

Amendments to the Harmonized System Explanatory Notes – HS Committee 60th Session

The following list contains the decisions taken by the Harmonized System Committee (60th Session – October 2017) concerning amendments to the Harmonized System Explanatory Notes, applicable as of 1 January 2018. This publication will be updated regularly.

The Harmonized System Explanatory Notes are published by WCO in 5 volumes (2017 edition) and reflect the official interpretation of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System. They also contain the text of the Subheading Explanatory Notes indicating the scope and content of certain of the Harmonized System Subheadings. The Explanatory Notes are available in English and French, the two official languages of the WCO, and can be ordered directly (see “Bookshop” on this Web site). They are also available on-line.

The amendments listed below are reproduced in the order of the current pages concerned and will be incorporated into the aforementioned WCO publications in due time by replacing the pages affected by the amendments made.

Advice

Parties seeking to import or export merchandise covered by a decision are advised to verify the implementation of the decision by the importing or exporting country, as the case may be.

o
o o

AMENDMENTS TO THE EXPLANATORY NOTES

CHAPTER 1.

Heading 01.01. Page I-0101-1. First paragraph.

French text only.

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/1)

CHAPTER 13.

Heading 13.02.

Page II-1302-1. Part (A). First paragraph.

Delete and substitute :

“The heading covers vegetable saps (vegetable products usually obtained by natural exudation or incision) and extracts (vegetable products extracted from the original vegetable material by solvents), provided that they are not specified or included in more specific headings of the Nomenclature (see list of exclusions at the end of Part (A) of this Explanatory Note).”

Page II-1302-3. First paragraph after Item (21). Last sentence after : “solid extracts”.

Add the following sentence :

“However, extracts may not be subjected to additional extraction cycles or to purification processes, such as chromatographic purification, that increase or decrease certain compounds or compound classes to a degree that cannot be achieved solely by means of initial solvent extraction.”

Page II-1302-3. Third paragraph after Item (21). Last sentence after : “medicaments, etc”.

Add the following sentence :

“They are also excluded from the heading when they are highly refined or purified, e.g., by means of chromatographic purification, ultrafiltration, or additional extraction cycles (e.g. liquid-liquid extraction) following initial extraction.”

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/2)

CHAPTER 15.

Heading 15.15. Page III-1515-1. First paragraph. Item (2). First sentence.

Delete and substitute :

“Maize (corn) oil, obtained from the kernels of maize, most of the lipids (around 80 %) being contained in the germ.”

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/1)

Heading 15.18. Page III-1518-1. Part (A). Item (4). Last sentence.

French text only.

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/1)

CHAPTER 18.

Heading 18.02. Page IV-1802-1. Second paragraph. Item (3).

Delete and substitute :

“Cocoa dust, resulting from the cleaning of the shells in the sorting machines; normally, its fat content is sufficiently high for extraction to be economically justified.”.

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/1)

Heading 18.06. Page IV-1806-1. New Subheading Explanatory Note.

Insert the following new Explanatory Note before the current Explanatory Note to subheading 1806.31 :

“Subheading 1806.20

Goods presented in “other bulk forms” are covered by subheading 1806.20 if they take the form of pellets, beans, rounds, drops, balls, chips, flakes, sprinkles, shavings and similar. Goods under this subheading are usually intended for the manufacture of chocolate products, bakery products, confectionery, ice creams, etc., or for decoration.”.

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/3)

CHAPTER 20.

Heading 20.04. Page IV-2004-1. Second paragraph. Item (3).

French text only.

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/1)

Heading 20.05. Page IV-2005-1. Third paragraph. First sentence.

French text only.

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/1)

Heading 20.08. Page IV-2008-1. Second paragraph. Item (3).

French text only.

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/1)

CHAPTER 21.

Heading 21.04. Page IV-2104-1. Part (A). Second paragraph. First sentence.

Delete and substitute :

“These products are generally based on vegetable products (vegetables, flour, starches, tapioca, pasta, rice, plant extracts, etc.), meat, meat extracts, fat, fish, crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates, peptones, amino-acids or yeast extract.”.

Heading 21.04. Page IV-2104-2. Exclusion (e).

Delete and substitute :

“Preserved vegetables of **heading 20.04** or **20.05**, including mixtures of vegetables (*julienne*, salads, etc.), even if sometimes used for the preparation of soups.”.

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/1)

CHAPTER 36.

Heading 36.03. Page VI-3603-1. Items (A) to (D).

Delete and substitute :

“(A) **Safety fuses.**

Safety fuses (slow fuses or Bickford fuses) are devices designed to transmit a flame towards an ordinary igniter or detonator. They consist generally of a thin envelope of textile material, tarred or impregnated with rubber or plastics, containing a linear charge of black powder.

(B) **Detonating fuses (Detonating cords).**

Detonating fuses serve to transmit one or more detonations, and generally comprise a core of PETN or penthrite (pentaerythritol tetranitrate) or other explosive in a waterproofed covering of textile material or plastics (flexible fuses). The PETN explodes at a rate of approximately 6.5 km (4 miles) per second. Detonating fuses will initiate most commercial high explosives (dynamite, gelignite, sensitized gels, etc.) but will not initiate less sensitive blasting agents like ANFO (ammonium nitrate fuel oil) on their own. They are most frequently used in mines and quarries and on civil engineering sites.

(C) **Percussion caps :**

(1) **Percussion caps** (percussion primers) consist of a small container, generally metallic, usually containing a mixture based on lead trinitroresorcinate (styphnate) with the addition of tetrazene and various oxidising and reducing agents; charges of this explosive mixture usually weigh between 10 and 200 mg. These caps are intended for fixing in the bases of cartridge cases and are used to ignite propellant powder. Percussion caps are made in small sizes for pistols and large sizes for rifles and muskets.

- (2) **Friction percussion caps or firing tubes** consist generally of two concentric metal or cardboard tubes containing two different charges. The explosive charge in the inner tube is ignited by the tearing out of a saw-toothed wire and thus fires the charge of powder between the two tubes which transmits the ignition. Like the caps described in (1) above, firing tubes are used for firing propellant powders.

(D) **Detonating caps (excluding electric and electronic detonators).**

Detonating caps (blasting caps, detonators) consist of a small charge of primary explosive plus a charge of, e.g., PETN or penthrite, hexogen or tetryl, in a tube of metal or plastics under a protective capsule. They are used for igniting prepared explosives other than propellant powders and are generally fired by the flame from the safety fuse which leads into them.

(E) **Igniters :**

- (1) **Electric igniters** consisting of an electric fuse head and a small charge of igniting powder, generally black powder.

An electric fuse head consists of two insulated conductors to the ends of which a conducting metal filament is soldered to form an electrically resistant bridge; this filament is embedded in an igniter bead. It is used to ignite a powder charge or to initiate a primary explosive.

- (2) **Chemical igniters** such as those consisting of a cylinder containing a glass ampoule filled with a chemical product (e.g., sulphuric acid) and a charge of potassium chlorate, the two being separated by a metal diaphragm. When the ampoule is broken the acid eats away the metal diaphragm (which serves as a delay element) and reacts with the potassium chlorate, producing intense heat capable of igniting a powder charge or safety fuse.

(F) **Electric detonators (including electronic detonators) :**

- (1) **Electric detonators** consist of an electric fuse head, as described in Item (E) (1) above, in a tube of metal (or possibly plastics), a small charge of primary explosive (50 to 500 mg of a composition based usually on lead azide) and a somewhat larger charge of another explosive (e.g., PETN or penthrite, hexogen or tetryl).

This group also includes certain electric detonators known as **electric primers**. These are often miniaturised, and the fuse head may be replaced by the incorporation, in the primary composition, of additives to make the composition conductive and enable it to be fired by induction.

- (2) **Electronic detonators**, unlike conventional electric detonators described in Item (F) (1) above, electronic detonators contain integrated circuit (IC) timers as delay methods, enabling a highly accurate delay time.”.

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/12)

Amendments to the Harmonized System Explanatory Notes – HS Committee 60th Session

CHAPTER 37.

Heading 37.07.

Page VI-3707-1. Heading text.

Delete and substitute :

"Chemical preparations for photographic uses (other than varnishes, glues, adhesives and similar preparations); unmixed products for photographic uses, put up in measured portions or put up for retail sale in a form ready for use (+)."

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/13)

Page VI-3707-2. After the exclusion paragraph (c).

Insert the following new Subheading Explanatory Note :

"Subheading Explanatory Note.

Subheading 3707.90

Subheading 3707.90 covers light-sensitive plastic resin solutions ("photoresists") used in the photolithographic manufacture of semiconductor materials. They consist of a polymer, a photosensitizer, a non-aqueous solvent, and various other chemicals. A photoresist is applied to a metal oxide-coated silicon wafer that is to be converted into the finished semiconductor material."

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/13)

CHAPTER 69.

Page XIII-6907-1. Heading 69.07. New fifth paragraph.

Insert the following new fifth paragraph :

"The determination of the level of water absorption is based on the vacuum method set out in ISO standard 10545-3."

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/4)

CHAPTER 94.

Heading 94.05. Page XX-9405-3. Exclusion Note (h).

Delete and substitute :

"(h) Electric filament lamps, discharge lamps (including sealed beam lamp units and ultra-violet or infra-red lamps as well as tubes in various complex forms such as scrolls, letter, figures, stars, etc.), arc- lamps and light emitting diode (LED) lamps (**heading 85.39**)."

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/1)

CHAPTER 95.

Heading 95.03.

Page XX-9503-2. Part (D). Item (xix).

Delete and substitute :

“(xix) Hoops, skipping ropes (**other than** those of **heading 95.06**), diabolo spools and sticks, spinning and humming tops, balls (**other than** balls of **heading 95.04** or **95.06**).”

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/24)

Heading 95.06.

Page XX-9506-2. Part (A).

Delete and substitute :

“(A) **Articles and equipment for general physical exercise, gymnastics or athletics,**
e.g. :

Trapeze bars and rings; horizontal and parallel bars; balance beams, vaulting horses; pommel horses; spring boards; climbing ropes and ladders; wall bars; Indian clubs; dumb bells and bar bells; medicine balls; jump balls with one or more handles designed for physical exercises; rowing, cycling and other exercising apparatus; chest expanders; hand grips; starting blocks; hurdles; jumping stands and standards; vaulting poles; landing pit pads; javelins, discuses, throwing hammers and putting shots; punch balls (speed bags) and punch bags (punching bags); boxing or wrestling rings; assault course climbing walls; skipping ropes designed for sports activities and fitness classes.”

(Doc. NC2447E1b/M/24)