Import Customs Guide **THAILAND**

Information from FIDI Asia

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FIDI ACCREDITED INTERNATIONAL MOVER

The global quality standard for international moving.
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GOODS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	CUSTOMS PRESCRIPTIONS	REMARKS

Removal goods for Foreign National and returning Thai National	▪ Shipper must provide:
	  ▪ Original Passport
	  ▪ Original Thai ID card for Thai nationals
	  ▪ Non-Immigrant or Residence Visa valid for one year for foreign national
	  ▪ Work Permit valid for one year
	  ▪ Smart visa reference number for Smart visa holders
	▪ Origin agent must provide:
	  ▪ Legible copy of packing inventory in English.
	  ▪ Original Bill of Landing (OBL) if not surrendered or Airway bill
	▪ Shipments must be marked on the OBL "Used Household Goods & Personal Effects" and Airway Bills as "Used Personal Effects" only.
	▪ Departure stamp is needed on passport when leaving the origin country, do not go through the electronic lane. This is to prove that the shipment comes from the previous living country.
		▪ Duty-free entry for used personal effects and household goods but only 1 (one) small air shipment AND 1 (one) shipment by sea only.
		▪ Household effects under 6 months in age are subject to duties.
		▪ Although the shipper may import more than one shipment, he remains subject to full import duties on the second shipment. We recommend the consolidation of shipments prior to their arrival in Thailand.
		▪
		▪ Personal and household effects must be imported to the Kingdom after the arrival of importer but no later than six months.
		▪ Original passport and original work permit must be presented to Customs during the inspection. The bond facility is not available pending the issuance of a work permit. Without the one-year work permit, shipment will be dutiable, only an original passport is required during customs clearance.
		▪
		▪ All shipments (except diplomatic) must be consigned to the Shipper's full name (exactly as shown in the passport) with the title Mr./Mrs./Ms or Miss in front of the
			▪ Duty free entry available to:
			  ▪ For Thai returning citizens, the duty-free exemption (with exception of items such as sports and musical equipment which are always dutiable) usually only applies to 3000 kg if they have satisfied all other requirements. Anything above that will be dutiable.
			  ▪ Returning Thai resident who has lived abroad for more than 12 months.
			  ▪ Must have had their Thai passport stamped from Thailand, and arrival at destination and vice versa.
			  ▪ Thai customs must see an immigration entry/exit stamp in the shipper's passport.
			  ▪ Do not go through the electronic lane (mostly for tourists) when the shipper arrives at Suvarnabhumi International Airport.
			  ▪ Thai customs will need to see the arrival stamp in the passport. In case the shipper has gone through that lane on the previous visit to Thailand, it will create difficulties for them to file a proof of arrival in order to receive the duty-free status. The shipper will need to obtain the full immigration in/out travel record from the Central Immigration Department

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		Shipper's first name. The shipment has to be consigned to the full name of the shipper c/o Removal Company's address. ▪ ▪ Shipper does not have to be present at customs BUT his/her original passport has to be presented to customs. ▪ ▪ The following restrictions must always be met for a 1-year work permit or a returning Thai – otherwise, the shipment will be classified as non-exempt: ▪ Shipment must originate from the same country as the owner's last place of residence or place of work. ▪ Must contain used items (not new). ▪ Only one of each type of electrical appliance is allowed, duplicate appliances will be charged full duties.	in Bangkok. ▪ Too frequent travelling back and forth can cause problems should Customs deem the owner to have not been permanently based in the origin country. Each stay in Thailand must not be more than 3 months each time. The shipper has never imported goods into Thailand. Original passport (old passport might be needed), and original Thai ID card must be presented during the customs inspection. ▪ Foreigners holding a one-year non-immigrant B (business) visa with a valid one-year work permit at the time shipment arrives at port. ▪ Foreigners holding Visa type "O", "O-A", (Retirement or Guardian visa) will not be considered for duty-free entry and are subject to duties and taxes. ▪ Foreigners holding "Elite visa", "ED" Education visa or other categories will not be considered for duty-free entry and are subject to duties and taxes. ▪ Foreigners holding "Smart visa". ▪ Only a full 1-year Smart visa will be considered for duty exemption. ▪ Duty shall be exempt for the import of used personal household goods for the shipment with a maximum weight limit of 3,500 kgs. ▪ Original Passport and Original Confirmation letter from Smart Visa

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			Office are required. ▪ All other categories are subject to high taxes. ▪ A VAT of 7% applies to all invoices issued in Thailand.

Removal Goods	.	▪ All shipments must be marked on the OBL as "Used Household Goods & Personal Effects" or AWB as 'Used Personal Effects" only.
		  ▪ Do not declare as household goods or household_effects on the AWB.
		  ▪ Original BL is needed if OBL is not surrendered (express released).
		▪ On "Marks and Numbers" cannot show "No Marks" or leave it blank on the OBL.
		  ▪ Need to use consignee name under marks on the OBL.
		  ▪ There will be approx. THB 1500 fine charged by Thai Customs if without marking on BL or marking incomplete.
			▪ With all documentation in order, clearance typically takes 3-5 working days for FCL and 5-7 working days for LCL and Air shipments.

Diplomats' removals	▪ A set of packing lists. ▪ A set of Diplomatic documents (DP1), included passport copy. ▪ Bill of Lading if not surrendered or Air Waybill.	▪ Diplomatic shipments are allowed duty-free into the Kingdom. ▪ Diplomatic shipments must be consigned to their Embassy or their mission/organization with full name and full address Attn: Mr./Mrs./Ms. Or Miss in front of Shipper's full name (exactly as shown in passport). ▪ Diplomats need to get permission from their local Embassy if they are able to receive the DP1 document to import wine and other alcohol.	▪ Documentation processing for diplomatic shipments (DP1) takes approximately one to four weeks by their respective embassy after the shipment arrives at the port. ▪ Port storage and demurrage will normally occur on every diplomatic shipment. ▪ Cars and motorcycles: provide the engine number and include it on the BL (see section Motor Vehicles – Diplomatic')

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Non-exempt from duty		▪ High duties are placed on all goods not conforming to the section above. Particularly high duties apply to electrical goods, carpets, and luxury goods. ▪ Toys, baby items, PC games, office items including files, bicycles, exercise equipment, sports equipment, musical instrument, golf set ARE DUTIABLE and will not be considered for a duty exemption, especially when sending via airfreight. ▪ Prohibited articles include firearms, ammunition, pornographic literature, short-wave radios and medical equipment, statues of Buddha heads or parts, and gold and silver. ▪ Wine and spirits, foodstuff, toys, wood products, football table, helmet, Buddha statue, animal skin, and trophies require special import licensing and should not be included in the shipment without prior consultation. ▪ Buddha statue and Fine Art items will need to be pre-determined if these items will be allowed to import or if need to pre-register with the Fine Arts Department.	▪ Customs at the airport are very strict. They are not expecting the shipper to send a large used HHG via air and intend to go through the goods more thoroughly during the inspection. We recommend sending above mentioned items via sea shipment if possible. ▪ Air shipments are subjected to more security, inspection, and taxing of dutiable items, so we do not recommend overloading the air freight shipment with electronics, sports gear etc. as these items attract high duties. Do not include any alcohol, food products, Fine Art/Buddha item, liquid soap/shampoo, toys, cosmetics, or prescription medicines which are prohibited in Air shipment. ▪ For all inbound shipments (except diplomatic) agent must have the client's actual passport for clearance. ▪ All toys, sports/exercise equipment, bicycle, office equipment & documents, and luxury goods are subject to duty.
Wedding trousseaux		▪ Wedding gifts will be subject to duties per the appropriate tariffs.	

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Inheritance		▪ Will be subject to duties unless Thai citizens can satisfy Government residence requirements.	
New furniture and household goods		▪ Subject to duties, i.e. tax on wooden furniture 28.40% of CIF value.	
Fine Arts / Religious articles i.e.. Buddha items	▪ Need to be pre-registered with the Fine Arts Department.	▪ Must have a picture of the items and their dimensions. ▪ Some Asian antiques, especially Buddha items, and religious artifacts require special permits from the Thai Fine Arts Dept. These items will also require permits in order to re-export.	▪ This is a sensitive subject with Thai Customs, it is recommended that photos of any potential fine arts are sent before packing the shipment. ▪ Do not send in the air shipment.
Antiques	▪ No document required if part of the household effects. ▪ It is advised to specify antiques on import documentation to prove their importation, in order to facilitate their exportation later.	▪ Must have a picture of the items. ▪ Must appear on the packing list. ▪ Some Asian antiques, especially religious artifacts require Fine Arts Dept. approval for export, whether imported by the shipper or not.	▪ Do not send in the air shipment.
Carpets	▪ No document required, if part of the household effects.		▪ Do not send in the air shipment.
Sport articles	▪ Same as above.		
Presents, souvenirs	▪ Same as above.		
Private vehicle			▪ Motor vehicles privately owned: per MOC announcements in 2019 and 2021, automobiles and motorcycles are prohibited.

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Other vehicles (bicycles, water vehicles)	▪ Invoice for water vehicle – seek agent advice before sending.	▪ Bicycles:
		  ▪ Subject to duty at 49.80% of CIF value.
		▪ Water vehicles:
		  ▪ Subject to import tax and duties.
			▪ Do not send into the air shipment.

Motor Vehicles (autos/motorcycles) Diplomatic	▪ Passport copy. ▪ A set of diplomatic documents (DP1) ▪ Original BL, SWB or Express BL. ▪ Details of the vehicle, make/model, year, color, engine number, chassis number. ▪ Export vehicle documents. ▪ Export vehicle inspection.	▪ Free duty exemptions are provided to Diplomatic organizations with DP1 document.	▪ Re-registering the vehicle in Thailand is the responsibility of the owner.
Machines, appliances, spare parts	▪ Invoice	▪ Subject to duty per the appropriate tariffs.	▪ It is recommended to seek the local agent advice before sending.

Wine	▪ Import permit	▪ Subject to duty +330%.	▪ Thai customs have very strict regulations pertaining to importing wine and alcohol into Thailand.
			  ▪ Alcohol is not permitted to import without a special import license that will not be granted to individuals but only to licensed importers.
			  ▪ It can be very difficult and time-consuming for the private shipper trying obtain the import permit from the Excise Department.
			  ▪ Not recommended to import.

Alcohol	▪ Import permit needed (take a long time to obtain it).	▪ Subject to a duty +330%.	▪ Same as above.
Tins	▪ Same as wine.	▪ Subject to a duty of 72%.	▪ Same as above.

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Food	▪ Import permit required.	▪ Subject to a duty of 37%.	

Plants	▪ Health certificate.	▪ Prohibited:
		  ▪ Several plants, fruits, parts, and products of plants from many countries.
		  ▪ Enquire in advance with Consulate or other authority.	

Arms and ammunition		▪ Prohibited.	▪ Not to be included in household shipments.
Dangerous goods	▪ Must be clearly declared.	▪ Import generally permitted.	▪ Seek your agent's advice before shipping.
Medicine	▪ No document required if part of the household effects (sea Shipment only).	▪ If large quantity of medicine, please seek agent advice before sending.	▪ Do not send into the air shipment.
Narcotics, drugs		▪ Prohibited.	

Cats, dogs, and other animals	▪ Certificate of vaccination (rabies).
	  ▪ Pet must be vaccinated not less than 21 days but not longer than 1 year.
	▪ Government Health Certificate (Export permit).
	▪ Owner original passport.
	▪ Import permit.
	AWB.
		▪ No quarantine.
		▪ Photocopies of the below documents to apply for the import permit (7-10 working days in advance):
		  ▪ Rabies vaccination certificate.
		  ▪ Government Health certificate – Owner copies of passport.
		  ▪ Estimated flight detail.
		  ▪ Colour photo of the pet.
		  ▪ All copies of documents must be in English.
		▪ Prohibited breeds include American Pit Bull Terrier and Staffordshire Bull Terrier.
			▪ Subject to 30% import duty if sent as air cargo.
			▪ Copies of AWB and Official Health Certificate (export permit) should be sent to the agent prior to the pet's arrival at the airport.
			▪ The animal should arrive during daytime. If arrival is after 4 p.m., special Customs clearance can be arranged, provided flight details are known 48 hours in advance.
			▪ It is recommended to send as excess baggage, when there might be no Customs clearance and no duty.

Pornographic literature, Short-wave radios		▪ Prohibited.	

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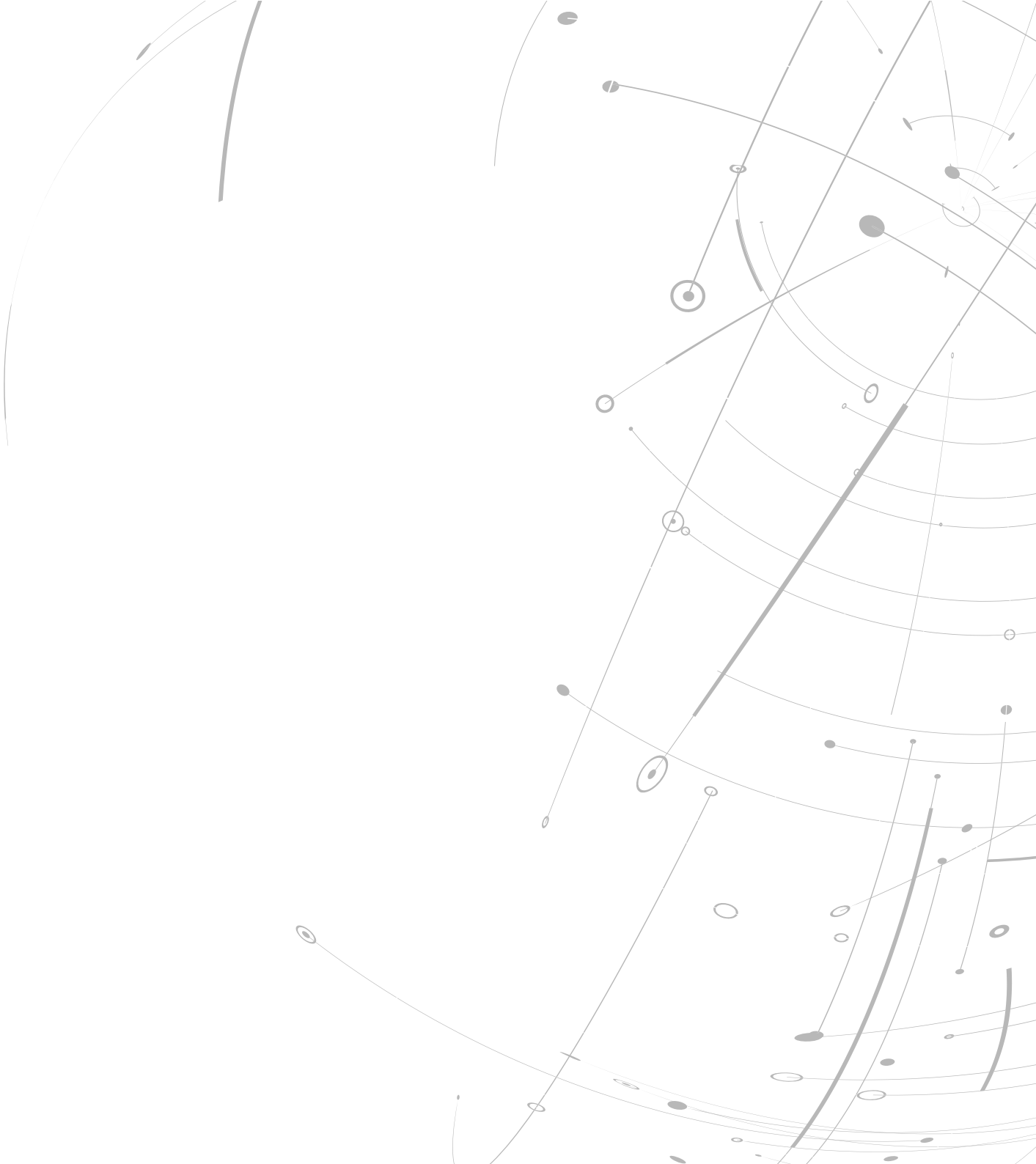

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