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TOP 10 PITFALLS OF IMPORTING

1. **Not understanding product marking requirements of the Federal Trade Commission that are applicable to imports.**
2. **Not allowing sufficient time for routine delays in transit time due to congestion, exams, etc..**
3.
 - a) **Failure to estimate additional costs such as local delivery, duty, exam, per diem, extra unloading time, and demurrage.**
 - b) **Not understanding your purchase terms**
4. **Not getting documents to the broker on time and/or surrendering OBL.**
5. **Not understanding container packing material regulations, especially solid wood packaging material (SWPM).**
6. **Not setting your service requirements before shopping rates.**
7. **Not making sure the commercial invoice declares all charges and all merchandise in the shipment, including “no charge” samples.**
8. **Not applying reasonable care in the application of a Harmonized Tariff code for your merchandise, including not providing sufficient information on your invoices.**
9. **Not researching your commodity for restrictions and required permits.**
10. **Not insuring your shipments or allowing a foreign company to insure.**