



MITSUBISHI LOGISTICS EUROPE B.V. - GERMANY

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Signature on Commercial Invoices – Work from Home

Dear Clients,

if your supplier in Japan or elsewhere uses Home Office, then it may not be possible to have signatures on the Commercial Invoices. Below, please find information, as best as our knowledge allows, about the handling / consequences.

Do we need ORIGINAL invoices for the customs clearance in Germany / BeNeLux ?

Normally: No

The customs clearance starts with an electronic reporting in the customs system. The customs officer may want to see the documents, which we usually send by e-mail to him.

Exceptions: Specific certificates like a FORM A C of O / very specific commodities

Do we need a SIGNATURE on the invoice for the customs clearance in Germany / BeNeLux ?

Normally: No

Exceptions: 1. Mandatory signatures (MILL CERTIFICATE for STEEL)
2. Achieving benefits like JEFTA

When you have an import from USA, usually there are no possible benefits

⇒ Invoice with or without signature - NO DIFFERENCE

When you import from KOREA, JAPAN or other countries with a free trade agreement and the respective origin declarations are mentioned:

⇒ WITH signature - Preferential DUTY

⇒ withOUT signature - Standard DUTY

So, WITHOUT signature:

⇒ Customs Clearance proceeds in a normal manner

⇒ JEFTA or other benefits will not be applied

The Signature was missing, but JEFTA applies for you – how do we get back overpaid duty ?

Customs Law in Europe allows for a change of the import declaration within 3 years.

So, what can we do for you ?

1. We receive the commercial invoice with the proper origin declaration AND signature
2. We file for a change of the customs entry and apply for a refund of overpaid duties
3. If the signed commercial invoice (and or possible attachments) is correct, customs refunds overpaid duties (between 1 and 6 months).

Stay healthy

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