For Immediate Release June 20, 2016
Contact: Tom Hogue (202) 453–2180 FY–16–14

Proposed Amendments to Streamline Importation of Distilled Spirits, Wine, Beer, Malt Beverages, Tobacco Products, Processed Tobacco, and Cigarette Papers and Tubes and Facilitate Use of the International Trade Data System

Washington, D.C. — The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) will publish a notice of proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register on Tuesday, June 21, 2016, proposing amendments to its regulations governing the importation of distilled spirits, wine, beer and malt beverages, tobacco products, processed tobacco, and cigarette papers and tubes. The proposed amendments will allow importers to file TTB- required data electronically when filing entry or entry summary data electronically with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), as an alternative to the current requirements that importers submit paper documents to CBP upon importation.

TTB is taking this action in response to section 405 of the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act (SAFE Port Act; Pub. L. 109–347), which mandates the use of CBP's International Trade Data System (ITDS) by all Federal government agencies that require documentation for clearing or licensing the importation or exportation of cargo.

You may submit comments on the proposed regulatory amendments and view copies of the proposed rule, selected supporting materials, and any comments TTB receives about this proposal at the “Regulations.gov” website (https://www.regulations.gov) within Docket No. TTB–2016–0004. A link to that docket is posted on the TTB website at https://www.ttb.gov/regulations_laws/all_rulemaking.shtml under Notice No. 159.

Alternatively, written comments may be submitted to one of these addresses:

- U.S. Mail: Director, Regulations and Rulings Division, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, 1310 G Street NW., Box 12, Washington, DC 20005; or

- Hand delivery/courier in lieu of mail: Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, 1310 G Street, NW., Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005.

Comments on this proposal must be received on or before August 22, 2016.

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