

Nov 2017

More Import Detention Orders for Forced Labor Concerns Possible, CBP Chief Says (From our friends at Sandler Travis)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection has 14 open investigations into the alleged use of forced labor in the production of specific products from specific countries and will halt imports of such goods if and when the statutory standard for doing so is met, according to Acting CBP Commissioner Kevin McAleenan. 19 USC 1307 prohibits the importation of goods mined, produced, or manufactured, wholly or in part, in any foreign country by forced or indentured child labor, including forced child labor. Such goods are subject to exclusion and/or seizure and may lead to criminal investigation of the importer. When information reasonably but not conclusively indicates that imported goods were made with forced labor, CBP may issue withhold release (detention) orders. If CBP is provided with information sufficient to make a determination that the goods were made with forced labor it will issue a formal finding to that effect. We strongly urge you to have your vendors certify they are not using child or forced labor in ANY aspect of production of ANY of the merchandise you import. For more info, please go to

<http://www.strtrade.com/news-publications-forced-labor-enforcement-CBP-McAleenan-102717.html>

CBP Initiates Inquiries on North Korean Workers in Supply Chain (From our friends at Sandler Travis)

Importers need to act immediately to ensure no producers in their supply chains in any foreign country are employing North Korean nationals as forced laborers to produce goods imported into the United States. U.S. Customs and Border Protection has initiated inquiries to importers enforcing new legislation on this issue and has the authority to detain shipments for admissibility. Goods made with North Korean labor are banned effective Sept. 21, 2017, with the burden of proof on importers to prove either no North Korean nationals were used in the production of the detained goods or, if North Koreans were used, they were not forced to labor. Again, we strongly urge you to have your vendors certify they are not using North Korean forced labor in ANY aspect of production of ANY of the merchandise you import. For more info, please go to

<http://www.strtrade.com/news-news-North-Korea-forced-labor-CBP-102317.html>

APHIS Publishes Notice on Implementation of Revised Lacey Act Provisions (From NCBFAA)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is announcing the implementation of revised Lacey Act provisions. The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 amended the Lacey Act to provide that importers submit a declaration at the time of importation for certain plants and plant products. In 2009, APHIS initiated a blanket declaration pilot program to test the feasibility of a monthly "blanket" declaration, with subsequent reconciliation reports, for importers to declare routine or repeat shipments.

Executive Order 13659 required CBP to create ACE to file entries. As importers move to the new system, APHIS will end the blanket declaration pilot program on April 18, 2018. APHIS advises importers whose products are subject to Lacey Act declaration requirements to file the required information along with their entry summary documentation through ACE.

Please visit our website at

www.lhcb.com

for additional and updated information and contact us with any questions.

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