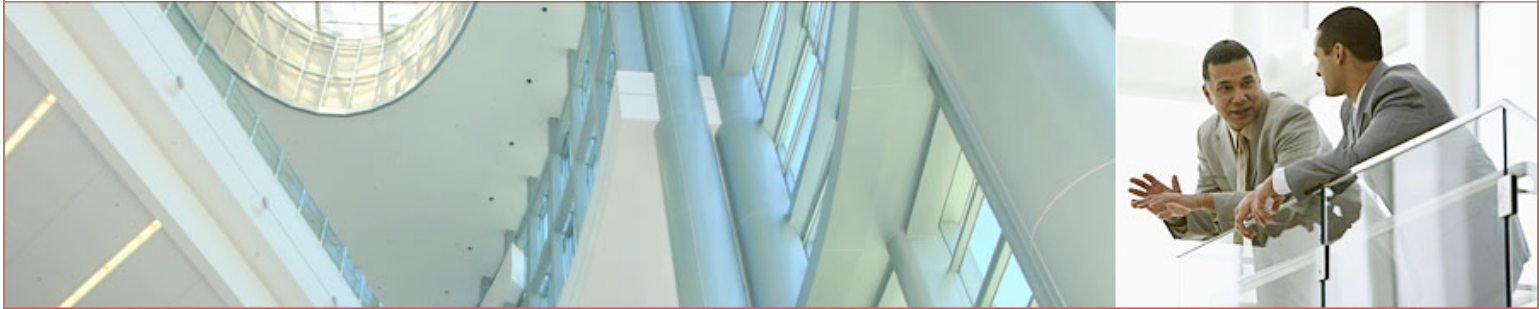


Search: [Go](#)

Supply Chain



- The Catlin Story ▼
- Offerings & Expertise ▼
- Knowledge Centre** ▼
- Claims ▼
- Our Experts ▼
- Home



[Home](#) > [Knowledge Centre](#) > [C-Risk Management](#) > [Supply Chain](#) > Article



Customs Compliance

Importing for Small & Medium Enterprise (SMEs)

Before you can import, there are necessary steps to take to ensure you receive your products without incident.

Obtain your Business Number from the Canada Revenue Agency

Identify the country of origin, manufacture and export of the goods you wish to import

Find out if the goods are controlled, regulated or prohibited by the Canada Border Services Agency or other government departments

Determine the 10-digit tariff classification number and the applicable rate of duty from the Customs Tariff (the Customs Tariff is based on the World Customs Organization's Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System)

Establish whether the goods are subject to any other duties or taxes, including GST

Choose your method of shipping and determine any cross-border requirements

Exporting for SMEs

Similar to importing, there are required steps your business must take before you can begin exporting.

Obtain your Business Number from the Canada Revenue Agency

Identify the goods you wish to export and determine the country of origin of the goods

Make sure the goods can be exported from Canada and whether or not they are subject to restrictions or other requirements prior to shipping

Ensure that your goods are permitted to enter the country you are shipping to

Common Issues & Roadblocks

C-Risk Management ▼

- [Business Continuity](#)
- [Human Capital](#)
- [Competition](#)
- [Supply Chain](#)

Archived News

Presentations

Events

Fun Corner

Difficulty obtaining financing

Changes to a country's law and export controls. For example, on January 1, 2008, Singapore Customs expanded their 'Strategic Goods Control List' from 600 to 1600 items

Delays in receiving import/export permits

Administrative barriers - the World Trade Organization has estimated that SMEs account for up to 60% of GDP creation - and that they are not active internationally due to red tape rather than tariff barriers

Government Assistance

Many resources are available from the Canadian Government to assist SMEs import and export goods to and from Canada.

Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)

The CBSA manages the access of goods and people to and from Canada. They work to provide smooth border clearance of goods, including a variety of pre-approval programs to streamline customs clearance. In addition they provide resources for businesses including the SME Newsflash, an email based newsletter that contains information and links to new programs, services and requirements relevant to importers and exporters.

Industry Canada

Fundamentally, Industry Canada helps Canadian businesses to compete and succeed internationally. With regard to importing and exporting, Industry Canada provides lists of companies importing goods in Canada by product, city, and country of origin, known as the Canadian Importers Database.

Export Development Canada (EDC)

EDC is Canada's export credit agency, offering solutions in the areas of financing, insurance and risk management for Canadian companies - mainly small and medium sized enterprises - that export or invest internationally.

[back to top](#)



[The Catlin Story](#) | [Offerings & Expertise](#) | [Knowledge Centre](#) | [Claims](#) | [Our Experts](#) | [Legal](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Sitemap](#) | [Home](#)

Catlin Canada, Copyright 2007© | [Catlin Group](#) | 