

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Treasury

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AUTHORITY: 26 U.S.C. 5701, 5703, 5704, 5705, 5708, 5722, 5723, 5741, 5761, 5762, 5763, 6301, 6302, 6313, 6404, 7101, 7212, 7342, 7606, 7652, 7805; 31 U.S.C. 9301, 9303, 9304, 9306.

Subpart A—Scope of Regulations

§ 275.1 Importation of tobacco products and cigarette papers and tubes.

This part contains the regulations relating to tobacco products and cigarette papers and tubes, imported into the United States from a foreign country or brought into the United States from Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, or a possession of the United States; the removal of tobacco products from a customs bonded manufacturing warehouse, class 6; and the release of tobacco products and cigarette papers and tubes from customs custody, without payment of internal revenue tax or customs duty attributable to the internal revenue tax.

[T.D. 6871, 31 FR 40, Jan. 4, 1966. Redesignated at 40 FR 16835, Apr. 15, 1975, and amended by T.D. ATF-232, 51 FR 28084, Aug. 5, 1986; T.D. ATF-243, 51 FR 43194, Dec. 1, 1986]

Subpart B—Definitions

§ 275.11 Meaning of terms.

When used in this part and in forms prescribed under this part, the following terms shall have the meanings

given in this section, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Words in the plural form shall include the singular, and vice versa, and words indicating the masculine gender shall include the feminine. The terms “includes” and “including” do not exclude things not listed which are in the same general class.

Associate Director (Compliance Operations). The Associate Director (Compliance Operations) in the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, who is responsible to, and functions under the direction and supervision of, the Director.

ATF officer. An officer of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) authorized to perform any function relating to the administration or enforcement of this part.

Bank. Any commercial bank.

Banking day. Any day during which a bank is open to the public for carrying on substantially all its banking functions.

Business day. Any day, other than a Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday. (The term legal holiday includes all holidays in the District of Columbia and, in the case of bonded manufacturers in Puerto Rico, all legal holidays in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.)

Bonded manufacturer. A manufacturer of tobacco products in Puerto Rico who has an approved bond, in accordance with the provisions of this part, authorizing him to defer the payment in Puerto Rico on the internal revenue tax imposed on such products by 26 U.S.C. 7652(a) as provided in this part.

CFR. The Code of Federal Regulations.

Chewing Tobacco. Any leaf tobacco that is not intended to be smoked.

Chief, Puerto Rico Operations. The primary representative in Puerto Rico of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Cigar. Any roll of tobacco wrapped in leaf tobacco or in any substance containing tobacco (other than any roll of tobacco which is a cigarette within the meaning of paragraph (2) of the definition for cigarette).

Cigarette. (1) Any roll of tobacco wrapped in paper or in any substance not containing tobacco, and

(2) Any roll of tobacco wrapped in any substance containing tobacco which, because of its appearance, the type of tobacco used in the filler, or its packaging and labeling, is likely to be offered to, or purchased by, consumers as a cigarette described in paragraph (1) of this definition.

Cigarette paper. Paper, or any other material except tobacco, prepared for use as a cigarette wrapper.

Cigarette papers. Taxable books or sets of cigarette papers, i.e., books or sets of cigarette papers containing more than 25 papers each.

Cigarette tube. Cigarette paper made into a hollow cylinder for use in making cigarettes.

Commercial bank. A bank, whether or not a member of the Federal Reserve System, which has access to the Federal Reserve Communications System (FRCS) or Fedwire. The “FRCS” or “Fedwire” is a communications network that allows Federal Reserve System member banks to effect a transfer of funds for their customers (or other commercial banks) to the Treasury Account at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York.

Computation or computed. When used with respect to the tax on tobacco products of Puerto Rican manufacture, computation or computed shall mean that the bonded manufacturer has ascertained the quantity and kind (small cigars, large cigars, small cigarettes, large cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff or pipe tobacco) of tobacco products and the wholesale price of large cigars being shipped to the United States; that adequate bond has been posted to cover the payment, in Puerto Rico, of the tax on such products to be deferred under subpart G of this part; that the tax imposed on such products by 26 U.S.C. 7652(a) has been calculated; that the bonded manufacturer has executed an agreement to pay the internal revenue tax which will become due with respect to such products, as provided in this part; and that an ATF officer has verified and executed a certification of such calculation.

Determined or Determination. When used with respect to the internal revenue tax on tobacco products and cigarette papers and tubes, determined or

determination shall mean that the quantity and kind (small cigars, large cigars, small cigarettes, large cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, or pipe tobacco) of tobacco products and the wholesale price of large cigars, or the number of books or sets of cigarette papers of each different numerical content, or the number of cigarette tubes, to be removed subject to internal revenue tax, has been established as prescribed by this part so that the internal revenue tax payable with respect thereto may be calculated.

Director. The Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC.

District director. A district director of internal revenue.

District director of customs. The district director of customs at the headquarters port of the district (except the district of New York, N.Y.); the area directors of customs in the district of New York, N.Y.; and the port director at a port not designated as a headquarters port.

Electronic fund transfer or EFT. Any transfer of funds effected by a bonded manufacturer's commercial bank, either directly or through a correspondent banking relationship, via the Federal Reserve Communications System (FRCS) or Fedwire to the Treasury Account at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Factory. The premises of a manufacturer of tobacco products or cigarette papers or tubes in which he carries on such business.

Fiscal year. The period which begins October 1 and ends on the following September 30.

HTS. The Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, as published by the United States International Trade Commission.

Importer. Any person in the United States to whom non-taxpaid tobacco products or cigarette papers or tubes manufactured in a foreign country, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, or a possession of the United States are shipped or consigned; any person who removes cigars for sale or consumption in the United States from a Customs bonded manufacturing warehouse; and any person who smuggles or otherwise

unlawfully brings tobacco products or cigarette papers or tubes into the United States.

Large cigarettes. Cigarettes weighing more than three pounds per thousand.

Large cigars. Cigars weighing more than three pounds per thousand.

Manufacturer of cigarette papers and tubes. Any person who makes up cigarette paper into books or sets containing more than 25 papers each, or into tubes, except for his own personal use or consumption.

Manufacturer of tobacco products. Any person who manufactures cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco or pipe tobacco, except that such term shall not include (a) a person who produces tobacco products solely for his own personal consumption or use; or (b) a proprietor of a Customs bonded manufacturing warehouse with respect to the operation of such warehouse.

Package. The container in which tobacco products or cigarette papers or tubes are put up by the manufacturer or the importer for delivery to the consumer.

Person. An individual, partnership, association, company, corporation, estate, or trust.

Pipe tobacco. Any tobacco which because of its appearance, type, packaging, or labeling, is suitable for use and likely to be offered to, or purchased by, consumers as tobacco to be smoked in a pipe.

Region. A Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Region.

Regional Director (compliance). The principal regional official responsible for administering regulations in this part.

Removal or remove. The removal of tobacco products or cigarette papers or tubes from the factory or release from customs custody, including the smuggling or other unlawful importation of such articles into the United States.

Small cigarettes. Cigarettes weighing not more than three pounds per thousand.

Small cigars. Cigars weighing not more than three pounds per thousand.

Smokeless tobacco. Any chewing tobacco or snuff.

Snuff. Any finely cut, ground, or powdered tobacco that is not intended to be smoked.

This chapter. Chapter I, title 27, Code of Federal Regulations.

Tobacco products. Cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, and pipe tobacco. The term does not include smoking tobacco that is not suitable for use or likely to be offered to, or purchased by, consumers as tobacco to be smoked in a pipe.

Treasury Account. The Department of the Treasury's General Account at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

United States. When used in a geographical sense shall include only the States and the District of Columbia.

U.S.C. The United States Code.

Wholesale price. The manufacturer's or importer's suggested delivered price at which the cigars are to be sold to retailers, inclusive of the tax imposed by 26 U.S.C. chapter 52 or section 7652, but exclusive of any State or local taxes imposed on cigars as a commodity, and before any trade, cash, or other discounts, or any promotion, advertising, display, or similar allowances. Where the manufacturer's or importer's suggested delivered price to retailers is not adequately supported by bona fide arm's length sales, or where the manufacturer or importer has no suggested delivered price to retailers, the wholesale price shall be the price for which cigars of comparable retail price are sold to retailers in the ordinary course of trade as determined by the Associate Director (Compliance Operations) under § 275.39(i).

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 775, as amended (26 U.S.C. 6301); June 29, 1956, ch. 462, 70 Stat. 391 (26 U.S.C. 6301))

[T.D. ATF-48, 43 FR 13554, Mar. 31, 1978; 44 FR 55855, Sept. 28, 1979, as amended by T.D. ATF-77, 46 FR 3009, Jan. 13, 1981; T.D. ATF-232, 51 FR 28084, Aug. 5, 1986; T.D. ATF-243, 51 FR 43194, Dec. 1, 1986; T.D. ATF-251, 52 FR 19340, May 22, 1987; T.D. ATF-284, 54 FR 12190, Mar. 24, 1989; T.D. ATF-289, 54 FR 48840, Nov. 27, 1989]

Subpart C—General

§ 275.21 Forms prescribed.

(a) The Director is authorized to prescribe all forms required by this part. All of the information called for in each form shall be furnished as indicated by the headings on the form and

the instructions on or pertaining to the form. In addition, information called for in each form shall be furnished as required by this part. When a return, form, claim, or other document called for under this part is required by this part, or by the document itself, to be executed under penalties of perjury, it shall be executed under penalties of perjury.

(b) Requests for forms should be mailed to the AFT Distribution Center, 7943 Angus Court, Springfield, Virginia 22153.

(5 U.S.C. 552(a) (80 Stat. 383, as amended))

[T.D. ATF-92, 46 FR 46922, Sept. 23, 1981, as amended by T.D. ATF-232, 51 FR 28084, Aug. 5, 1986; T.D. ATF-243, 51 FR 43194, Dec. 1, 1986; T.D. ATF-372, 61 FR 20725, May 8, 1996]

§ 275.22 Retention of records.

All records required to be kept under this part, including copies of claims and schedules, authorizations, notices of release, reports, and returns, shall be retained for three years following the close of the year in which filed or made, or in the case of an authorization, for three years following the close of the calendar year in which the operation under such authorization is concluded. Such records shall be made available for inspection by any ATF officer upon his request.

(72 Stat. 1423; 26 U.S.C. 5741)

[26 FR 8189, Aug. 31, 1961. Redesignated at 40 FR 16835, Apr. 15, 1975]

§ 275.23 Authority of ATF officers to enter premises.

Any ATF officer may enter in the daytime any premises where tobacco products or cigarette papers or tubes are produced or kept so far as it may be necessary for the purpose of examining such articles. When such premises are open at night, any ATF officer may enter them, while so open, in the performance of his official duties. The owner of such premises, or person having the superintendence of the same, who refuses to admit any ATF officer or permit him to examine such articles