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Subject: Updates to Regulations for Returned American Products (HTS 9801 and 9802)

This letter is to inform our partners and customers of important recent updates to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations regarding the duty-free entry of certain returned goods. These changes impact importers who use Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) subheadings 9801.00.10 and 9802.00.20, specifically for commodities valued over $2,500.

Key changes and new requirements for HTS 9801.00.10
For U.S. and foreign-origin products being returned, importers are now fully responsible for proving their claim for duty-free entry. To support this, CBP requires the following documentation be kept on file and provided upon request:

•A foreign shipper's declaration confirming that the product was not altered while outside the U.S.

•An importer's declaration from an individual with knowledge of the facts supporting the claim.

•Proof of export from the U.S., such as a U.S. export invoice, bill of lading, foreign entry document, or Electronic Export Information (EEI) filing confirmation.

•**For goods over $2,500:** Additional documentation, such as a statement from the U.S. manufacturer, may be required to confirm U.S. origin, especially if the product lacks clear manufacturer identification.

Key changes and requirements for HTS 9802.00.20
This subheading is used for goods exported for repair or alteration and returned without an increase in value. Documentation requirements, as outlined in 19 CFR 10.1(a), 10.8(a), 10.9(a), and 10.121, still apply. However, CBP's Center director has the discretion to waive these requirements if sufficient other evidence exists.

Administrative changes

CBP announced the extension of its information collection activities for CBP Form 3311, the form used for declaring returned American products. While this is an administrative update, it signals ongoing attention to these processes. Additionally, a separate but significant change effective August 29, 2025, is the suspension of the duty-free *de minimis* exemption for low-value shipments globally. This does not directly alter the formal entry requirements for goods over $2,500 but is an important customs update for anyone involved in international trade.

We recommend all importers and our clients carefully review these updated regulations to ensure continued compliance and eligibility for duty-free treatment.

Sincerely,

Larry Jackson

Larry Jackson, President
Jackson Aircraft Weighing Systems