# Expanding Montenegro's Exports through the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) Program





Bill Jackson
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
Executive Office of the President
July 2012

### Presentation Summary

Overview of the U.S. GSP Program

Montenegro's GSP exports to the U.S.

How to increase Montenegro's use of duty-free opportunities

### GSP Program

- Enhanced access to U.S. market
- Expanded choices for U.S. industries & consumers
- Provides duty-free treatment for up to 5,000 products from 128 countries
- \$18.5 billion in total U.S. GSP imports (2011)
- GSP program authorized through July 2013

## GSP Program: Eligible Products

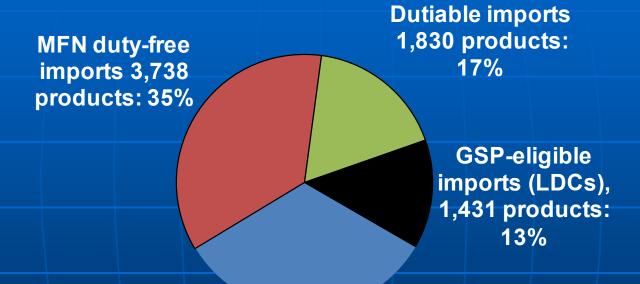
### Eligible

- Many manufactured items & inputs
- Most jewelry
- Many agricultural products
- Chemicals
- Minerals
- Marble
- Most carpets

#### Ineligible

- Most textiles & apparel
- Watches
- Footwear
- Handbags
- Luggage
- Some gloves & leather goods

## How many products are eligible for GSP duty-free treatment?



GSP-eligible imports (all), 3,450 products: 33%

## U.S. - Montenegro Trade

- 2011 U.S. imports from Montenegro: \$ 4.2m
- GSP imports: \$ 0.8m (20% of total imports)
- Overall GSP utilization rate: 41%
- Top GSP imports in 2011:

Product	MFN tariff	Total value
Copper & brass products	1-2.2%	\$0.7 million
Monumental/building stone	4.9%	\$65,000

### How to Qualify for Duty-Free Treatment under GSP

- Must be a GSP-eligible product
  - Must be a product or growth of Montenegro
    - If using non-Montenegrin inputs, local content & processing must be ≥ 35% of the value
    - Must import directly into the U.S. w/o entering commerce of another country
  - Benefit must be claimed by importer
  - Keep production/accounting records to assist importer to verify GSP claim

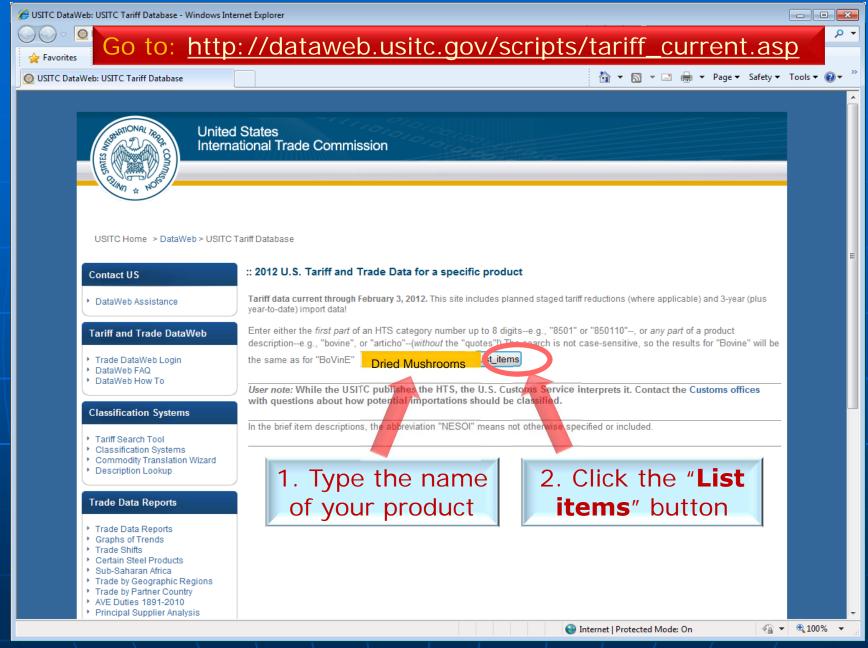
## Is my product eligible for duty-free treatment under GSP?

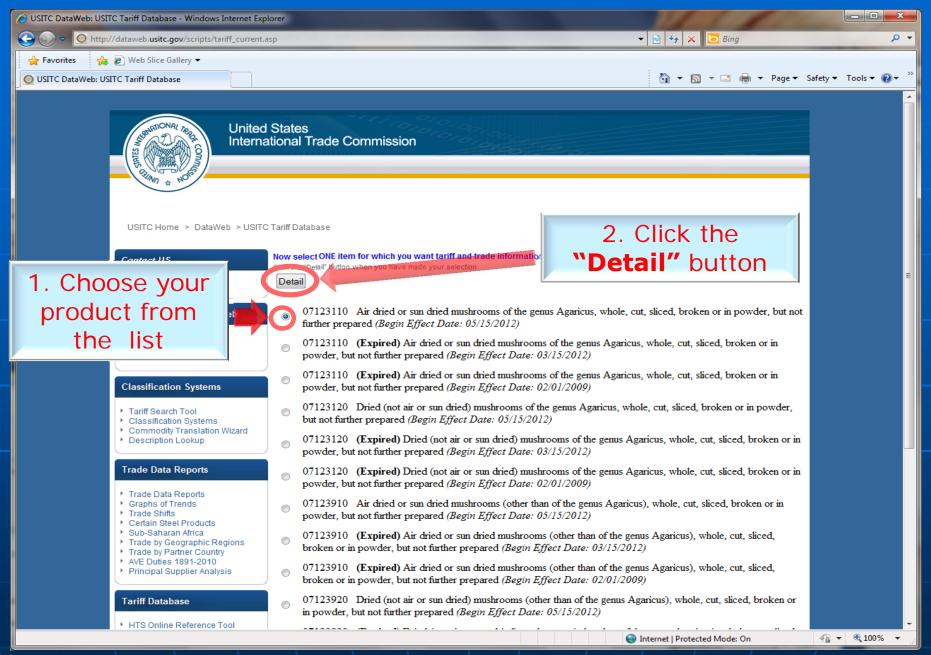
#### The easiest way to find out is to go to:

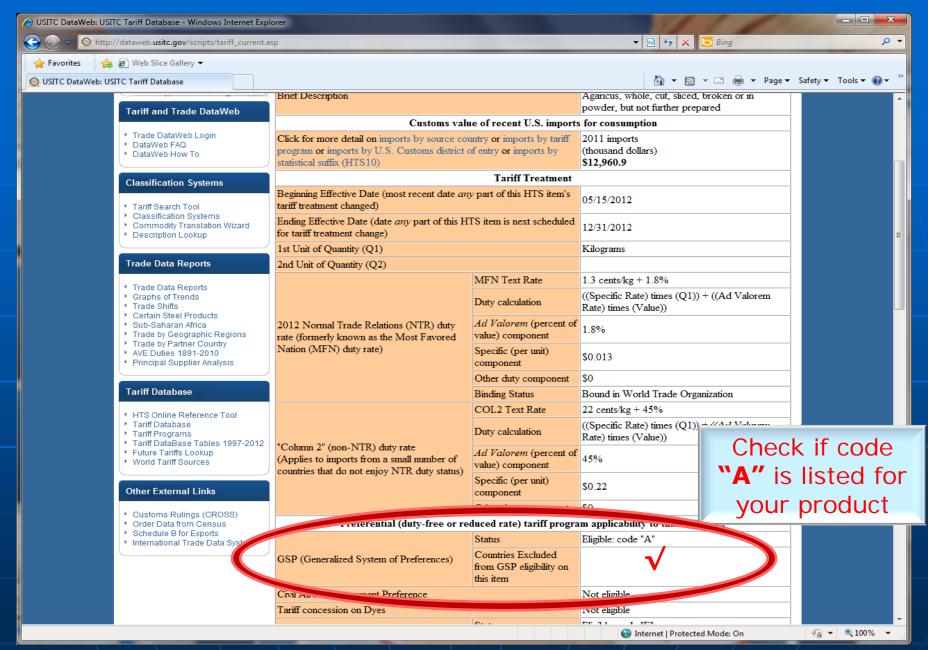
http://dataweb.usitc.gov/scripts/tariff\_ current.asp

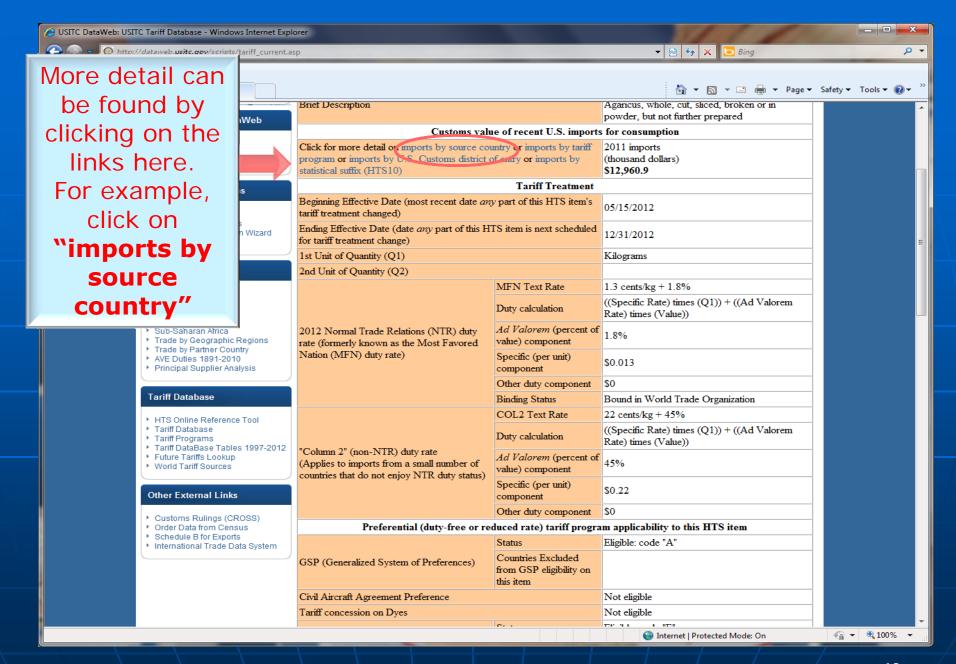
#### List of GSP-eligible products at:

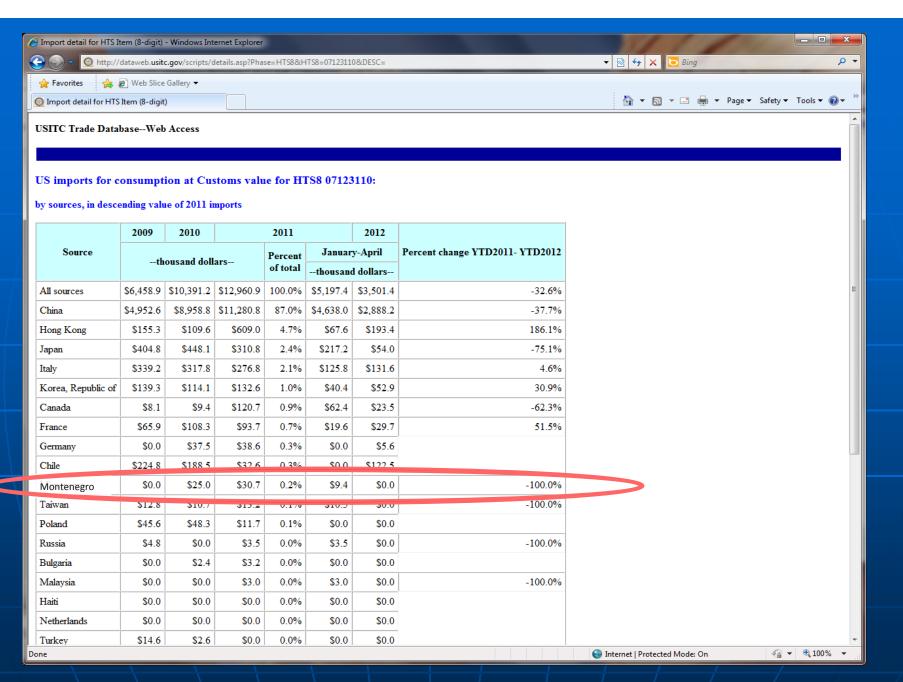
• <a href="http://www.ustr.gov/trade-topics/trade-development/preference-programs/generalized-system-preference-gsp/gsp-program-i-0">http://www.ustr.gov/trade-topics/trade-development/preference-programs/generalized-system-preferences-gsp/gsp-program-i-0</a>











## How to Increase Duty-Free Imports into the U.S.

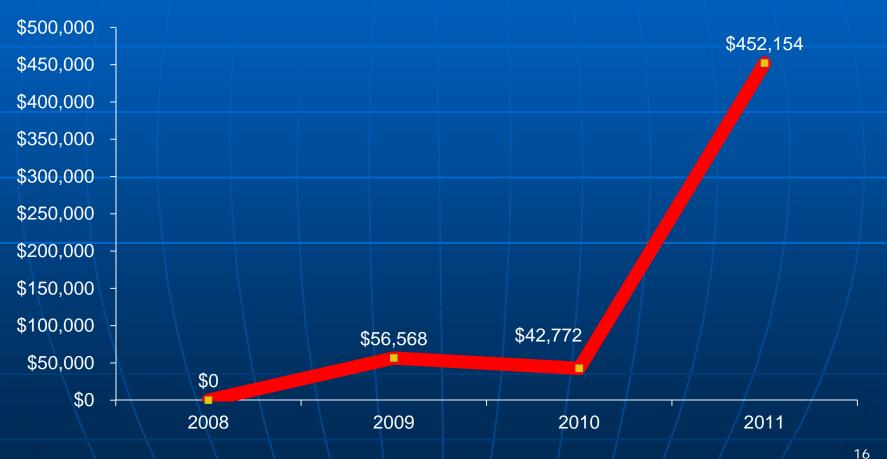
- Use GSP as a marketing tool
  - **Ensure that GSP treatment is claimed**
  - Identify GSP-eligible products that Montenegro is exporting to other markets
    - Consider products with a GSP advantage

## GSP-Eligible Imports: Underutilized in 2011

Product	MFN tariff	Total value	Utilization rate
Refined copper plates, strip, & sheets	1%	\$0.5m	20.7%
Spectacle lenses other than glass	2%	\$44,000	0%
Air dried or sun dried mushrooms	1.3¢/kg + 1.8%	\$30,700	69.5%

### GSP Success story





## Identifying & Developing potential U.S. buyers

- Depends on size, sector, experience
- Are you export-ready?
- Understanding the US market
- What kind of relationship: agent, distributor, partner, joint venture
- Best leads: your own network!
- Trade shows

## Petition process to add new products

- Product must not be excluded by statute (e.g., apparel)
  - Submit petition during Annual Review (deadlines listed in *Federal Register*)
    - Provide the information required by the regulations

### For Further Information

### **GSP** general information:

 http://www.ustr.gov/trade-topics/tradedevelopment/preference-programs/generalized-systempreference-gsp

#### **Lists of GSP-eligible products:**

 http://www.ustr.gov/trade-topics/tradedevelopment/preference-programs/generalized-systempreferences-gsp/gsp-program-i-0

### For Further Information

#### **U.S. Tariff Schedule:**

- http://www.usitc.gov/tata/hts
- http://www.usitc.gov/tariff\_affairs/tariff\_databases.htm
- See esp. General Note 4.

#### **U.S. Embassy Contact:**

- Mr. Drew Tanzman, Economic Officer
- tanzmanda@state.gov
- (+382 20) 410 507

# Thank you! Hvala!

