

## CLIENT UPDATE 2015 APRIL

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### CUSTOMS & EXPORT – IMPORT

## Cambodia Launches Its Automated Certificate of Origin

On 31 March 2015, the Ministry of Commerce of the Kingdom of Cambodia (“**MOC**”) officially launched its automation of the Certificate of Origin (“**C/O**”). This is one of the reforms of the MOC to shorten the whole C/O issuance process, minimize face-to-face communication between traders and MOC officials, condense travelling expense, and substantially moderate internal and external processing time.

The MOC's Export-Import Department is delegated with the authority to issue C/O. The key features for the automated C/O application include submitting the C/O application with supporting documents, checking status, correcting errors, generating some statistics reports/queries, and receiving updates via email.

As generally accepted and defined in general trade pattern, C/O is an official document attesting the country of origin of a product, wholly obtained, produced or manufactured. C/O is generally required as a country-entry process. Cambodia has two types of C/O: Non-Preferential and Preferential. The MOC's Export-Import Department could issue various types of Preferential Tariff Certificate of Origin to these countries: Australia & New-Zealand, China, India, Korea, Japan and Vietnam.

This C/O automation is one of Cambodian government's efforts to boost export and to prepare itself to integrate into ASEAN regional trade. Further efforts are under way, including the creation of Trade Information Website, which contains rules, regulations and fees, to better transparency.

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