Turkey No Longer Eligible for GSP Benefits, Steel Tariff Returning to 25%

Dear Valued Customer,

Effective May 17, 2019, Turkey is no longer eligible for Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) benefits and Turkish exports of certain crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells and residential washers will be subject to safeguard provisions. The White House published the official presidential proclamation on their website on Thursday, May 16, 2019.

In a separate declaration, President Trump announced that Turkey’s tariff rate for steel products under the Section 232 would be returning to 25% effective May 21, 2019. It was previously increased to 50% in August 2018 to “reduce imports of steel articles and increase domestic capacity utilization.”

In March, the Office of U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) had announced that both Turkey and India were going to be terminated from GSP, but India is still currently eligible for GSP benefits. The solar cells and residential washer Section 201 safeguards were originally implemented in January 2018.

White House announcement on Turkey’s GSP termination and addition of safeguard tariffs: Proclamation to Modify the List of Beneficiary Developing Countries Under the Trade Act of 1974

White House announcement regarding the decrease in Section 232 Steel Tariffs: Proclamation on Adjusting Imports of Steel into the United States

Thank you for being our Valued Customer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact C.H. Robinson for further information.

Sincerely,

C.H. Robinson Customs Compliance Team