

Regulations Governing Registration of Exporters and Importers

1. Promulgated on July 9, 1993
2. Amendment to Article 8, and deletion of Article 11 promulgated on January 7, 1994
3. Amendment to Article 2 promulgated on September 10, 1997
4. Amendment to Articles 2-1, 2-2, 4, 5, 9, and deletion of Articles 6, 7 promulgated on August 18, 1999
5. Amendment to Articles 2-1, 2-2, 3, 4, addition of Articles 3-1, 4-1 promulgated on June 20, 2001
6. Amendment to Articles 1 through 11 promulgated on December 11, 2002
7. Addition of Article 10-1 promulgated on April 27, 2007
8. Amendment to name and Articles 2, 3, 7, addition of Article 8-1 promulgated on June 1, 2010(original name: Regulations Governing Registration and Administration of Exporters and Importers)
9. Addition of Article 7-1 promulgated on March 25, 2013
10. Amendment to Article 7 promulgated on June 10, 2014

Article 1

These Regulations are enacted pursuant to Paragraph 5, Article 9 of the Foreign Trade Law.

Article 2

Except where other prohibitions or restrictions apply, a company or firm that engages in export/import business may apply, in accordance with the standard procedures, to the Bureau of Foreign Trade (hereafter referred to as “BOFT”) of the Ministry of Economic Affairs for registration as an exporter/importer.

Article 3

Application for an approved English name shall be made either by original hard copy, facsimile or e-transmission.

Article 4

The name for which registration is being applied shall consist of the primary name together with type of company; the English name of the branch of a foreign company must indicate both the foreign company's nationality and the fact that it is a branch of

that company.

The name for which registration is being applied may not indicate or suggest that the firm is engaged in areas of business other than those indicated on the firm's Profit-seeking Enterprise Registration Certificate.

The English name shall not be indicated in such a way that it may cause likelihood of confusion with or similarity to that of any government agencies or non-profit organizations.

Article 5

The English name of an exporter/importer shall not be identical or similar to the English name of any exporter/importer, whether existing, dissolved, closed, or whose registration has been revoked within the last two (2) years, unless special approval is obtained from the BOFT based on justifiable reasons or if the English name of a branch of a foreign company is the same as that which appears on the foreign company's Certificate of Recognition and the said name indicates both the foreign company's nationality and the fact that it is a branch of that company. [For example, ABC Company, Taipei Branch (USA)]

Article 6

English names shall be regarded as “similar” under Article 5 if they differ only by the addition, replacement or removal of: a common business word; an English article; an abbreviated word; a space or spaces; a symbol or symbols; or by the use of: a plural, as opposed to a singular noun; a different part of speech of a word with the same root; different lowercase or uppercase letters; a different corporate form designation like “Inc.”, “Co.”, etc.; or if they differ because the English name adds, replaces or removes a place name that is not found in its registered Chinese name.

The “common business word” referred to in the previous paragraph is any one of the following: enterprise, industry, export, import, trade, business, commerce, international, manufacturing, or group.

Article 7

When applying for registration as exporter/importer, the application form shall be submitted either by original hard copy, facsimile or e-transmission.

Article 7-1

The BOFT has made the following information regarding registration of exporters/importers publically available on its website:

1. Chinese and English names
2. Business address in Chinese and English

3. Name of representative or person in charge
4. Telephone and fax numbers
5. Export/import qualifications

Exporters/importers accessing the following information can log in themselves on the aforementioned BOFT website:

1. Website address
2. Email address
3. Exported/imported products
4. Other information to help with commercial trade matters

Article 8

An exporter/importer that undergoes a merger, change of Chinese or English name, organization, representative, or place of operation shall submit relevant documents to the BOFT to effect the change of registration.

The exporter/importer may continue to operate export/import business only after it has completed the process of changing its registration as set forth in the previous paragraph.

Article 8-1

After registration as an exporter/importer, the BOFT may revoke the said registration for either of the following circumstances:

1. Exporter/importer has applied to the BOFT for cancellation of registration.
2. Exporter/importer who after changing the business items of a company or firm, continues to engage in exporting/importing, will be deemed in violation of prohibition or restriction regulations.

Article 9

Due to business needs, exporter/importer may apply to the BOFT for an exporter/importer registration certificate.

Article 10

The various documents referred to in these Regulations may be sent electronically in accordance with the Electronic Signature Law.

Article 10-1

Pursuant to Paragraph 2, Article 10, of these Regulations, those applying for registration as exporters/importers shall attach the following items with the said application: a corporate registration certificate, a cooperative association certificate and any other trade-related legal certificates issued by the competent authorities.

Individuals or organizations that have previously applied for registration as exporters and importers must be prepared to use this procedure to re-register, change registration, use an English name, or comply with any other binding regulations.

Article 11

These Regulations shall come into force from the date of promulgation.