

# CHINA IMPORT & CUSTOMS INFORMATION - CLIENT - 2020

# 1 - SERVICE INCLUDES

- ✓ Foreign management overseeing the service
- Professionally trained staff at delivery
- ✓ Provide all documents required for customs clearance process
- ✓ Assist in Import Permit application (Shanghai, Beijing & Guangzhou only)
- ✓ Normal Customs clearance & Inspection fees
- ✓ Haulage from port/airport to Import Bond facility
- ✓ Weekday /Normal working hours delivery within 30 km of bond
- ✓ Delivery to residence and room placement
- ✓ Unpacking of furniture and simple assembly (6 pieces)
- ✓ Removal of debris on delivery day
- ✓ Assistance with insurance claims and repair service

#### 4 - DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR CLEARANCE

- Valid residence visa 365 day duration minimum
- Valid work permit 365 day duration minimum

Customs in Shanghai will accept one of the above documents valid 11 months, as long as the other document is valid 365 days or more.

# **VERY IMPORTANT**

If client has above documents that are both less than 365 days in duration, customs will consider client a temporary visitor and limit the size of shipment to be imported to just items required for daily use. Import of a container sized shipment in this instance would be prohibited.

Negotiations with customs on this particular matter have been greatly reduced and there are limited options available to us, so it is very important that the client and the client's account are aware of this 365 day duration requirement.

Accompanying documents required to complete import application:

 Import Permit application (supplied by our office) requires client's signature and stamp (chop) of client's company.

Import Permit application assistance outside Shanghai and will affect the clearance time and incur additional service cost.

# 6 - IMPORTANT SHANGHAI CUSTOMS UPDATE - January 2018

Shanghai Customs has put a directive in place in which ALL cartons/wrappings in the shipment must be labelled in the name of the consignee. Failure to do this, may cause Customs to request the consignee to be present at the time of inspection.

Understand that above possibility could prove an expensive exercise, especially if the client needs to travel from another city to Shanghai to be present for the inspection.

#### 2 - SERVICE EXCLUDES

- Import Customs duties
- Import Permit application assistance outside of Shanghai, Beijing & Guangzhou - POA
- Extensive Customs inspection
- Quarantine inspections & Food quarantine inspection costs
- Demurrage & Port storage
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Debris pick-up (unless specified in costs above)
- Assembly of IKEA or similar items & new flat pack furniture
- Assembly of furniture requiring 3<sup>rd</sup> party services
- Stair carry above 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor (G+1) without elevator
- Heavy lifting, long carry over 20 metres & shuttling service
- After-hours, weekend or holiday delivery service

#### 5 - CUSTOMS CLEARANCE PROCESSING TIME

ALL sea shipment must be customs cleared with an Import Permit. Client can only apply for an Import Permit once s/he has a work permit and residence visa in place.

The clearance process for a sea shipment is approximately 10 - 11 days.

The client's original passport and work permit is required for the first 3 working days of the process in order to apply for the import permit after which these documents can be returned.

The import process continues for an additional 5 working days, in which quarantine and physical customs inspections are performed.

#### 7 - PROHIBITED ITEMS

Chinese Customs authorities prohibit the importation of:

- Pornographic literature and media
- Subversive or secessionist literature or media
- Fire arms, weapons & ammunition
- Narcotics, hallucinatory & psychotropic drugs
- Illegal drugs of any kind
- Swords, Daggers and other similar weapons
- GPS & Satellite systems, including dishes
- Radio Controlled aircraft (includes toy aircraft / helicopters / drones)
- Grand Pianos (only if client is a documented musician)
- Diving equipment & Para-gliding equipment
- Commercial photocopiers
- Ivory of any kind fines and legal consequences apply
- Dairy (milk), egg & meat products

Do not include these items in a shipment under any circumstances. In some instances, the importation of such prohibited items can have financial & legal consequences not only for YOUR client, but also for OUR Company!

# 3 - IMPORT DUTY - updated 10 April, 2019

Import duty has been levied on selected items in household good shipments since 1995. Import duty is levied on the selected items regardless of age or condition. New items will be assessed at a higher value by custom than those older items.

DUTY RATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

Import duty levied on the most commonly dutiable items found in a HHG shipment.

- 20% of assessed value on electronic & electrical items: HIFI equipment, speaker systems, TVs, refrigerators and the like
- 13% of assessed value on computers, monitors, tablets and other computer equipment
- 13% of assessed value on ALL Furniture
- 20% of assessed value for lamps & light fixtures

Be aware that certain luxury items such as, though not restricted to, Golf clubs, watches & perfume, will incur import duty of varying amounts.

The amount of import duty is determined by Customs, though for estimation purposes expect a duty amount in the range of US\$ 800 –1500 for a 20' container and US\$ 1.200 – 2.000 for a 40' container.

We would remind you that customs perform a 100% inspection of ALL shipments, primarily searching for dutiable items, so it is in the client's interest to declare dutiable items on the inventory list; if not and customs find these items during the inspection, then there is a good chance the items will be confiscated.

Importantly, Customs will allow one air & one sea shipment per person with selected duty, but both shipments MUST be cleared at the same time, if not, then the last one to be imported/cleared will be fully dutiable.

If the client wants to send an air shipment ahead of a sea shipment, then it is recommended to keep it small, so it can be imported using the client's passport and so does not count against the above mentioned rule. See SMALL AIRSHIPMENTS information below.

Any subsequent shipments imported will be fully dutiable. Contact our office prior to shipping for us to check client's status and suggested arrangements, especially if the client has imported a shipment previously.

# 8 - CHINESE PASSPORT HOLDERS

Chinese passport holders are limited to the amount of personal effects that can be imported. Normally this is a 6 CBM limit without furniture; unless shipper can prove that s/he exported a larger shipment originally.

Chinese passport holders holding foreign residence visa returning to China to take up employment with a foreign company can import a larger shipment, but must provide the same documentation as a foreign expatriate.

A baggage declaration form is required for each shipment imported by a Chinese passport holder.

All shipments are subject to import duty based on Customs assessed values with duty free relieve available up to Rmb 5,000 against total duty levied.

# 9 - FOOD / INFANT MILK POWDER

- Fresh & perishable food cannot be imported
- Meat, Egg & Diary (milk) products cannot be imported
- Canned & vacuum packed food can be imported, but are subject to import duty of 13% of declared value
- Infant milk and formula is tightly restricted. Contact our office regarding the inclusion in a shipment as special exemption will need to be arranged and the amount authorized based on the needs of the infant. Supporting documentation concerning the infant will be necessary.

#### 12 - REASONABLE AMOUNT

Chinese Customs retain the right to refuse the importation of personal effects in quantities it believes is more than a 'reasonable amount' for personal use.

When prohibited items or quantities of items are greater than a reasonable amount Customs will either confiscate those items or at the very worst, request that these items to be returned to the origin in a sole use container, regardless of the quantity or volume.

# 14 - OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT

Chinese Customs, more importantly. Shanghai Customs prohibit the importation of USED office equipment & furniture.

NEW furniture & equipment can be imported, but only as a commercial shipment.

A reasonable amount of office items can be imported in a personal effects shipment, though the amount is restricted to company files, several pieces of furniture and equipment. As the amount and type of items to be allowed are restricted, we suggest contacting our office beforehand.

# 16 - BUILDING MATERIALS & KITCHENS

Wood flooring, tiles, counter tops and kitchen cabinets can be imported, but the client is required to provide a good reason for importing these items for Customs to accept.

Experience has shown that customs will approve the importation of such items only if a client can show proof of purchase of a home in China.

# 17 - SWORDS, KNIVES & DAGGERS

Even if ceremonial and blunted, customs will confiscate, so do not include in shipment. Kitchen knives accepted.



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# 10 - SMALL AIR SHIPMENT - CLEARANCE ON PASSPORT

Small air shipments no greater than 300 kg gross can be customs cleared on client's original passport. Client must hold either 'F, Z or M' visa at time of

Only daily necessities - clothes, shoes, toys, kitchenware and the like - allowed. Furniture, electronic and electrical items not allowed. Maximum of 50 published books and 100 discs can be included in the shipment

Import duty is applicable an ALL items in the shipment in this instance, but client's enjoy duty relief of up to Rmb 2,000 against total duty charged.

#### 13 - CIGARETTES

Foreign passport holders: 4 cartons allowed MAXIMUM 2 carton duty Free and 2 carton dutiable Chinese passport holders\*: 2 Cartons allowed MAXIMUM 1 carton duty fee and 1 carton dutiable

Quantities greater than allowance will be confiscated by customs

\*Taiwan & Hong Kong passport holders included

#### 15 - BAGGAGE DECLARATION FORM

A Baggage Declaration Form is required for the customs clearance of ALL air shipments and should be collected by the client at the customs counter at the baggage claim area of the international airport when s/he enters China.

Client will need to complete 1 form and present it to the airport customs to be stamped. This form must be retained by the client, as this document is required for the customs clearance process for the air shipment.

For Chinese passport holders, regardless of whether importing an air or sea shipment, a Baggage Declaration Form must be completed. Chinese language forms are available.

A second set of the Baggage Declaration Form is also required for customs clearance of sea shipments for clients living in other cities, other than Shanghai, Beijing and Guangzhou.

# 11 - WINE, ALCOHOL & LIQUOR

With immediate effect, China Customs have severely reduced the amount of Alcohol allowed in a shipment.

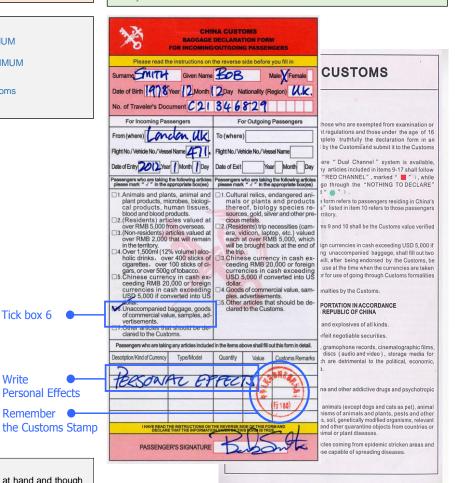
Foreign passport holders: 4 Bottles allowed MAXIMUM

2 bottles duty Free and 2 bottles dutiable Chinese passport holders\*: 2 Bottles allowed MAXIMUM

1 bottle duty fee and 1 bottle dutiable

Alcohol in quantity greater than allowed will be confiscated or client will have the option to ship back to origin country.

All alcohol regardless of the percentage of alcoholic content is subject to import duty of 60% of the Customs assessed value.



# 18 - CHINESE CUSTOMS' DECISIONS ARE FINAL

Customs can be flexible/inflexible depending upon the case at hand and though we enjoy good relations with customs, we exercise this relationship with caution & discretion.

Tick box 6

Personal Effects

Remember •

Sometimes special requests cannot always be granted: remember we have to deal with customs tomorrow!

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