Expanding Kazakhstan's Exports under the GSP Program





Office of the U.S. Trade Representative Executive Office of the President April 2008

Summary of Presentation

U.S. imports from Kazakhstan through the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) Program

Using the U.S. GSP program

Increasing Kazakhstan's exports under GSP

GSP Program

Kazakhstan became a GSP beneficiary on March 4, 1994

GSP provides duty-free treatment to 3,400 types of exports from Kazakhstan

Gives Kazakhstan exports an advantage in U.S. market – lower cost to U.S. importers

GSP is a major source of U.S. imports: \$30.8 billion in 2007

U.S. Imports from Kazakhstan Under GSP

- \$420 million in 2007; 2006: \$483 million; 2005: \$206 million
- Kazakhstan is 11th largest user of GSP benefits (2007)
- 34 percent of all U.S. imports from Kazakhstan enter under GSP – one of the highest percentages of U.S. imports under GSP from any country

Just 28 product types enter under GSP

Top U.S. Imports from Kazakhstan under GSP

- Top U.S. imports from Kazakhstan entering under GSP in 2007 were:
 - Unwrought zinc (\$172 million) increase of 753 percent over 2006; \$2.6 million saved in duties (1.5%)
 - Ferrochromium (\$160 million) increase of 89 percent; \$3 million saved in duties (1.9%)
 - Ferrosilicon chromium (\$31 million) increase of 34 percent; \$3.1 million saved in duties (10%)

Other Top U.S. Imports from Kazakhstan under GSP

Ammonium perrhenate: \$21.8m (3.1%)
Ferrochromium, chromium trioxide, tantalum
Wheat gluten: \$964,700 (6.8%)
Gold jewelry: \$890,000 (5.5%), but...U.S. imports dropped from \$5.3m in 2006.
Non-metal imports very small

Kazakhstan is losing GSP eligibility for important exports

Copper cathodes: GSP ended July 1, 2007 (no trade after that in 2007)
 Ammonium perrhenate: July 2007

Ferrochromium (>4% carbon): July 2008

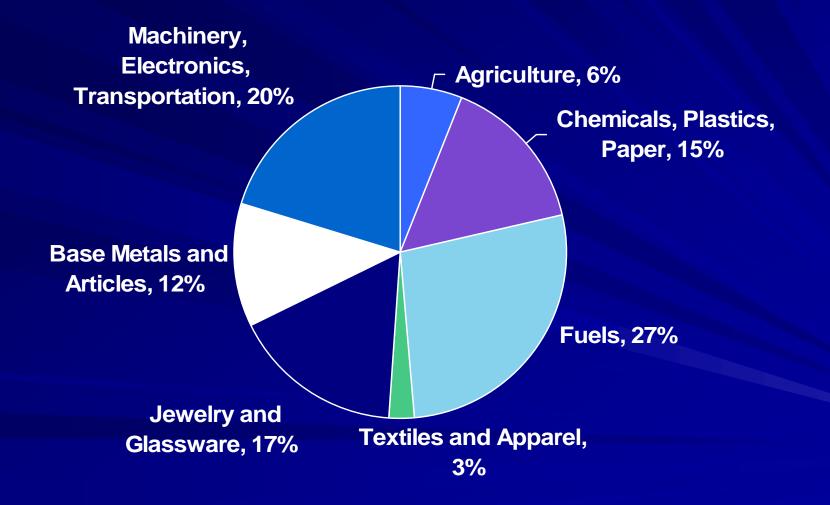
Unwrought zinc: July 2008

Which Products are Eligible for Duty-Free GSP Treatment?

Eligible: manufactured items and inputs, jewelry, skins, many carpets, certain agricultural products, chemicals, marble, and minerals

Not eligible: most textiles and leather goods, footwear, home décor textiles

Types of U.S. imports that received GSP duty-free treatment in 2006



How to Qualify for duty-free treatment under GSP

- (1) Product included in list of GSP-eligible articles*
- (2) Exported directly to U.S. or pass through another country under a "through bill of lading" to the U.S.
- (3) Growth or product of Kazakhstan, or if imported input, local content & processing equal 35% of product value
- (4) Importer must request duty-free treatment for item by writing an "A" on the U.S. Customs Entry Form (tariff refunds can be requested)
- * A: GSP-eligible from all countries: A* one ore more countries no longer eligible; A+: only LDCs eligible

1) GSP eligibility

Product must be included in U.S. tariff list of GSPeligible articles: Free (A...) or Free (A+...) in last column on right

 Or use this lookup address on the web: http://dataweb.usitc.gov/scripts/gsp/gsp_tariff.asp

6307.90.75	00	Toys for pets, of textile materials	No kg	4.3%	Free (BH,CA, CL,E*,IL, J*,JO, MX, P,SG) 1.8% (MA)
6307.90.85	00	Wall banners, of man-made fibers	kg	5.8% <u>1</u> /	3% (AU) Free (A,BH,CA, CL,E,IL,J, CL,IL,JO, MX, P,SG)

2) Imported directly

Product must be imported directly from Kazakhstan to the United States or pass through another country on a "through bill of lading" with a U.S. destination.

3) Product origin

Cost of local inputs and labor must equal 35% of product's FOB price to be from Kazakhstan

If imported item, it must be "substantially transformed" in Kazakhstan and then used in product production

"Substantially transformed" means the item's name, character, or use differs from when it was imported

4) GSP must be requested

U.S. importer (not exporter) MUST REQUEST duty-free treatment for the item

Is NOT automatic

Importer writes an "A" before tariff number on Customs entry form 7501

If importer makes a mistake and does not request GSP: can file a "Post-Entry Amendment" to U.S. Customs within 294 days Make sure importer marks an "A" before the tariff number on the form!

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For agricultural exports

- FDA/USDA certifications required
- Products must be free from microbial contamination, foreign material, pests, diseases, and chemical residues
- Care must be taken during each step:
 - Production Packing Shipping (fresh products)
 - Production Processing Packaging Packing – Shipping (processed products)

Producer/exporter required to keep records for five years

Verification of 35 percent rule-of-origin:

- Dated invoices for materials used to produce good and from where
- Description of product, quantity, and costs

If processing operations are involved:

- Description of processing and location
- Direct costs of processing operations

For agricultural exports:

- Producer's statement verifying on which farm and town the product is grown
- Description of product and quantity
- Dated invoices for costs incurred

Expand use of GSP benefits

- **1.** Apply for waivers of eligibility limitations
- 2. Ensure eligible products get GSP duty-free treatment (96% of all eligible did in 2007)
- 3. Increase exports of current GSP-eligible products (especially non-metals, non-chemicals)
- 4. Identify exports to other countries that would get GSP if exported to U.S.
- 5. Export more consumer items, including handicrafts and home décor items
- 6. Use the internet to tell your story and find buyers for consumer goods

How imports lose GSP eligibility

Statutory limits, called "competitive need limitations," provide a ceiling on GSP benefits for each product and beneficiary country.

For example, Kazakhstan will automatically lose its GSP eligibility with respect to a product if the competitive need limitations are exceeded (and if no waiver is granted).

How imports lose GSP eligibility

The competitive need limitations in the GSP law require the termination of a country's GSP eligibility for a product if - during any calendar year - U.S. imports from that country:

- 1. Account for 50 percent or more of the value of total U.S. imports of that product; or
- 2. Exceed a certain dollar value (\$130 million in 2007; \$135 million in 2008, and will be \$140 million in 2009).

How imports lose GSP eligibility

- When its annual trade from a country exceeds one of the limits, an import is "sufficiently competitive"
- So, GSP treatment for that import then ends on July 1 of the next year.
- BUT a petition can be submitted in mid-November and, if approved, a waiver of the limits is approved and GSP treatment continues

Claim the GSP savings!

- Kazakhstan is doing well! U.S. imported \$437 million in GSP-eligible goods in 2007
- U.S. importers did not claim just \$17millon (\$11 million duties paid)
- However, average duty on items not claimed under GSP was 2.6%, as compared to items claimed (1.9%)

Claim the GSP savings **U.S.** importers did not claim these exports under GSP (2006-2007): Tantalum (\$20 million: \$546,800 duties paid at 2.5 - 4.4%) Caviar (\$361,191: \$54,179 at 15%) Microwave ovens (\$31,372 paid at 2%) Wood articles (\$14,692: \$485 paid at 3.3%)

Identify GSP-eligible Items that Kazakhstan exports to other markets

For example, Kazakhstan exports to the European Union give an idea of articles that could benefit from GSP if exported to the United States:

- Copper articles
- Zinc articles
- Jewelry and other items of precious stones & metals
- Hides and skins
- Electrical machinery
- Cereals

Marketing consumer items

- Look at U.S. design trends (online catalogs). U.S. consumers want items that are:
 - "natural" or "organic"
 - -"sustainable"
 - "socially conscious"

Attach a story about you, your product, your company, or your community

Hints for Consumer Items

Google "your product" for design trends

Upload a video on YouTube.com: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRGxHwjc</u> <u>iDY</u> is a video about jewelry from Nepal

Look at websites that market your items:

 www.fairindigo.com, www.etsy.com, www.buyhandmade.org, www.fabsugar.com, www.style.com

Export jewelry and home décor items duty-free: <u>strong</u> U.S. demand

- Jewelry: gold and silver (5-11% saved)
- Wood statues, boxes, and tableware (3.2 - 10.9%)
- Leather belts and bandoliers (2.7%)
- Carpets and rugs (6%)
- Ceramic houseware articles (6 9.8%)
- Woven baskets and bags (6.6%)
- Woven wall hangings and pictures (DF)

Export Handicrafts under GSP

- Under a certified textile handicraft agreement between Kazakhstan and the U.S.:
- Artisans can export duty-free...
 - hand-loomed fabrics (3% duty saved)
 - hand-loomed and folklore wall hangings and pillow covers (3.8% duty saved)
- ...when the Kazakhstan government certifies them as hand-made.

Letter was given to Kazakhstan in August 2007 in response to interest from the Kazakhstan government.

Outreach and Education

Outreach tools

- seminars (in-person, via teleconference, videoconference);
- GSP guides and export analyses for the government, Chambers of Commerce, NGOs, artisan groups, and other organizations
- news articles and public service radio announcements
- USTR also works with key U.S. importer groups

Questions?

Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

GSP guidebook, lists of GSP-eligible and ineligible products, notices:

- http://www.ustr.gov/Trade_Development/Prefer ence_Programs/GSP/Section_Index.html
- Info in Arabic and French!

U.S. Tariff Schedule

- <u>http://www.usitc.gov/tata/hts</u>
- http://dataweb.usitc.gov/scripts/gsp/gsp_tariff. asp

For Additional Information

- Foreign Agricultural Service: <u>agankara@fas.usda.gov</u>
- Department of Homeland Security: Customs & Border Protection: http://www.customs.gov/xp/cgov/import/
 - Customs Entry Form 7501: https://forms.customs.gov/customsrf/ge tformharness.asp?formName=cf-7501form.xft
 - http://www.customs.treas.gov/xp/cgov/t oolbox/ publications/

Thank you!



