The Collectors of Customs, Model Customs Collectorate, Appraisement (East/West)/Port Qasim/Preventive), Karachi / Lahore (Appraisement/Preventive) / Sambrail (Sialkot) / Faisalabad / Multan /Islamabad/ Hyderabad/ Quetta / Peshawar/ Gawadar/ Gilgit-Baltistan

DETERMINATION OF CUSTOM VALUES OF LINER ALKYL BENZENE SULPHONIC ACID (SOFT & HARD TYPE) UNDER SECTION 25-A OF THE CUSTOMS ACT, 1969

(VALEUATION RULING NO. 781/2015)


In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 25-A of the Customs Act, 1969, Customs values of Linear Alkyl Benzene Sulphonic Acid (Soft & Hard type) are determined as follows:

2. Background of the valuation issue: The value for Customs purposes of Linear Alkyl Benzene Sulphonic Acid (Soft & Hard type), PCT Headings 3402.1110 & 3402.1190, was determined by this Directorate General vide Valuation Ruling Number No.609/2013, dated 11-11-2013. Since the Ruling was quite old therefore several representations were received from Pakistan Chemicals & Dyes Manufacturer Association (PCDMA) and importers, for re-determination of customs value of this item due to downward trend in prices of this item in the international market. Accordingly, an exercise was initiated to determine the customs value of Linear Alkyl Benzene Sulphonic Acid (Soft & Hard type), PCT Headings 3402.1110 & 3402.1190, with a view to reflect the current prices prevailing in the international markets.

3. Stakeholders’ participation in determination of Customs values: The meetings were fixed with stakeholders on 07-10-2015, 26-10-2015 and 14-12-2015, which were attended by the office bearers/members of PCDMA, local manufacturer(s) and some commercial importers. During the meeting, the commercial importers stated that their imports were against letter of credit/bank documents and correct value declarations were made by them at the time of import which also show decline in import prices of this item. The representatives of PCDMA also provided sales tax invoices issued by some of their members showing supplies to the buyers at lower prices reflecting that the incidence of lower value has been passed on to the buyers in the local market. They also provided copy of monthly news bulletin showing reduced prices of this item in the market. Local manufacturer(s) also agreed to their view point and stated that that though international prices have declined to some extent yet since this item is also produced locally therefore the value may
be re-determined so as not to affect the domestic industry adversely as it is generating revenues for the government besides providing employment to local people.

4. **Method adopted to determine Customs values:** After detailed discussion, valuation methods given in Section 25 of the Customs Act, 1969 were followed to arrive at fair value of Linear Alkyl Benzene Sulphonic Acid (Soft & Hard type). Transaction value method provided in Section 25 (1) was found inapplicable due to absence of resources to verify declarations. Identical/similar goods value Methods provided in Section 25 (5) & (6) were examined for applicability to the valuation issue in the instant case which though provided some reference values of the subject goods but the same could not be exclusively relied up on due to the fact that it's a specific industrial item having particular functions. Market enquiry as envisaged under Section 25 (7) of the Customs Act, 1969, also could not be conducted due to the reason that subject goods being imported for industrial use and supplied to industry and not easily available in open market. Computed Value Method as provided in Section 25 (8) could not be applied for valuation of the aforementioned goods as the cost of raw material and fabrication charges under clause (a) and amount of profit and general expenses under clause (b) of Section 25 (8) of the Act, in the country of export, could not be ascertained. All the information so gathered was evaluated and analyzed for the purpose of determination of customs values. Consequently, the Customs values of Linear Alkyl Benzene Sulphonic Acid (Soft & Hard type), PCT Headings 3402.1110 & 3402.1190 have been determined under Section 25 (9) of the Customs Act, 1969.

5. **Customs values for Linear Alkyl Benzene Sulphonic Acid (Soft & Hard type):** Valuation Ruling of Linear Alkyl Benzene Sulphonic Acid (Soft & Hard type) *hereinafter specified* are proposed as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Description of goods</th>
<th>PCT Heading</th>
<th>Propose PCT for WeBOC</th>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Customs Value (C&amp;F) USS/Kg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Linear Alkyl Benzene Sulphonic Acid (Soft &amp; Hard type)</td>
<td>3402.1110</td>
<td>3402.1110.1000</td>
<td>All Origins</td>
<td>1.275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3402.1190</td>
<td>3402.1190.1000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Linear Alkyl Benzene Sulphonic Acid (Soft &amp; Hard type)</td>
<td>3402.1110</td>
<td>3402.1110.1000</td>
<td>Iran-imported by land route only</td>
<td>1.250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3402.1190</td>
<td>3402.1190.1000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. In cases where declared/ transaction values are higher than the Customs values determined in this Ruling, the Assessing Officers shall apply those values in terms of Sub-Section (1) of Section 25 of the Customs Act, 1969. In case of consignments imported by air, the assessing officer shall take into account the differential between air freight and sea freight while applying the Customs values determined in this Ruling.
7. **Validity of this Valuation Ruling:** The values determined vide this Ruling shall be the applicable Customs value for assessment of subject imported goods until and unless it is rescinded or revised by the competent authority in terms of Sub-Sections (4) of Section 25-A of the Customs Act, 1969.

8. **Revision of the value determined vide this Valuation Ruling:** A revision petition may be filed against this Ruling, as provided under Section 25-D of the Customs Act, 1969, within 30 days from the date of issue of this ruling, before the Director General, Directorate General of Customs Valuation, 7th Floor, Custom House, Karachi.

9. The Collectors of Customs may kindly ensure that the values given in the Ruling for the given description of goods are applied by the concerned staff without fail. Any anomaly observed may kindly be brought to the notice of Directorate General immediately.

10. **This Valuation Ruling supersedes Valuation Ruling No. 609/2013, dated 11-11-2013 to the extent of serial number 23 only.**

 *(Manzoor Hussain Memon)*

Director

Copy for information to:-

1. Member (Customs), F.B.R., Islamabad.
2. Director General, Customs Valuation, Custom House, Karachi.
3. Chief Collector of Customs, South (Appraisement), Custom House, Karachi.
4. Chief Collector of Customs, South (Enforcement), Custom House, Karachi.
5. Chief Collector of Customs (Central), Lahore.
6. Chief Collector of Customs (North), Islamabad.
7. Director General, Intelligence and Investigation-FBR, Islamabad.
8. Director General, Audit (Customs & Petroleum), 1st Floor, PT&T Audit Building, Mauj-e-Darya Road, Lahore.
9. Director General, Post Clearance Audit (PCA), Islamabad.
10. Director General, Internal Audit (Customs), Karachi.
11. Directors, Intelligence & Investigation, Karachi / Lahore / Islamabad/ Quetta
    Peshawar/ Faisalabad.
12. Director, Directorate of Customs Valuation (Camp Office), Lahore.
13. Deputy Director (HQ), Directorate General of Customs Valuation, Karachi, for uploading in One Customs & WeBOC database system and deleting Serial No.23, of Valuation Ruling No. 609/2013, dated 11.11.2013.
14. Chairman (Valuation Committee), FPCC&I, Federation House, Clifton, Karachi.
15. Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad, Hyderabad, Quetta
    & Peshawar.
16. Law Section, Customs Valuation, 7th Floor, Custom House, Karachi.
17. Review Section, Customs Valuation, 7th Floor, Custom House, Karachi.
18. Karachi Customs Agents Group, Bohri Road, Karachi.
19. CHO, Customs Valuation, Custom House, Karachi.
20. Notice Board, Customs Valuation 7th Floor, Custom House, Karachi / MCC,
    Appraisement, 1st Floor, Custom House, Karachi.