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**The Return of GSP -- Sans Interest**

After years of waiting, importers from foreign beneficiary developing countries may be able to recover the duties paid on goods that would have been duty-free under the Generalized System of Preferences but for the lapse of the program on July 31, 2013. But don't expect to get interest on the duties paid since then, as the GSP renewal legislation doesn't allow it.

**Automatic Refunds**

If your import entries were made with the GSP special program indicator ("A," "A\*" or "A+"), you should get the principal duties paid automatically. There likely will be such a flood of refunds that proof of GSP-qualification criteria (*e.g.*, direct shipment and the 35% local input threshold) will not get close examination in most instances.

**Uh-oh**

However, if your entry is "pulled over," be prepared to prove that the entry was GSP-qualified, or prepare to lose the refund--and possibly get more of your entries examined closely. Going forward, we can expect to see more GSP entries examined for compliance by U.S. Customs & Border Protection. Importers best not claim GSP unless they are able to prove goods are GSP-qualified. More than losing the duty-free benefit, false GSP claims can be the bases of penalties.

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