



NEWS IN BRIEF

CBP Postpones the Latest Deployment for ACE

On January 11, 2017 U.S. Customs and Border Protections (CBP) announced that they were postponing the latest deployment of ACE which would have taken effect on January 14. This postponement includes the changeover for drawback, reconciliation and ACH statements to be required in ACE. A new deployment date has not yet been announced.

Commerce Department Ends Certification Submission for Organic Exemption for Italian Pasta

The U.S. Department of Commerce issued a Federal Register Notice (FRN) that has ended the requirement for importers of organic pasta from Italy to have an organic certification submitted with their entries to CBP. This change affects pasta from Italy under case numbers A-475-818 and C-475-819. Importers will be required to keep the organic certificates in their records and be able to provide them to CBP and/or Commerce upon request. Copies will no longer have to be submitted with the Customs entries.

The Federal Register notice can be found at: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-01-13/pdf/2017-00654.pdf>.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife ACE Pilot is Suspended

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) pilot has been suspended as of January 12. After meetings with the trade, there was concern about so many HTS numbers being flagged with needing additional data to disclaim the full FWS filing. In the interim, many of those HTS numbers that were flagged for the disclaimer set of data will be allowed to be disclaimed with a single code for now.

FWS is also working with CBP to program the inclusion of the FWS Designated Port Exception Permit that was originally scheduled to end. The timeline for implementation of FWS in ACE is dependent upon revision of the FWS Implementation Guide and CBP programming. Both FWS and CBP will work with the Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC) to understand the data needs of FWS and the trade's concerns.

EPA Proposes Retroactive TSCA Reporting

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a FRN for new regulations that would require the EPA identify chemical substances as High Priority Substances for risk evaluation or as Low Priority Substances that would not require risk evaluation. Part of the program to develop this project will include requirements for manufacturers and importers to report to EPA if they manufactured or imported any chemical substances listed on the TSCA Chemical Inventory prior to June 21 2016.

The proposal by EPA can be found on the Federal Register website at: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-01-17/pdf/2017-00051.pdf>.

President Obama Issues Executive Order Revoking Certain Sudan Sanctions

On January 13, President Obama issued an executive order that removed certain sanctions on Sudan that were to take place on July 12. The new executive order also rescinded another order that prohibited certain transactions relating to Sudan's petroleum industry under Executive Order 13412. The president's new executive order did not remove the national emergency sanctions from Sudan, which will remain in place.

A copy of the executive order can be found on the White House website at: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/13/executive-order-recognizing-positive-actions-government-sudan-and>.

By **Todd Boice**, President