



PGA Importing Regulations: Why is this important?

Whether a PGA program is applicable to certain goods is determined by the HS classification as well as other information about the specific product.

PGA regulated goods require additional information to be transmitted electronically during the customs clearance process. These could include simple data elements indicating brand names, model names, end use, product specifications etc. and could also include vehicle titles, safe food licenses and more.

Importers need to be aware of not only customs regulations, but also regulations from other government departments that may be applicable to their goods. Participating Government Agencies (PGAs) collect information for regulated goods during the customs clearance process. It's important for importers to be aware of any additional documentation that may be required prior to importing their goods to avoid costly delays at the border. Additional documentation such as permits, licenses, and certificates may be required for certain types of goods. Providing detailed information on the customs documents, including any available HS information, is important so they can identify which PGA regulations are applicable to the goods, and whether they may qualify for exemption.

A wide range of different commodities are affected by PGA regulations and most importers will import goods that are regulated by at least one or more of the 31 PGA programs currently in effect.

Participating Government Agencies

- Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) regulates food and plant products.
- Controlled Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) regulates nuclear substances and radiation devices.
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) regulates aquatic biotechnology, invasive species, and trade tracking.
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) regulates wildlife and vehicle engine emissions.

- Global Affairs Canada (GAC) regulates agriculture and steel products.
- Health Canada (HC) regulates various pharmaceutical, medical, and health related products, as well as consumer product safety which encompasses a broad range of goods affecting over 6000 different HS classification numbers.
- Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) regulates biological pathogens and toxins.
- Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) regulates the energy efficiency of electronic products, as well as explosives and rough diamonds.
- Transport Canada (TC) regulates on-road and off-road vehicles including trailers.

Ask us if the goods you are planning to import are subject to any PGA requirements that might affect your importation activities.