



FedEx Regulatory Alerts & Updates

Regulatory Alert: Changes to Country of Origin Marking of Products from the West Bank and Gaza

February 15, 2021

Background

In accordance with Treasury Decisions 95-25 and 97-16 from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), goods produced in the West Bank or Gaza Strip were previously required to have physical country of origin markings like "Made in West Bank", "Made in Gaza" or "Made in West Bank/Gaza". The marking of these goods was not permitted to contain the words "Israel," "Made in Israel," "Occupied Territories-Israel," or words of similar meaning.

What Has Changed?

On December 1, 2020, the Department of State advised CBP that it recognizes Israel as continuing to exercise relevant authorities in areas of the West Bank, and that Gaza and the West Bank are politically and administratively separate and should be treated accordingly.

On December 23, 2020, CBP issued a notice that imported goods from specific areas in the West Bank would have to be marked as either products of Israel or products of West Bank for country of origin purposes. **This requirement is effective March 23, 2021.**

Q&A

Q1: How can I identify which products are to be marked as products of Israel, West Bank, or Gaza?

A1: More details regarding the acceptable country of origin markings for imported goods produced in the specific territorial areas can be found in Federal Register Notice 85 FR 83984. A link to this notice can be found in the References section.

Q2: Does this change impact the country of origin I provide on the commercial invoice for my products?

A2: This change is specific to the physical country of origin marking requirements, not the country of origin listed on the commercial invoice for entry summary purposes.

Q3: Are there exceptions to the marking requirements?

A3: Yes, exceptions are detailed in Subpart D of 19 CFR 134 “Country of Origin Marking”. A link to this regulation can be found in the References section below.

References:

85 FR 83984 “Country of Origin Marking of Products from the West Bank and Gaza”:

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-12-23/pdf/2020-28547.pdf>

19 CFR 134 – Country of Origin Marking:

[https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=51eddeb2a8cdfc470e1fe45776c3a9b1&mc=true&node=pt19.1.134&rgn=div5)

[idx?SID=51eddeb2a8cdfc470e1fe45776c3a9b1&mc=true&node=pt19.1.134&rgn=div5](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=51eddeb2a8cdfc470e1fe45776c3a9b1&mc=true&node=pt19.1.134&rgn=div5)

CBP Statement on Country of Origin Markings for Israeli and Palestinian Goods:

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/speeches-and-statements/cbp-statement-country-origin-markings-israeli-and-palestinian-goods>

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