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## NEWS

### NEW REGULATIONS FOR PLASTICS IN SAUDI ARABIA

Dec 08, 2017 04:00 PM Silvana Giger, Switzerland Global Enterprise

Correction: To counter environmental and health risks, the country will introduce new regulatory requirements for plastic from December 2017 onwards. This will also affect packaging materials.



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Plastics exports to Saudi Arabia must be marked with the logo for biodegradable plastic

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Plastic bags, plastic cases or even plastic plates – the new regulation affects a wide range of products. According to the regulations of the responsible Saudi organization (SASO), plastic products must be made of an approved oxo-biodegradable material. “There is no difference here whether the plastic is produced in Saudi Arabia or imported into the country,” explains Larbi El-Attari of the [Swiss Business Hub Middle East in Saudi Arabia](#). Accordingly, non-compliant products may no longer be brought in.

## Imports checked at customs

Products and packaging made with polyethylene or polypropylene must comply with the new rules and contain an oxo-biodegradable masterbatch from a supplier approved by the Saudi Arabian government. In order to check imported products accurately, the customs authority in Saudi Arabia work with a laboratory. The new rules will apply in Saudi Arabia as of December 2017. A tariff list of products that require the corresponding declaration can be found in the download area, in addition to an explanation of the new guideline.

## Which products are affected?

Contrary to the information available to date, packaging is also affected. This is indicated in more specific regulations issued by the Saudi customs authorities that S-GE has recently received. Here it is stated that, as of December 12, 2017, the plastic products (which are listed on the HS code list) and the packaging materials for the consignments must bear the "biodegradable" logo. This is to ensure that even disposable plastic products made of polyethylene or polypropylene with a film thickness of 250 microns or less, which are commonly used for packaging (such as carrier bags, wrappings and similar applications), are oxo-biodegradable. Without the corresponding logo, the exports cannot be imported into Saudi Arabia. In order to use the logo, the exporters need a license from the responsible organization SASO. At the same time, the companies must attach a letter of commitment from the importer, stating that the regulations for biodegradable plastic products will also be followed for future shipments. Further information can be found [here](#).

Please feel free to contact our [ExportHelp](#) at any time with your questions or comments on the regulations and the delivery process to Saudi Arabia. [> GET IN TOUCH NOW](#)

## DOCUMENTS



List of PE and PP products subject to regulation  
PDF 49.07 KB



Letter technical regulation for the biodegradable plastic products  
PDF 111.09 KB



Information regulation Saudi Arabia  
PDF 348.71 KB

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