

**Chapter 39-40 Section VII - Plastics and Articles Thereof; Rubber and Articles Thereof**  
**Notes to Section VII:**

**Note 1:** A good of any chapter or heading in Section VII that satisfies one or more of Rules 1 through 7 of this Section shall be treated as an originating good, except as otherwise specified in those rules.

**Note 2:** Notwithstanding Note 1, a good is an originating good if it meets the applicable change in tariff classification or satisfies the applicable value content requirement specified in the rules of origin in this Section.

**Rule 1: Chemical Reaction Rule**

A good of Chapter 39 through 40 that results from a chemical reaction in the territory of one or more of the Parties shall be treated as an originating good.

For the purposes of this rule, a “chemical reaction” is a process (including a biochemical process) that results in a molecule with a new structure by breaking intramolecular bonds and by forming new intramolecular bonds, or by altering the spatial arrangement of atoms in a molecule.

The following are not considered to be chemical reactions for the purposes of determining whether a good is an originating good:

- (a) dissolution in water or in another solvent;
- (b) the elimination of solvents, including solvent water; or
- (c) the addition or elimination of water of crystallization.

**Rule 2: Purification Rule**

A good of Chapter 39 through 40 that is subject to purification is an originating good, provided that the purification occurs in the territory of one or more of the Parties and results in the following:

- (a) the elimination of not less than 80 percent of the content of existing impurities; or
- (b) the reduction or elimination of impurities resulting in a good suitable for one or more of the following:
  - (i) as a pharmaceutical, medical, cosmetic, veterinary, or food grade substance,
  - (ii) as a chemical product or reagent for analytical, diagnostic, or laboratory uses,
  - (iii) as an element or component for use in micro-elements,
  - (iv) for specialized optical uses,
  - (v) for non-toxic uses for health and safety,
  - (vi) for biotechnical use (*e.g.*, in cell culturing, in genetic technology, or as a catalyst),
  - (vii) as a carrier used in a separation process, or

(viii) for nuclear grade uses.

**Rule 3: Mixtures and Blends Rule**

A good of Chapter 39 is an originating good if the deliberate and proportionally-controlled mixing or blending (including dispersing) of materials, other than the addition of diluents, to conform to predetermined specifications occurs in the territory of one or more of the Parties, resulting in the production of a good having essential physical or chemical characteristics that are relevant to the purposes or uses of the good and are different from the input materials.

**Rule 4: Change in Particle Size Rule**

A good of Chapter 39 is an originating good if the deliberate and controlled modification in particle size of a good, including micronizing by dissolving a polymer and subsequent precipitation, other than by merely crushing or pressing, occurs in the territory of one or more of the Parties, resulting in a good with a defined particle size, defined particle size distribution, or defined surface area, that is relevant to the purposes of the resulting good, and having essential physical or chemical characteristics different from the input materials.

**Rule 5: Standards Materials Rule**

A standards material of Chapter 39 is an originating good if it is produced in the territory of one or more of the Parties.

For the purposes of this rule, a “standards material” (including a standard solution) is a preparation suitable for analytical, calibrating, or referencing uses, having precise degrees of purity or proportions that are certified by the manufacturer.

**Rule 6: Isomer Separation Rule**

A good of Chapter 39 is an originating good if the isolation or separation of isomers from mixtures of isomers occurs in the territory of one or more of the Parties.

**Rule 7: Biotechnological Processes Rule**

A good of Chapter 39 is an originating good if it undergoes a biochemical process or through one or more of the following processes:

- (a) Biological or biotechnological culturing, hybridization, or genetic modification of:
  - (i) Micro-organisms (bacteria, viruses (includes phages) etc.), or
  - (ii) Human, animal or plant cells;
- (b) Production, isolation or purification of cellular or intercellular structures (such as isolated genes, gene fragments and plasmids); or
- (c) Fermentation