

22 November 2019

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1. Tariff Amendments – 22 November

Tariff Amendments for implementation in January 2020 have begun to be published. The full publication is attached, in brief, please note the following:

The phase-down of duties in terms of EPA – a reduction in duties will apply

Fish classifiable in tariff subheadings 0302.13, 0302.14, 0303.14 and 0305.41

Additional tariff subheadings in Part 1 of Schedule No. 1 to the Act – additional headings have been added to these various chapters

Additional tariff subheadings have been inserted in Chapters 8, 12, 13, 44, 48, 64, and 71

Request from PG Bison (Pty) Ltd for the creation of new tariff subheadings for products classifiable in tariff subheadings 4410.11, 4411.12, 4411.13 and 4811.59

XA International Trade Advisors on behalf of PG Bison (Pty) Ltd (the Applicant) submitted a request for the creation of separate 8-digit tariff subheadings for particleboard, medium density fibreboard (MDF) and surface-decorated paper. These products are predominantly used in the construction and furniture sector

The applicant motivated that the new 8-digit tariff subheadings will allow greater granularity and will enable the industry to monitor import trends into South Africa

Request from the South African Footwear and Leather Industries Association for the creation of separate tariff subheadings for footwear classifiable in Chapter 64

The South African Footwear and Leather Industries Association (the applicant) with the Department of Trade and Industry requested the creation of separate tariff subheadings for footwear, classifiable in Chapter 64. The 8-digit tariff subheadings will assist in monitoring imports and trade data applicable to the footwear industry.

2. SAA Strike – Agreement Reached

Though details have yet to be released, the CCMA has confirmed that an agreement has been signed. We will continue to monitor the situation and ensure stability prior to finalising cargo bookings.

3. Reminder: IMO 2020

A reminder to our clients to please take not account the IMO 2020 surcharge which is being implemented by many shipping lines as of the 1st of December 2019. Please note that there is no single tariff, the lines are all implementing individual surcharges. If you have any queries about upcoming shipments please don't hesitate to contact us at any time.

4. Update: Durban Port Situation

The Port is still dealing with some serious congestion, but we are starting to see some improvements. Transnet is expected to bring in additional staff in the run up to December where volumes increase and so we hope that this improvement continues.

We thank you for your continued support and partnership

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