

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN



A **certificate of origin** (CO) is a legal document that certifies goods that qualify for a lower duty rate, based on Free Trade Agreements (FTAs).

BENEFITS



Protection in case of an audit



Save money on duties and gain a competitive advantage in the marketplace



Reduce the risk of duty assessment after the fact

TIPS

1 LEARN THE RULES

FTAs are complex and failure to comply can result in reassessment of duty, interest and penalties retroactively for several years.

2 ONLY REQUEST RELEVANT CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN

Ask your supplier for only the COs of the products you actually purchase from them.

3 VERIFICATION PROCESS TO CONFIRM 3 THINGS

- i) the CO is properly completed,
- ii) the goods you sell are listed on the form,
- iii) the CO is signed by a responsible party* within your vendor's operation.

**someone who knows how the goods qualify for the specific FTA*

4 OUTLINE YOUR VENDOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Your contract terms and conditions should do 2 things:

- i) mandate the vendor to validate every CO they supply,
- ii) indicate that failure to do so means they're responsible for paying the cost of cancellation or penalty.

5 YOUR VENDOR'S KNOWLEDGE IS A MUST

Ensure you trust their knowledge of rules of origin.

6 ASK FOR BLANKET CERTIFICATES

These give you permission to import the same product for up to 12 months.

Source: coleintl.com



Certificates of Origin. It's what we do.