

Nov 2016

Treasury Ends Burma Sanctions Program (From NCBFAA)

The United States is terminating the national emergency with respect to Burma [aka Myanmar] by revoking the Burma sanctions Executive Orders and waiving other statutory blocking and financial sanctions on Burma. As a result, the economic and financial sanctions administered by the Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) are no longer in effect. We STRONGLY urge you, however, to contact our office before attempting to import from Burma to insure that CBP field offices have developed procedures for entering merchandise from Burma.

Reminder: Food Facilities Must Re-Register with FDA Between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31 (From Sandler Travis)

Food facilities required to register with the Food and Drug Administration must renew their registrations between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31. Food being imported or offered for import into the U.S. is from a foreign facility for which registration has not been submitted or renewed must be held at the port of entry for and may not be delivered to the importer, owner, or consignee until the foreign facility is registered. Failure to register or renew a registration can also expose facilities to civil or criminal action. For more info, please go to

<http://www.strtrade.com/news-publications-food-facility-registration-FDA-091916.html>

[Ed. Note: In addition to Sandler Travis, Registrar Corp will act as your agent for FDA purposes for \$495/year, and perform other required services as well. For more info, please go to

<http://www.registrarcorp.com/>

and click on "Food Facility Registration, U.S. Agent Requirement". This is a service we are unable to provide.]

Paper Notices of Liquidation Actions to be Discontinued (From Sandler Travis)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is proposing to post official notice of liquidation, suspension of liquidation, and extension of liquidation for all entries, including those filed in paper form, on its website. These electronic postings would replace both the physical posting or lodging of bulletin notices at U.S. port of entry customhouses and stations as the legal evidence of liquidation as well as the mailed notices of extension or suspension as official notice. CBP states that among the benefits of this change are more timely notice and additional protest time.

CBP is proposing to make these official notices accessible via a conspicuous link on its website labeled “Bulletin Notices of Liquidation.” Notices would be updated daily and remain available for a minimum of 15 months. They would be searchable by using two or more of the following data elements: entry number, filer, importer of record number, port of entry, liquidation date, posted date, entry date, event type, basis, and action. For more info, please go to

<http://www.strtrade.com/news-publications-CBP-notices-liquidation-electronic-101416.html>

[Ed. note: If you need liquidation information for any entries we made for you, please contact us. We will be glad to provide it, in most cases as part of our regular service.]

Japan’s ‘Big 3’ to merge in July (From American Shipper)

Japan’s three major ocean carriers - MOL, NYK Line and “K” Line - have agreed to spin off their container divisions and merge them July 1, 2017, according to a joint statement released October 31, in Japan . The carriers have long been mooted as partners in a liner shipping environment where excess capacity and slow demand for containerized goods has hurt the bottom lines of nearly every carrier. The merger is the latest in a string of blockbuster moves to have occurred over the past two years, including acquisitions and major shifts in alliances, and punctuated by South Korean line Hanjin Shipping declaring bankruptcy in late August. The carriers estimate the joint entity would create the sixth largest container line, continuing a recent trend of industry consolidation. For more info, please go to

<http://www.americanshipper.com/main/asd/japans-big-3-to-merge-in-july-65878.aspx>

Expedited Food Import Program Expected to Launch in FY 2019

(From Sandler, Travis)

The Food and Drug Administration has made available a final guidance for industry on the fee-based Voluntary Qualified Importer Program, which will provide for expedited review and importation of human and animal food by participating importers with a proven track record of food safety and security. The FDA believes that expedited entry under the VQIP will incentivize importers to adopt a robust system of supply chain management and allow the FDA to focus its resources on examining and sampling food imports that are more likely to present a potential risk to public health. For more info, please go to

<http://www.strtrade.com/news-publications-FDA-voluntary-qualified-importer-program-111416.html>

Reminder: Iran and Cuba are still on sanctions list for imports and exports

Please be reminded that sanctions on Iran and Cuba have not yet been lifted. Two men were recently arrested for shipping military aircraft parts to Iran, subjecting them to millions of dollars in fines and up to 115 years in federal prison. We have not heard of any “horror” stories about exports or imports to/from Cuba, but the sanctions remain in place with only a few exceptions. Please contact us before shipping to or from these two countries.

Please visit our website at

www.lhcb.com

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

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