21, 1955. Redesignated at 40 FR 16835, Apr. 15, 1975, and amended by T.D. ATF-206, 50 FR 23955, June 7, 1985]