



Date 17 January 2024

Subject **Customer Advisory Customs
Argentina - Key Regulatory Changes in Argentina's Import Activity**

Dear Valued Customer,

Commencing January 1, 2024, the enactment of Decree of Necessity and Urgency No. 70/2023 signifies a comprehensive initiative aimed at the deregulation and modernization of the Argentine economy. This directive is designed to foster commercial openness, enhance labor flexibility, facilitate the privatization of public enterprises, and streamline procedural complexities. The scope of its impact extends across various sectors, encompassing banking, customs, mining, energy, aviation, communication, health, tourism, and others. Notable amendments relevant to the Customs Code include:

1. Import/Export Eligibility:

The decree grants import/export privileges to any individual or legal entity, obviating the need for mandatory registration as an importer/exporter.

2. Electronic Authorization Processing:

Governmental agencies are mandated to electronically process authorizations governing international trade goods. This process occurs through the Argentine Foreign Trade Single Window (VUCEA).

3. Advance Import Declarations:

Importers are now allowed to declare importation in advance, preceding the arrival of the means of transport. This expedited process is facilitated through direct clearance mechanisms.

4. Advance Resolution Procedure:

A novel "Advance Resolution" procedure has been instituted, enabling importers/exporters to seek guidance from customs on aspects such as classification criteria, valuation, tax regimes, and restrictions applicable to specific goods. Customs authorities are obligated to issue a ruling within a stipulated 30-day period.

5. Efficient Handling of Customs Complaints:

In cases where a customs complaint is lodged for an alleged illegal act or infraction, customs authorities are obliged to release the goods first, and subsequently, the proceedings are referred to the customs administrator, who may necessitate the establishment of a guarantee. The release may be withheld under specific circumstances, such as insufficient sample extraction, infractions punishable by confiscation, or when goods fall under prohibited categories.

Additionally, effective December 27, 2023, AFIP General Resolution 5466/23 introduced the new Import Licensing Regime named SEDI (Statistical Import System), superseding the erstwhile SIRA regime. The procedural requirements for processing SEDI licenses mirror those of SIRAs. However, a noteworthy improvement lies in the accelerated approval timeline for SEDI licenses, which are now sanctioned within a commendable 24-hour period from submission in most of the cases. This expeditious approval process represents a marked enhancement in the efficiency and agility of the customs licensing procedure under the new regulatory framework.

For overseas exporters planning to export to Argentina, it is advisable to stay abreast of these regulatory changes and consider leveraging the streamlined customs procedures outlined in the new framework to facilitate smoother and more expedited international trade transactions.

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For further details regarding this change, please contact your local Customs representative.

Sincerely,
Your DHL Global Forwarding Customs Team