

Author:
Andrew Hudson, Partner
T +61 8602 9231 E ahudson@hunthunt.com.au

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Customs, Trade and Transport Law e-alert

Indonesia to fully implement the ASEAN - Australia New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA)

If HS2012 was not an exciting enough start to 2012, it has now been announced that Indonesia has finally taken all steps to fully implement the AANZFTA with effect from 10 January 2012.

This will allow for full implementation of the AANZFTA by all contracting parties and will, hopefully, further enhance our trade with the region.

Doubtlessly this will start a mad scramble for appropriate Certificates of Origin and software upgrades for reporting Import and Export Declarations to claim preferential treatment for goods of Australian and Indonesian origin as provided for in the AANZFTA.

There will also be the usual move to schedule the transport of qualifying goods to ensure that they secure the full benefit of preferential access. There were issues on this for both the AUSFTA and the earlier stages of the AANZFTA.

As always we would be delighted to assist and time spent preparing in advance of the "go" date will be well rewarded.

Presumably, the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service will be issuing a Notice or Notices regarding this development.

I should also add that amendments to the Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) came into force on 2 September 2011.

Contact:

Andrew Hudson, Melbourne +61 3 8602 9231 ahudson@hunthunt.com.au

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