

# CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

# FOR IMPORTS

#### HOUSEHOLD GOODS REMOVAL

#### A. Documents Required

- Copy of passport
- Certificate of change of residence issued by the French consulate at origin with customer's signature indicating that the shipper has been living at the last 12 months in the origin country (outside the European Union) prior to the arrival of the vessel.
- Attestation de non-cession: Signed original stating customer has lived abroad for at least one year, has owned all items for more than six months, and that goods will not be sold for twelve months.
- Valued inventory in French, valued in Euros, dated and signed by customer
- Packing list stating the contents of each carton including brand name and serial number
- Purchase invoices (list all electrical items separately)
- Proof of residency (certificate of residence, lease contract, or utility bills)
- Letter of professional transfer from employer indicating date of employment abroad

#### B. Specific Regulations

- Used household goods may be imported duty free if owned for longer than six months abroad, customer is moving their principal residence to France, and items arrive within one year from the arrival date.
- Shipment must be imported within 12 months of the date of transfer of residence.
- If a second shipment is anticipated, it must be stated at the time of the first importation.
- A delivery address must be known at the time of customs clearance.

## MOTOR VEHICLES

#### A. Documents Required

- Original certificate of title showing customer's name and vehicle serial number
- Original purchase invoice or bill of sale dated at least 6 months
- Insurance certificate from French insurer
- Original registration card of origin country
- Inventory

## B. Specific Regulations

- A vehicle may be imported duty-free if:
  - The consignee has lived in a country outside of the European Union for more than one year
  - The consignee has owned and operated the vehicle for six months prior to import.

# France



- The consignee has paid all customs or fiscal taxes in the country of origin of the vehicle.
- The vehicle must be imported into France in the 12 months following the date of transfer of his/her residence in France.
- The vehicle can not be disposed of within 12 months of importation.
- The inventory must include the year, make, model, chassis engine, horsepower, and registration number.
- The vehicle must pass inspection for compliance with French standards.
- The vehicle must arrive with valid registration plates. If the plates are removed by customs at the time of departure, shipper will have to provide a certificate of removal or an export certificate.
- The vehicle must be road-worthy and comply with European standards.
- If vehicle is brand new or owned for less than 6 months, shipper will pay duties and taxes:
  - Duties are about 10% on declared value
  - VAT is charged as 19.6% on declared value plus duties.

#### INHERITANCE

#### A. Documents Required

- Certificate from an official authority or a notary stating that the imported goods are obtained by inheritance.
- Resident permit or other documentation verifying that the importer has his/her residence in France.
- A non-resale form signed by the importer

#### **B.** Specific Regulations

- The certificate must include a detailed inventory of goods, date of death, relationship, and French resident permit.
- The goods must be shipped within one year from date of death.

## **RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS**

#### Alcohol

- It must be inventoried separately with brand name, type, amount, number of bottles, and value.
- An import license or liquor license may be required.
- Any person importing wine or alcohol in a shipment of household goods must pay duties and taxes regardless of nationality.

#### Tobacco

- Import is allowed but subject to duty and tax
- New items (items less than 6 months old)
  - Subject to tax if arriving from EEC countries (VAT 19.6 %)
  - Subject to tax and duties if coming from other countries and must be documented with sales invoices (VAT 19.6% + Duty of about 10%)

France



# CONSIGNMENT INSTRUCTIONS AND PORT INFORMATION

<u>Please consign the AWB/BL to:</u> Consignee (Same as on passport) C/O (name of agent) Agent's full address Tel: Fax: Attn:

Notification to: Consignee (Same as on passport) C/O (name of agent) Agent's full address Tel: Fax: Attn:

**Recommended:** Once the shipment is booked, please fax your pre-alert to the agent office along with a copy of the AWB / BL, packing list, passport copy, and full contact details of the consignee.

#### Helpful Tips

- Mark the waybills very clearly "Used household goods and personal effects."
- Packing list should be in English or French.
- Do not attach the inventory list used for the insurance purposes with the documents enclosed with the shipment.
- Pre-alert along with the copies of the waybill, packing list, valued inventory for French customs, and shipping schedule should be sent well in advance.

#### PROHIBITED ITEMS

- Paints, polishes, and cleaning solvents
- Drugs and narcotics
- Natural plants
- Endangered species and exotic animals are prohibited
- Ivory and all animal skins
- Food
- Explosives
- Some weapons are strictly prohibited. Check with agent prior to shipping.

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