Tariffs Against Canada Return, Retaliation Follows

Dear Valued U.S. Import Customer,

On August 6, 2020, the President issued a Presidential Proclamation on Adjusting Imports of Aluminum Into the United States, announcing that certain aluminum articles imported under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 7601.10 that are the products of Canada will be subject to the additional 10 percent ad valorem rate of duty. The last time these duties were in effect was in 2019 when Proclamation 9893 of May 19, 2019, was issued and excluded Canada from these tariffs.

On August 13, 2020, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued guidance through Cargo Systems Messaging Service (CSMS) #43654621 stating “In addition to reporting the regular HTSUS classification under subheading 7601.10, importers shall report the following HTSUS classification for imported merchandise subject to the additional duty:

- 9903.85.21 (10% ad valorem duty rate for non-alloyed unwrought aluminum products of Canada, provided for in subheading 7601.10)”

The guidance from CBP also addresses Foreign Trade Zones, products entered under any free trade agreement or preference program, products entered under the provision of Chapter 98, HTSUS, Drawback, Exclusions and other provisions.

As of August 16, 2020, the increased rates of duty on certain aluminum articles that are products of Canada are effective with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time.

In retaliation to this action, Canada has issued a Notice of Intent to impose countermeasures against the United States in response to the tariffs on Canadian aluminum products. This countermeasure will take effect by September 16, 2020 at the rate of 10 percent (10%) surtax on a number of tariffs listed in this notice. Comments on this action will be accepted until September 6, 2020.

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

Sincerely,

C.H. Robinson