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Certificate of Origin

What is a Certificate of Origin?

A Certificate of Origin is an important international trade document confirming that goods in a particular export shipment are wholly attained, produced, manufactured or processed in a particular country.

Why do I need a Certificate of Origin?

In some countries it is a commercial or customs clearance requirement to evidence the origin of the goods being sent. A Certificate of Origin may also be needed to comply with letters of credit, foreign customs requirements or a buyer's request.

Is there a charge payable?

Yes. You can find an up to date price list online.

How do I apply for a Certificate of Origin?

Before you can apply for a Certificate of Origin you will be required to register with the Chamber of Commerce by completing the "Formal Undertaking" form.

In the Formal Undertaking, the applicant (exporter) agrees to take responsibility for ensuring that any information provided for an ensuing Certificate of Origin application is correct and accurate. The applicant must also agree to furnish any relevant commercial information that may be requested from a statutory authority such as HMRC.

The next step is to obtain a blank Certificate of Origin from the Chamber of Commerce. This should be completed and submitted either online via <http://www.tradecert.com/london/> or via the postal system.

What documents do I need to attach to the completed Certificate of Origin?

A commercial invoice must always be submitted with a Certificate of Origin.

If the goods are of UK origin, you will need the full name and address to be shown on the back of the pink page of the paperwork.

If the goods are of non UK origin, in addition to the full names and addresses mentioned above you will be required to submit commercial documentary proof such as a copy of the Certificate of Origin provided by the manufacturer, a manufacturer's commercial invoice or a supplier's declaration.