

Proof of Origin

In Germany, the Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CCI) have been tasked by the government with issuing Certificates of Origin.

Certificates of origin are public documents that certify the non-preferential origin of goods and are issued by the CCIs as a sovereign task. They are required by customs authorities upon importation. The application of trade policy measures, such as anti-dumping or countervailing duties, safeguard measures, quantitative import restrictions or embargoes under foreign trade law, may be based on the origin of the goods.

Please be aware that if it is clear from the application or is known that the goods were manufactured in another establishment, proof of origin must be submitted when the application is made. This proof of origin has to establish the originating country of the goods beyond doubt. This also applies to goods that were produced in the applicant's own factory abroad.

In order to verify the correctness of the information provided, further oral or written information or the inspection of related business documents may be requested.

As valid proof of origin the CCI can accept the following documents:

- Certificates of Origin from all countries, certified by the competent authority in the respective country
- Supplier's declarations for EU goods with preferential origin status, which meet the requirements of Articles 61, 62 and 63 of Regulation (EU) 2447/2015 UZK-IA. In addition, supplier's declarations for goods originating in countries for which the EU grants preference issued by an EU company may be accepted.

Attention: Preference certificates with positive cumulation endorsement are not accepted.

- Certificates of Origin Form A (proof of preference/customs document from developing countries)
- Movement certificate EUR.1, EUR.MED, declaration of origin on commercial document
- "(Long-term) declaration IHK" for non-preferential origin according to Regulation (EU) 952/2013 UZK as well as the related Regulation (EU) 2015/2446 UZK-DA and Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 UZK-IA. Attention: For goods originating outside of the EU, this must be certified by the relevant authority.

Other supporting documents, such as invoices, delivery notes and other business documents of manufacturers in the European Union can be recognised as proof of origin if they clearly show that the goods have been manufactured in their own factory in the European Union and have their non-preferential origin in the EU. This is particularly the case if the commercial documents contain a manufacturer's declaration and an indication of origin. Declarations of origin from an approved exporter can also be recognised without a signature.

Invoices or other supporting documents issued by trading companies or third-country manufacturers (including those of their own operating facilities abroad) can only be recognised as proof of origin if the origin of the goods has been explicitly certified therein by an office authorised by the respective state to issue certificates of origin.

From Turkey, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Canada, special cross-border supplier declarations can also be accepted. A movement certificate from Switzerland with EU country of origin as proof of preference can also serve as proof in exceptional cases.

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