



Ottawa, March 12, 2015

# Memorandum D10-14-64

## Tariff Classification of Goods Using Bluetooth® Technology

### In Brief

This memorandum explains the Canada Border Services Agency's administrative policy for the tariff classification of articles using Bluetooth® technology.

### Legislation

#### Customs Tariff

- 85.17 Telephone sets, including telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks; other apparatus for the transmission or reception of voice, images or other data, including apparatus for communication in a wired or wireless network (such as a local or wide area network), other than transmission or reception apparatus of heading 84.43, 85.25, 85.27 or 85.28.
- Telephone sets, including telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks :
- 8517.11.00 - - Line telephone sets with cordless handsets
- 8517.12.00 - - Telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks
- 8517.18.00 - - Other
- Other apparatus for transmission or reception of voice, images or other data, including apparatus for communication in a wired or wireless network (such as a local or wide area network) :
- 8517.61.00 - - Base stations
- 8517.62.00 - - Machines for the reception, conversion and transmission or regeneration of voice, images or other data, including switching and routing apparatus
- 8517.69- - Other
- 8517.69.10 - - Facsimile apparatus; Other telephonic or telegraphic apparatus
  - 8517.69.20 - - Receivers for calling, alerting or paging
  - 8517.69.90 - - Other
- 8517.70.00 - Parts

### Guidelines and General Information

1. Bluetooth® technology allows enabled devices to communicate when they are within range of each other, replacing the need for cables to interconnect devices.
2. Enabled devices may transmit data, receive data or do both.

### Tariff Classification Policy

3. Bluetooth® devices are properly classified according to their principal function.
4. Those for which the principal function is the exchange of data between two or more Bluetooth® enabled devices within a wired or wireless network are classified under tariff item 8517.62.00 as "Machines for the reception, conversion and transmission or regeneration of voice, images or other data, including switching and routing apparatus".

5. Separately presented Bluetooth® adapters, sometimes known as Bluetooth® antennas, are classified under tariff item 8517.62.00; for example, the piece that may be inserted into a USB port on a personal computer to accept signals from a Bluetooth® enabled keyboard and/or mouse.
6. A Bluetooth® enabled cellular telephone is classified under tariff item 8517.12.00, as its principal function remains that of a cellular telephone.
7. Examples of Bluetooth® enabled devices that, based upon their principal function, are properly classified elsewhere than heading 85.17 include:
- (a) Printers (heading 84.43)
  - (b) Computers (heading 84.71)
  - (c) Hard drives (heading 84.71)
  - (d) Keyboards/mice (heading 84.71)
  - (e) Speakers (heading 85.18)
  - (f) Compact Disc players (heading 85.19)
  - (g) Digital cameras (heading 85.25)
  - (h) Global Positioning Systems (heading 85.26)
  - (i) Clock-radios (heading 85.27)
  - (j) Video monitors/televisions (heading 85.28)
  - (k) Video game machines (heading 95.04)
8. For certainty regarding the tariff classification of a product, importers may request an advance ruling for tariff classification. Details on how to make such a request are found in CBSA [Memorandum D11-11-3, \*Advance Rulings for Tariff Classification\*](#).
9. For more information, within Canada call the Border Information Service at **1-800-461-9999**. From outside Canada call 204-983-3500 or 506-636-5064. Long distance charges will apply. Agents are available Monday to Friday (08:00 – 16:00 local time / except holidays). TTY is also available within Canada: **1-866-335-3237**.

<b>References</b>	
<b>Issuing Office</b>	Trade and Anti-dumping Programs Directorate
<b>Headquarters File</b>	HS8517.62
<b>Legislative References</b>	<a href="#">Customs Tariff</a>
<b>Other References</b>	<a href="#">D11-11-3</a>
<b>Superseded Memorandum D</b>	N/A