

➤ **Deadline for Petitions Requesting HTS Statistical Category Changes is August 1, 2014**

August 1, 2014, is the deadline for submitting petitions to create or modify the statistical categories of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) or Schedule B for exports.

The USITC's Director of Tariff Affairs and Trade Agreements chairs the Committee for Statistical Annotation of the Tariff Schedules (known informally as the "484(f) Committee"), which also includes representatives of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Census Bureau. The committee analyzes and evaluates petitions requesting changes in the non-legal statistical reporting categories of the HTS (for imports) and Schedule B (for exports). Such changes are made to improve data collection information.

The process for submitting petitions for these changes is outlined in the Preface of the HTS (posted on the USITC web site at <http://www.usitc.gov/publications/docs/tata/hts/bychapter/1401Preface.pdf>). It reads:

The statistical annotations contained in the HTS specify the statistical information that must be supplied on customs entry and withdrawal forms or in electronic filings with respect to articles imported into the customs territory of the United States....

Interested parties or their representatives may request changes to the statistical annotations of the HTS or Schedule B for exports. Such requests may be made under Section 484(f) of the Tariff Act of 1930 as amended and directed to the Committee for Statistical Annotation of the Tariff Schedules.

Requests should be submitted no later than April 1 for changes to be effective July 1 of the following year, and no later than August 1 for changes to be effective January 1 of the following year. Parties should specify if the proposed change relates only to the HTS or Schedule B, or to both. These requests should be submitted to the Committee Chairman at the address below, or by electronic mail to [484f@usitc.gov](mailto:484f@usitc.gov).

Chairman  
The Committee for Statistical Annotation of Tariff Schedules  
United States International Trade Commission  
Washington, DC 20436

Such requests should indicate precisely the nature of each desired change. They should provide the exact proposed language to be inserted or deleted (including any relevant units of quantity) and give detailed reasons for the requests. Confidential business information should not be submitted to the Committee. For requests relating to the HTS, the requester should provide the names of importers

and foreign manufacturers (when known) that are associated with the articles in question and should indicate the countries from which the articles are being imported. A proposed statistical category under which three or fewer importers or exporters would likely report shipments generally will not be approved, in order to avoid the disclosure of confidential business information.

Questions regarding the drafting or treatment of such requests should be addressed to the Committee, by mail to the Committee Chairman, by telephone at 202-205-2952, or by email to [484f@usitc.gov](mailto:484f@usitc.gov).