



# *Importing Personal Property Into Hong Kong*

## **HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS**

### **CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

#### **Customs Regulations:**

**All air shipments are physically inspected. Surface shipments are physically inspected at random. There are no restrictions on bringing in non-perishable dry foods so long as quantity is reasonable and imported with personal effects shipment via sea freight only.**

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Copy of Passport including photo page
- ✓ Bill of Lading/Air Waybill (express B/L is acceptable)
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory list in English
- ✓ Authorization Letter to Hong Kong Customs & Excise Department to authorize Destination Agent to handle Customs clearance

#### **Diplomat Status:**

**Foreign diplomats are granted duty free entry**

#### **Required Documents:**

- ✓ Diplomatic Franchise
- ✓ Passport copy
- ✓ Comprehensive inventory list in English

### **RESTRICTED/DUTIABLE ITEMS**

- ✓ Pesticides and radioactive substances
- ✓ Skins, furs, feathers tusks must have Exporting Country's license, Certificate of Origin and an Import License. The items are subject to inspection by the Agriculture and Fisheries Department
- ✓ Alcohol, tobacco and perfume are subject to duties

### **PROHIBITED ITEMS**

- ✓ Controlled chemicals, Psychotropic Substances and Antibiotics
- ✓ Pornography, obscene or subversive publications, videos & software
- ✓ Reproductions of copyright materials and videos and counterfeit goods
- ✓ Weapons, clasp knives, fireworks, explosives and ammunitions
- ✓ Telecommunication equipment, strategic commodities
- ✓ Plants, animals (other than pets) meat, game, poultry and smokeless tobacco
- ✓ Animals, feathers, furs, skins and tusks of animals on the Endangered Species List
  - Firearms require a certificate from the local police department controlling the area the customer will be residing in.

## IMPORTATION OF PETS

Pets are subjected to a quarantine period at a designated government facility for a period of at least 30 days depending on country of origin. All pets must be carried and caged in way to ensure humane management at all times. Pets under two months old are not allowed to be imported or transshipped.

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Certificate of Vaccination – (copy) including rabies must be stamped by a government or state approved agency. Rabies shot must be done at least 30 days prior to departure
- ✓ Import Permit – Issued by the Agriculture and Fisheries Department valid for 30 days from issue.
- ✓ Microchip – dogs and cats must be implanted with a microchip and the number must be printed on the Health Certificate
- ✓ Residence Certificate and International Health Certificate – Prepared and endorsed by USDA/APHIS/VS. Must be done not more than 14 days before departure

## IMPORTATION OF VEHICLES

Only right –hand drive vehicles are permitted. Certain models of vehicles are not accepted so checking with the Transport Department for further details is advised. Vehicles must be owned by the customer for more than 6 months. The duties and taxes are very high; consulting with your service agent is strongly encouraged. Clearance takes 7 to 14 days and the customer's presence may be required.

### Required Documents:

- ✓ Bill of Sale / Original purchase invoice
- ✓ Copy of Certificate of Title and Registration ( must show vehicle dimensions)
- ✓ Driver's License
- ✓ Export license stating engine and chassis number
- ✓ Full Exhaust Emission Test Certificate from origin
- ✓ Deregistration Certificate
- ✓ Authorization Letter for Destination Agent to manage Customs clearance
- ✓ Hong Kong Insurance Certificate.

## NOTES

### Fumigation of Wood Packing Materials:

Effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2008, importation of shipments containing wood packing materials must be in accordance with ISPM 15 requirements and are required to have the wood fumigation mark ISPM 15 and IPPC logo.

For additional information regarding the importation of pets please go to this website:

[http://www.afcd.gov.hk/English/quarantine/qua\\_ie/qua\\_ie\\_ipab/qua\\_ie\\_ipab\\_idc/qua\\_ie\\_ipab\\_idc.html](http://www.afcd.gov.hk/English/quarantine/qua_ie/qua_ie_ipab/qua_ie_ipab_idc/qua_ie_ipab_idc.html)

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The information presented herein is based on customs data available at the time of printing and is frequently subject to change without notice. It is the responsibility of the owner or importer of the household goods to comply with the current customs restrictions, regulations, and duties of the country to which the goods are imported. We strongly advise customers to contact the consulate or embassy of the destination country for the most current information on customs regulations, restrictions and duties for importing household goods, personal effects and vehicles.

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