

NEW IMPORT MECHANISM

Today, the Argentine Government has made official the elimination of the mandatory formality known as **"Prior Sworn Import Declaration"** (in Spanish, **"Declaración Jurada Anticipada de Importación"** – **"DJAI"** -) established and in force since 2012 for the purpose of authorizing the incoming of merchandise corresponding to imports, by replacing the same with a new **"Comprehensive System of Imports Monitoring"** (in Spanish, **"Sistema Integral de Monitoreo de Importaciones"** – **"SIMI"** -).

The new regulation has been published today in the Official Gazette of the Argentine Republic, through General Resolution 3823 issued by the AFIP (Federal Administration of Public Revenue), and emphasizes that the main objective of the new mechanism is to promote competitiveness and make foreign trade more expeditious, but without losing sight of the risk management and applicable controls over the merchandise.

The new statutory rule enforces the named **"SIMI"** (Comprehensive System of Imports Monitoring), and establishes that importers will have to submit information related to the imports to be made, through the AFIP website, and the entities in charge of authorizing the incoming of merchandise will have to reply **"in a term not exceeding 10 days"**. **"Nevertheless, such term can be extended in those cases in which due to its specific competence the involved entity so decides"**, as stated on section five.

Pursuant to section 2 of the mentioned Resolution, the declarations made through the Comprehensive System of Imports Monitoring (SIMI) will be valid for a term of 180 running days, to be counted from the date of their respective approval.

The regulation, which shall be in force since tomorrow Wednesday 23rd December 2015, also eliminates the Resolution that has timely established the obligation to submit the DJAIs, leaving without effect the former import system.

In order to take advantage of this new system, the microsite "Sistema Integral de Monitoreo de Importaciones (SIMI)" (Comprehensive System of Imports Monitoring) must be accessed through the AFIP's website (<http://www.afip.gob.ar>).

Furthermore, the DJAIs which have already been processed before this date, shall neither be suspended nor transferred to the new system, but will instead "keep their validity", according to the provisions of section 11 of the General Resolution.

Among the main purposes of the regulation published today, according to the consideration clauses included therein, is the development of instruments that besides optimizing their specific functions on Customs matters, will also promote competitiveness and make foreign trade more efficient and expeditious, without losing sight of the risk management and applicable controls over the merchandise. Additionally, "the adoption of this system will allow the standardization and simplification on the information to be obtained by the external entities involved on the Customs clearance of merchandise, according to their corresponding participations, through the "Sole Foreign Trade Window" (in Spanish, "Ventanilla Única de Comercio Exterior" - VUCE -)".

With the publication of this new regulation establishing a new system of imports monitoring and eliminating the former DJAI's regime, the Argentine Government is moving forward with an aim to make easier and simple the import of merchandise into the country, by implementing a new monitoring system to that effect.

We'll keep you informed about the news and updates complementing this new regulation.

Buenos Aires, 22.XII.2015.

