

Tax & Legal Alert

ROMANIA 13 April 2009

Excise duty changes calendar

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Government emergency ordinance No 29, dated 25 March 2009, was published on 27 March 2009. It amends the Fiscal code and entered into force starting with 1 April 2009 ("Ordinance").

Ministry of Finance Order No 614 was published on 31 March 2009. It refers to the minimum excise duty level for cigarettes ("Order").

Some of the most important amendments provided by the two legislative acts are:

- For sparkling fermented beverages (e.g. cider) the excise duty was increased from EUR 34.05 / hectolitre of finished product to EUR 45 / hectolitre of finished product.
 - For intermediate products (vermouth, mixtures of spirits beverages and fermented beverages with a alcoholic strength by volume under 22%) the excise duty was increased from EUR 51.08 / hectolitre of finished product to EUR 65 / hectolitre of finished product.
 - From 1 April 2009, the excise duty for cigarettes was increased from EUR 50 / 1,000 cigarettes to EUR 57 / 1,000 cigarettes. From 1 September 2009, the excise duty is to increase to EUR 64 / 1,000 cigarettes and from 1 January 2010 the excise duty level is to be EUR 74 / 1,000 cigarettes.
- The Order establishes that during the period 1 April 2009 to 31 August 2009, the minimum excise duty level for cigarettes is EUR 51.87 / 1,000 cigarettes (RON 193.81 / 1,000 cigarettes).
- On 1 April 2009, the excise duty for cigars and cigarillos was increased from EUR 50 / 1,000 pieces to EUR 57 / 1,000 pieces. On 1 September 2009, the excise duty will be increased to 64 euro / 1,000 pieces.
 - On 1 April 2009, the excise duty for fine-cut tobacco intended for the

rolling of cigarettes and for other smoking tobaccos was increased from EUR 66 / kg to EUR 73 / kg. The excise duty will be increased to EUR 81 / kg on 1 September 2009.

[Source: Official Gazette of Romania No 190 dated 26 March 2009 and No 210 dated 1 April 2009]

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