Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 October 2013 laying down the Union Customs Code (recast)

TITLE VII

SPECIAL PROCEDURES

CHAPTER 1

General provisions

Article 223

Equivalent goods

1 Equivalent goods shall consist in Union goods which are stored, used or processed instead of the goods placed under a special procedure.

Under the outward processing procedure, equivalent goods shall consist in non-Union goods which are processed instead of Union goods placed under the outward processing procedure.

Except where otherwise provided, equivalent goods shall have the same eight-digit Combined Nomenclature code, the same commercial quality and the same technical characteristics as the goods which they are replacing.

- 2 The customs authorities shall, upon application, authorise the following, provided that the proper conduct of the procedure, in particular as regards customs supervision, is ensured:
 - a the use of equivalent goods under customs warehousing, free zones, end-use and a processing procedure;
 - b the use of equivalent goods under the temporary admission procedure, in specific cases;
 - c in the case of the inward processing procedure, the export of processed products obtained from equivalent goods before the import of the goods they are replacing;
 - d in the case of the outward processing procedure, the import of processed products obtained from equivalent goods before the export of the goods they are replacing.

An authorised economic operator for customs simplifications shall be deemed to fulfil the condition that the proper conduct of the procedure is ensured, insofar as the activity pertaining to the use of equivalent goods for the procedure concerned is taken into account in the authorisation referred to in point (a) of Article 38(2).

- The use of equivalent goods shall not be authorised in any of the following cases:
 - a where only usual forms of handling as defined in Article 220 are carried out under the inward processing procedure;
 - b where a prohibition of drawback of, or exemption from, import duty applies to nonoriginating goods used in the manufacture of processed products under the inward processing procedure, for which a proof of origin is issued or made out in the framework of a preferential arrangement between the Union and certain countries or territories outside the customs territory of the Union or groups of such countries or territories;

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- c where it would lead to an unjustified import duty advantage or where provided for in Union legislation.
- In the case referred to in point (c) of paragraph 2, and where the processed products would be liable to export duty if they were not being exported in the context of the inward processing procedure, the holder of the authorisation shall provide a guarantee to ensure payment of the export duty should the non-Union goods not be imported within the period referred to in Article 257(3).

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