



## Importing Product into Ontario for Commercial Purposes

In order to act on behalf of a beverage alcohol supplier (domestic or foreign), an Ontario "Agent" (individual or organization) must first receive a license from the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO).

Once licensed, an Agent may receive beverage alcohol samples imported into Ontario, for related commercial purposes (see Eligible Commercial Purposes, below).

Such samples are typically imported as a direct shipment (sometimes referred to as an unsolicited unaccompanied importation) where the supplier arranges with a carrier to send beverage alcohol direct to their licensed representative in Ontario.

### Direct Shipments

All direct shipments of beverage alcohol arriving in Ontario will be directed to the LCBO's appointed customs broker, UPS Supply Chain Solutions. UPS Supply Chain Solutions is a full service brokerage firm and can assist clients with the entire clearance process if they wish.

Contact information for UPS Supply Chain Solutions:

UPS Supply Chain Solutions  
Attn: LCBO Team  
Tel: 905 677 6735  
Fax: 905 677 3119

In order to ensure prompt processing, **such shipments must:**

- Be clearly marked and declared on all documentation as beverage alcohol.
- Be consigned to the **LCBO c/o Agent** seeking to import the shipment.
- Be shipped via freight only (often by air, though land or ocean freight is acceptable), not through the mail/post.
- Be accompanied by a fully completed Canada Customs Invoice (CCI). (To access an on-line CCI, please visit Canada Border Service Agency's Web site at: <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/forms-formulaires/ci1.pdf>). The CCI must:
  - Clearly and legibly indicate brand name, vintage if applicable, alc./vol., format and quantity of beverage alcohol in the shipment.
  - Include an accurate valuation of each beverage alcohol product that complies with the federal Customs Act.
- Not exceed the 45-litre daily limit (this is not a brand or supplier limit, but a total daily limit).
- Not include any other dutiable goods.
- Not be consolidated with other shipments or abstracted (i.e., split) to attempt to comply with the maximum volume limit.

**The shipment will be refused entry into Ontario if any of the above requirements are not met.**

### Fees, Levies, Taxes and other Charges

Agents must pay all federal duties, provincial border levies and taxes, brokerage fees, and any freight and storage charges that may arise.



The following border levy rates apply:

**Wine:** 102.2% of the declared value

**Spirits:** 143.7% of the declared value

**Beer:** \$1.70/litre

Applicable fees and charges will be collected by the LCBO's appointed customs broker, UPS Supply Chain Solutions. UPS Supply Chain Solutions is a full service brokerage firm and can assist clients with the entire clearance process if they wish. Contact UPS Supply Chain Solutions (905-677-6735).

### **Eligible Commercial Purposes**

Direct shipments may be used by an Agent for evaluation as to the product's potential for the Ontario market (which includes service under Market Research Special Occasion Permit [SOP]), and/or for submission for purchase consideration by the LCBO (including Vintages) and QA testing.

More information about the process of submitting products for consideration can also be found on this site. (See the "Quick Links" on the Welcome page)

Direct shipments **may not:**

Be arranged on behalf of a licensee (bar/restaurant) or home consumer. Beverage alcohol requested by a licensee or home consumer must be obtained via LCBO Private Ordering (416) 864-6739 or toll-free at 1-800-668-5144.

Be served under a Reception, Consumer Show, Trade Show, Significant Event, Community Festival or Fundraising SOP.

Most SOP events are planned several months in advance, allowing Agents adequate time to arrange for product shipments via LCBO Private Ordering in the normal manner. Please contact the LCBO Private Ordering department (number below) should special circumstances arise. However, there may be rare occasions when a rush delivery is required. Should such circumstances arise, agents are required to contact LCBO Private Ordering to arrange for airfreight to Toronto. Rush shipments must still be lab tested and airfreight costs will be charged to the supplier or Agent.

Should Agents have any questions regarding product importations into Ontario, the LCBO's Private Ordering department is available to assist. Please call (416) 864-6739 or 1-800-668-5144.