

## **PRE-SHIPMENT INSPECTION OF IMPORTS FOR *BENIN***

### **1. Pre-Shipment Inspection (PSI) mandate**

MANDATE AUTHORISED BY:	MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE
APPLICABLE REGULATION(S):	Contract no. 224/DNMP/SP/SMP dd. 25 August 2005.
APPOINTED PSI COMPANY (IES):	BIVAC INTERNATIONAL
SELECTION OF PSI COMPANIES:	Not applicable.
SCOPE OF DUTIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quality, Quantity</li><li>• Export market price</li><li>• Customs classification</li><li>• Value for Customs purposes</li><li>• Assessment of import duties to be paid by the importer</li><li>• Import eligibility</li></ul>
MINIMUM VALUE SUBJECT TO PSI:	XOF 3,000,000 FOB (sea/air) XOF 2,000,000 FOB (land)
PART SHIPMENTS:	Subject to PSI if total order value exceeds above minimum order value.
EXEMPTIONS FROM PSI:	See section 7.

### **2. Pre-Shipment Inspection Order (P.I.O.) - The instruction for BIVAC to inspect**

P.I.O. NAME:	<i>Intention D'Importation (I.D.I.) (to be opened if total order value exceeds XOF 500,000).</i>
ISSUED BY:	<i>BIVAC Liaison Office in Cotonou based upon Importer's application.</i>
VALIDITY:	<i>one year, not renewable.</i>
AMOUNT BY WHICH P.I.O. VALUE MAY BE EXCEEDED:	<i>PIO value must not be exceeded.</i>
CHANGES FROM SEA TO AIR:	<i>Yes.</i>
DESTINATION INSPECTION:	<i>Subject to authorisation by the Ministry of Finance with a penalty of 50% of the duty amount.</i>

### **3. Inspection requirements/restrictions**

SEALING OF F.C.L.CONTAINERS	<i>Required.</i>
SECOND-HAND GOODS:	<i>No specific requirement.</i>
PROHIBITED IMPORTS:	<i>See section 8.</i>
RESTRICTED IMPORTS:	<i>See section 9.</i>
LABELLING REQUIREMENTS:	<i>Customary.</i>

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### 3. Inspection requirements/restrictions (cont'd)

OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: *Special requirements for the importation of poultry, frozen parts, derivated products, animal feeds and salt.*

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### 4. Price verification/Seller's invoice requirements

BUYING/CONFIRMING COMMISSIONS: *Should be declared.*

INSURANCE: *No specific requirement*

FINANCIAL INTEREST: *No specific requirement.*

FINAL INVOICE TO SHOW: *Breakdown of FOB value per item is required + freight + insurance + declared commissions.*

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### 5. Reporting requirements

FINAL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY BIVAC TO ISSUE REPORT: *Final invoice, transport document, packing list are required. Other specific documents like quality certificate, certificate of non radioactivity... may be requested by BV offices where appropriate.*

TYPE OF REPORT ISSUED: ***Certificat de Renseignement sur les prix (CRP) / Certificat d'Inspection des Marchandises (CIM) / Certificat de Non Conformité (ARA) / Certified invoice***

REPORT PURPOSE:

- *A Certificat de Renseignement sur les prix is issued for the use of Importer, and is required for clearance of the goods.*
- *A Certificat d'Inspection des Marchandises is issued for the use of Customs.*
- *A Certificat de Non Conformité is issued in the event of quality and/or quantity discrepancies not corrected by Exporter.*
- *Bureau Veritas/BIVAC certifies exporter's final invoice for Letter of Credit transactions or by request.*

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### 6. Inspection fees

*Paid by the Government. In case of ARA, fees are paid by importers.*

*Nevertheless, BIVAC may invoice the Seller in the event of supplementary inspection visits (in vain or unsatisfactory results). The costs incurred by the Seller in presenting the goods for inspection, such as unpacking, handling, testing, sampling, repacking... are for the account of the Seller.*

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### 7. List of goods exempted from PSI

1. *Precious stones and metals*
  2. *Objects of art*
  3. *Explosives and pyrotechnic products*
  4. *Weapons and ammunitions*
  5. *Live animals*
  6. *Scrap metals*
  7. *Current newspapers and periodicals*
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**7. List of goods exempted from PSI (cont'ed)**

8. *Used household and personal effects including a personal vehicle further to a relocation approved by the competent authority in the previous residence*
9. *Commercial samples*
10. *Gifts by foreign governments or international organisations to the State, schools and libraries, religious missions, foundations, charities and recognised humanitarian organisations*
11. *Gifts and supplies to diplomatic and consular missions or United Nations Organisations imported for their own needs*
12. *Perishable food consumer goods transported at the ambient temperature or cooled or frozen*
13. *Recorded and developed films for public purposes (35 mm)*
14. *Natural or artificial plants or cut flowers*
15. *Medicines and pharmaceutical products*
16. *Used tyres*
17. *Goods exempted from duties and taxes (DF + VAT)*

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**8. List of prohibited goods**

*Not applicable.*

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**9. List of restricted goods**

*Not applicable.*

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**10. Geographical inspection zones**

*World-wide.*

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The information contained herein is for the purpose of facilitating Pre-Shipment Inspection and does not relieve Exporters or Importers from their obligations in respect of compliance with the import regulations of the country of importation. Although every effort has been made to ensure the correctness of the information, as at the date of issuance of this data sheet, BIVAC International does not accept any responsibility for errors or omissions and, furthermore, the information may subsequently be subject to change as may be announced by the Authorities in the country of importation. Consequently, Exporters are advised to check with Bureau Veritas/BIVAC, prior to shipment of the goods, if there is any doubt concerning the issuance of a Clean Report of Findings.