DHS Issues Forced Labor Enforcement Strategy Early

Dear Valued Customer,

The Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA) was signed into law by President Biden on December 23, 2021. It establishes a rebuttable presumption that the importation of any goods, wares, articles, and merchandise mined, produced, or manufactured wholly or in part in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China (PRC), or produced by certain entities, is prohibited by Section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 and that such goods, wares, articles, and merchandise are not entitled to entry to the United States. The presumption applies unless the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) determines that the importer of record has complied with specified conditions and, by clear and convincing evidence, that the goods, wares, articles, or merchandise were not produced using forced labor.

On June 17, 2022, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued their report to Congress of their “Strategy to Prevent the Importation of Goods mined, Produced, or Manufactured with Forced Labor in the People’s Republic of China.” This strategy was prepared by the Forced Labor Enforcement Task Force (FLETF) under the DHS. This strategy along with UFLPA Operational Guidance for Importers document and the UFLPA Entity List will assist importers as this law becomes effective on all imported goods effective June 21, 2022.

Pursuant to the UFLPA, this strategy includes:
• A comprehensive assessment of the risk of importing goods mined, produced, or manufactured, wholly or in part, with forced labor in the PRC;
• An evaluation and description of forced-labor schemes, UFLPA-required lists (including the UFLPA Entity List), UFLPA-required plans, and high priority sectors for enforcement;
• Recommendations for efforts, initiatives, tools, and technologies to accurately identify and trace affected goods;
• A description of how U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) plans to enhance its use of legal authorities and tools to prevent entry of goods at U.S. ports in violation of 19 U.S.C. § 1307;
• A description of additional resources necessary to ensure no goods made with forced labor enter U.S. ports;
• Guidance to importers; and
• A plan to coordinate and collaborate with appropriate nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and private-sector entities.

Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act | U.S. Customs and Border Protection (cbp.gov)
UFLPA Operational Guidance for Importers | U.S. Customs and Border Protection (cbp.gov)
UFLPA Strategy | Homeland Security (dhs.gov)
UFLPA Entity List | Homeland Security (dhs.gov)

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.