

originating in the United States, Canada and/or Mexico under the rules set forth in General Note 12, HTSUS, and in the appendix to this part.

(f) *Exporter*. *Exporter* means an exporter located, and required under this part to maintain records regarding exportations of a good, in the United States, Canada or Mexico.

(g) *Generally Accepted Accounting Principles*. *Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* means the recognized consensus or substantial authoritative support in the United States, Canada or Mexico with respect to the recording of revenues, expenses, costs, assets and liabilities, the disclosure of information and the preparation of financial statements. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles under this definition may encompass broad guidelines of general application as well as detailed standards, practices and procedures.

(h) *HTSUS*. *HTSUS* means the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

(i) *Importer*. *Importer* means an importer located, and required under this part to maintain records regarding importations of a good, in the United States, Canada or Mexico.

(j) *Intermediate material*. *Intermediate material* means an “intermediate material” as defined in the appendix to this part.

(k) *Marking Rules*. *Marking Rules* means the “NAFTA Marking Rules” as defined in §134.1(j) of this chapter.

(l) *Measure*. *Measure* means any law, regulation, procedure, requirement or practice.

(m) *Mexico*. *Mexico*, when used in a geographical rather than governmental context, means the territory of Mexico as defined in Annex 201.1 of the NAFTA.

(n) *NAFTA*. *NAFTA* means the North American Free Trade Agreement approved by the Congress under section 101(a) of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (107 Stat. 2057).

(o) *NAFTA drawback*. *NAFTA drawback* means any drawback, waiver or reduction of U.S. customs duty provided for in subpart E of this part.

(p) *Net cost of a good*. *Net cost of a good* means the “net cost of a good” as defined in the appendix to this part.

(q) *Originating*. *Originating*, when used with regard to a good or a material, means a good or material which qualifies as originating in the United States, Canada and/or Mexico under the rules set forth in General Note 12, HTSUS, and in the appendix to this part.

(r) *Person*. *Person* means a natural person or an enterprise.

(s) *Preferential tariff treatment*. *Preferential tariff treatment* means the duty rate applicable to an originating good or to a good to which appendix 6.B. to Annex 300–B of the NAFTA applies.

(t) *Producer*. *Producer* means a *producer* as defined in the appendix to this part.

(u) *Production*. *Production* means *production* as defined in the appendix to this part.

(v) *Transaction value*. *Transaction value* means transaction value as defined in the appendix to this part.

(w) *United States*. *United States*, when used in a geographical rather than governmental context, means the territory of the United States as defined in Annex 201.1 of the NAFTA.

(x) *Used*. *Used* means *used* as defined in the appendix to this part.

(y) *Value*. *Value* means the value of a good or material for purposes of calculating customs duties or for purposes of applying the provisions of the appendix to this part.

## Subpart B—Export Requirements

### § 181.11 Certificate of Origin.

(a) *General*. A Certificate of Origin shall be employed to certify that a good being exported either from the United States into Canada or Mexico or from Canada or Mexico into the United States qualifies as an originating good for purposes of preferential tariff treatment under the NAFTA.

(b) *Preparation of Certificate in the United States*. An exporter in the United States who completes and signs a Certificate of Origin for the purpose set forth in paragraph (a) of this section shall use Customs Form 434 or such other medium or format as approved by

the Canadian or Mexican customs administration for that purpose. Where the U.S. exporter is not the producer of the good, that exporter may complete and sign a Certificate on the basis of:

(1) Its knowledge of whether the good qualifies as an originating good;

(2) Its reasonable reliance on the producer's written representation that the good qualifies as an originating good; or

(3) A completed and signed Certificate for the good voluntarily provided to the exporter by the producer.

(c) *Submission of Certificate to Customs.* An exporter in the United States, and a producer in the United States who has voluntarily provided a copy of a Certificate of Origin to that exporter pursuant to paragraph (b)(3) of this section, shall provide a copy of the Certificate to Customs upon request.

(d) *Notification of errors in Certificate.* An exporter or producer in the United States who has completed and signed a Certificate of Origin, and who has reason to believe that the Certificate contains information that is not correct, shall within 30 calendar days after the date of discovery of the error notify in writing all persons to whom the Certificate was given by the exporter or producer of any change that could affect the accuracy or validity of the Certificate.

**§ 181.12 Maintenance and availability of records.**

(a) *Maintenance of records—(1) General.* An exporter or producer in the United States who completes and signs a Certificate of Origin shall maintain in the United States, for five years after the date on which the Certificate was signed, the Certificate (or copy thereof) and all other records relating to the origin of a good for which preferential tariff treatment may be claimed in Canada or Mexico, including records associated with:

(i) The purchase of, cost of, value of, and payment for, the good that is exported from the United States;

(ii) The purchase of, cost of, value of, and payment for, all materials, including indirect materials, used in the production of the good that is exported from the United States; and

(iii) The production of the good in the form in which the good is exported from the United States.

(2) *Method of maintenance.* The records referred to in paragraph (a) of this section shall be maintained in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles applied in the United States and may be maintained in hard-copy form, on microfilm or microfiche or in automated record storage devices (for example, magnetic discs and tapes) if associated computer programs are available to facilitate retrieval of the data in a usable form.

(b) *Availability of records—(1) To Customs.* For purposes of determining compliance with the provisions of this part, the records required to be maintained under this section shall be made available for examination and inspection by the port director or other appropriate Customs officer in the same manner as provided in part 163 of this chapter in the case of U.S. importer records.

(2) *To the Canadian or Mexican customs administration.* If a U.S. exporter or producer receives notification of, and consents to, an origin verification visit by the Canadian or Mexican customs administration under Article 506 of the NAFTA (see § 181.74(e) of this part), such consent shall constitute agreement by the U.S. exporter or producer to make available to an officer of that customs administration all records required to be maintained under this section and to provide facilities for the inspection thereof. If, during the course of an origin verification of a U.S. producer, the Canadian or Mexican customs administration finds that the U.S. producer has failed to maintain its records in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles applied in the United States, that customs administration will so inform the U.S. producer in writing and will give the U.S. producer 60 calendar days to conform the records to those Principles. If a U.S. exporter or producer fails to maintain records or make records available to the Canadian or Mexican customs administration in accordance with the provisions of this section, or if a U.S. producer fails to conform its records to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles