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**TARIFF REDUCTIONS - MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC GOODS OF CHAPTER 90 CUSTOMS TARIFF NOTICE NO. 6 (1998)**

On 24 June 1998, the Minister for Industry, Science and Tourism, the Hon John Moore released the Government's decision in relation to Industry Commission Report No. 56 titled "Medical and Scientific Equipment Industries" of 20 December 1996. The Government has decided that customs duty on goods classified under tariff headings 9011 to 9033 inclusive will be reduced to Free from 1 September 1998, with the exception of goods covered by the Passenger Motor Vehicle Manufacturing Plan (PMVMP). The general rate of duty on goods covered by the PMVMP within those headings will remain at 15%.

Customs Tariff Notice No. 6 (1998), which was published in Special Commonwealth Gazette No. S 405 of 17 August 1998, implements that decision.

To implement the decision it was necessary to alter the tariff structure of many of the subheadings between headings 9011 and 9033 so that relevant goods covered by the PMVMP will remain dutiable at 15%, whilst other goods are reduced to Free. For example, gauges which were previously classified in 9026.80.10 would have covered both PMVMP goods, and for other motor vehicles such as motor cycles, trucks etc, which are not included in the PMVMP. As the Government's decision is that non-PMVMP goods within the subject tariff headings should be duty free, gauges for motor cycles, trucks etc will be classified to the new duty free subheading of 9026.80.80. A concordance of tariff subheadings is attached to assist importers and their brokers in classifying goods under the revised structure.

Tariff reprint pages issued in conjunction with this tariff change are:-

90/13 (R.1), 90/15 (R.3), 90/17 (R.2), 90/19 (R.1), 90/21 (R.3), 90/23(R.5), 90/25 (R.4) and 90/27 (R.3).

Any queries in relation to the tariff structure or the rates of duty should directed to Ray Banvill on 02 6275 6516. (C98/06120 - Tariff Legislation)

John Jeffery National Director

Commercial Services

For Chief Executive Officer 20 August 1998