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Import requirements for used machinery, equipment and production lines

On 13 November 2015, the Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) issued Circular 23/2015/TT-BKHCN (“Circular 23”) prescribing the requirements and procedures for importation of used machinery, equipment and production lines classified under Chapter 84, 85 (except for headings from 8440 to 8443). Circular 23 will take effect on 1 July 2016.

- According to Circular 23, used machinery, equipment and production lines which are not specifically prohibited from importing into Vietnam may be imported if they meet the following conditions:
 - + They are imported into Vietnam within 10 years from the manufacture date;
 - + They are manufactured based on standards which are in conformity with Vietnam’s National Technical Standards or Nation Standards; or in conformity with standards of G7 countries on safety, energy saving and environment protection.
- In respect of importation of used machinery, equipment and production lines for investment projects which are priority projects or subject to investment license application, the above requirements are exempted if the list of used machinery, equipment and production lines has been approved in the investment license application dossier.
- Used replacement components and spare parts can only be imported if companies need to fix or replace the currently used ones.
- If necessary, other authorities may have different requirement on the period of time from the manufacture date of the used machinery, equipment and production lines to the importation date into Vietnam and would need to report to MoST for management.

Circular 23 also provides detailed administrative procedures for importing these items into Vietnam.



This publication has been prepared for general guidance on matters of interest only, and does not constitute professional advice. For further information, please contact: David Fitzgerald – Partner +84(8) 3824 0116 david.fitzgerald@vn.pwc.com, Pham Van Vinh – Director +84 8 3823 0796 Ext. 1503 pham.van.vinh@vn.pwc.com, or Nguyen Hong Son – Manager +84 (8) 38230796 Ext. 1509 nguyen.hong.son@vn.pwc.com