

**RESERVED COMMODITIES (CONTROL OF IMPORTS,
EXPORTS AND RESERVE STOCKS) REGULATIONS,
CHAPTER 296 SUB. LEG. A**

Conditions of Registration as a Stockholder of Rice

- (1) Registration as a stockholder of rice is not transferable. Registered stockholder is required to immediately inform the Director-General of Trade and Industry (DGTI) in writing of any change of particulars in the "Application for Registration as a Stockholder of Rice".
- (2) At his application to be registered as a stockholder of rice, each stockholder shall state in his application the quantity of rice which he is prepared to import and hold as a stockholder for the registration period (regulation 12(2)(b)). This stated quantity shall be inclusive of the quantity for sales and for keeping as a reserve stock at all times within the registration period.
- (3) Each stockholder shall undertake in a form specified by DGTI an import quantity (not inclusive of the reserve stock) for an import period as defined by DGTI before the commencement of the import period and within the time limit specified by DGTI and he shall import in full that quantity within the import period.
- (4) A newly registered stockholder will commence operation to import and maintain a stock of rice in the immediately following import period after DGTI has registered him as a stockholder if he is registered not less than one month before that import period. A newly registered stockholder may however only commence operation in the second following import period if he is registered in less than one month before the start of the immediately following import period. There are four import periods in a year, namely, January to March, April to June, July to September and October to December, unless otherwise specified by DGTI.
- (5) DGTI may require a stockholder to import such quantity above the import quantity which he has undertaken to import for an import period and such quality of rice as DGTI may determine where necessary to ensure a regular and stable supply of rice. The stockholder shall comply with such a requirement. However, the total quantity which a stockholder is required to import and hold in stock in the registration period shall not exceed the total import quantity stated by the stockholder in his application to be registered as a stockholder.
- (6) By regulation 18(1), each stockholder shall at all times during the continuance of his certificate of registration maintain as stock not less than the amount specified in his certificate. Each stockholder is required to at all times maintain in good condition a reserve stock of white rice at a quantity as specified by the DGTI in his certificate of registration which shall be in the sole ownership and immediate possession of the stockholder and shall not be disposed of unless directed by the DGTI. Pursuant to regulation 20, DGTI may order in writing the stock of rice held by a stockholder to be replaced by other stocks of rice and DGTI may direct stockholders to dispose of the stock to the market to maintain sufficient supply of rice to the local population.
- (7) By regulation 19, DGTI may require a stockholder to keep such records and submit such returns as DGTI may specify. Each stockholder is required to keep accurate and up-to-date books of account in respect of its imports, sales, selling prices and stocks of rice and submit such returns to DGTI at the specified times.
- (8) By regulation 17, where DGTI cancels the registration of a stockholder of rice, the stockholder shall dispose of his stocks in accordance with the directions of DGTI. A registered stockholder may request for cancellation of his registration as a stockholder of rice at the end of the import period if he makes the request for cancellation at least one month before the end of the import period. If the request is made in less than one month before the end of the import period, the cancellation may only be effected at the end of the next import period.
- (9) Each stockholder shall abide by any price controls on rice imposed by DGTI in accordance with regulation 22(1).

Notes :

1. Any person carrying on business ^{Note} registered in Hong Kong under the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap 310) interested in dealing with rice importing business may apply to be registered as a stockholder any time. Normally, import licences will only be issued to registered stockholders to cover their rice imports for local consumption.
2. Each stockholder must abide by the conditions of registration which may be altered by DGTI from time to time as he deems it necessary. DGTI may cancel the registration of a stockholder if he fails to comply with any of these conditions.
3. All references to regulations in these conditions are references to provisions in the Reserved Commodities (Control of Imports, Exports and Reserve Stocks) Regulations (Cap. 296 Sub. leg. A).
4. Where there is any inconsistency between these conditions and the regulations, the latter shall prevail.

^{Note} As defined in section 3(1) of the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap 310), "person carrying on business" means:

- (a) in the case of a single person or corporate body, such person or corporate body;
- (b) in the case of a business carried on by a partnership, all partners; and
- (c) in the case of a business carried on by any other body of persons, the principal officers of such body.