

SAUDI CUSTOMS PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENT (dated 04 Feb 2010)
UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Unofficial Translation of key elements of the announcement made by the Saudi customs is as follows:

“Press Release on the issuance of a circular related to fixing the country of production name on imported goods bearing mark of origin (EU), and non-acceptance of country of origin marking on stickers.

Spokesman for the Customs Mr. Abdullah Kharboush stated that a letter was issued from HE the Director General of Customs No. 144S/11/M dated 20/2/1431H (Corresponding to 4 February 2010) stressing on the need for the mark or origin on goods imported from European Union to show the name of the producing country; and the goods bearing the mark of origin as EU only without referring to the producing country the importer will be assigned to install the name of the producing country indelibly and in a form suitable to the type and nature of the goods within the customs yard or in his warehouse; and for items that can not be installed in the customs yards can be released by providing an undertaking not to dispose before rectifying and to be corrected within a period not exceeding two weeks from the date of release .. After six months of the date of the letter referred to above and if this observation is repeated, Customs will return any European goods that do not bear the producing country to its origin.

The decision also included order not to release any item until after verification of the indication of origin is non removable and it is not in the form of stickers showing; as it was found that stickers can be removed directly or by using removal material.

The official spokesman of the Customs added that this decision comes within the efforts of Customs to combat the phenomenon of commercial counterfeiting and fraud and consumer protection as the name of the European producing country is of interest to the consumer why purchasing products; because of the differences in the level of quality and goodwill of goods between the countries of the European Union;