



Overview

This provision covers implementing and modifying the Uniform Regulations. The new United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) has made some changes from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). USMCA intends to help small and medium-sized enterprises utilize the Agreement.

References

- **USMCA**
 - *Final Text*: Chapter 5, Article 5.16
 - *HR 5430 Citation*: Title I, Section 103(b)(2)
- **NAFTA**
 - *Final Text*: Chapter 5, Article 511

Significant Changes in USMCA

| Provision | USMCA | NAFTA |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Changes / Differences | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New to USMCA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The USMCA specifies a specific Committee to handle the modification of the Uniform Rules. ○ The Origin Committee provides guidance to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to comply with the rules and procedures. • Same as NAFTA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The laws and regulations to implement the Uniform Regulations must be in force by the entry into force date of the Agreement | |
| Modifications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no specific time limit to implement modifications to the Uniform Regulations • The USMCA specifies the Committee on Rules of Origin and Origin Procedures (Origin Committee) to handle modifications of the Uniform Rules. • The Origin Committee also provides guidance including examples to assist small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to comply with the rules and procedures of Chapter 4, Chapter 5, and Chapter 6. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAFTA specifies 180-day time limit to implement the modification of the Uniform Regulations |



Detailed USMCA/NAFTA Side-by-Side

| Provision | USMCA | NAFTA |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| Uniform Regulations | <p>Article 5.16: Uniform Regulations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Parties shall, by entry into force of this Agreement, adopt or maintain through their respective laws or regulations, Uniform Regulations regarding the interpretation, application, and administration of this Chapter, Chapter 4 (Rules of Origin), Chapter 6 (Textile and Apparel Goods), Chapter 7 (Customs Administration and Trade Facilitation) and other matters as may be decided by the Parties. 2. The Committee on Rules of Origin and Origin Procedures (Origin Committee) shall consult to discuss possible amendments or modifications to the Uniform Regulations. 3. In particular, the Origin Committee shall consult regularly to consider modifications or additions to the Uniform Regulations to reduce their complexity and provide practical and useful guidance to ensure better compliance with the rules and procedures of this Chapter, Chapter 4 (Rules of Origin), and Chapter 6 (Textile and Apparel Goods), including examples or guidance that would be of particular assistance to SMEs in the territories of the Parties. 4. The Origin Committee shall notify the Commission of any modification of or addition to the Uniform Regulations it decides. 5. Each Party shall implement any modification of or addition to the Uniform Regulations within a period that the Parties decide. 6. Each Party shall apply the Uniform Regulations in addition to the obligations in the Chapter. <p>HR 5430 Citation: Title I, Section 103(b)(2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim or initial regulations to implement the Uniform Regulations regarding rules of origin provided for under article 5.16 of the USMCA shall be prescribed not later than the date on which the USMCA enters into force. | <p>Article 511: Uniform Regulations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Parties shall establish, and implement through their respective laws or regulations by January 1, 1994, Uniform Regulations regarding the interpretation, application and administration of Chapter Four, this Chapter and other matters as may be agreed by the Parties. 2. Each Party shall implement any modification of or addition to the Uniform Regulations no later than 180 days after the Parties agree on such modification or addition, or such other period as the Parties may agree. |