

Canada Customs Regulations

Customs Regulations and Customs Bonds

Equipment and exhibits, in most cases, may be brought in free of duties and taxes, provided that, a Customs Broker provides a bond to cover all imports to the show.

Exhibitors not using a Customs Broker may be required to post a deposit, or pay duties and taxes, with Canada Customs.

It is recommended that associations contact a customs broker to have their event recognized with Canada Customs, providing them and their exhibitors an opportunity to obtain maximum benefits.

Material accompanying exhibitors

Hand baggage

If exhibitor staff bring any equipment or display material with them via aircraft, the exhibitor must have with them an equipment list showing description, country of origin and value.

When going through customs at the airport, the exhibitor will declare their goods. If the show is recognized, customs will give them documentation (Customs C6 Form) to give to the customs broker when they arrive at the show. If the show is not recognized, the exhibitor will be required to pay full duties and taxes or post a deposit with customs (direct to customs).

When leaving Canada with the equipment, documentation must be validated by Canada Customs at the airport prior to leaving the country.

Private Vehicle

The United States and Canada have now adopted a mandatory advanced electronic notification system. For this reason, it is recommended that any exhibitors wanting to drive their goods across the border contact a customs broker.

Imported Advertising Material (including give-away samples)

Advertising material including give-away items are free of duties and taxes, provided your event meets certain Canada Customs requirements. Please contact your customs broker to further assist.

Bonded Goods Sold at the Show

Customs Brokers are prepared to handle any release of this type of transaction. The exhibitor or their client must issue payment for duties and taxes on anything that is intended for sale at an event. Your customs clearance provider will assist you in making these payments for these respective clearances.

Exhibitors wishing to contact Canada Customs directly may call:

Canada Border Services Agency
International Exhibitions & Convention Services Program
1980 Matheson Boulevard East
P.O. Box 7000, Station "A"
Mississauga, Ontario L5A 3A4
T: (905) 803-5261
F: (905) 803-5388
E: IECSP-PSEIC_GTA@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca