

Binding Tariff Information

Below is a brief description of Binding Tariff Information. For further details, operators may contact the INFORMATION OFFICE at the nearest Customs Office.

What is BTI and how is it used?

Binding Tariff Information is a decision certifying the Customs classification of a given type of goods. BTI is valid for a period of six years from the date of issue all over the EU Customs territory.

Each application should concern only one type of goods. The aim of BTI is to simplify and harmonize import and export operations regarding that kind of product.

Therefore, before starting Customs formalities, the holder of a BTI decision may inform the Customs Authorities that he/she holds a BTI decision for the goods which are to be released.

BTI can be used only after having been issued by the Customs authority and not for procedures started before that date.

How can Binding Tariff Information be obtained?

Applications for BTI should be made in writing and submitted to the competent Customs authority in the Member State(s) where the BTI will be used, or to the competent Customs authority in the Member State where the applicant lives.

All customs offices in Italy are designated for the purpose of receiving applications for BTI.

The “holder” of a BTI decision is the person in whose name the BTI is issued, whereas the “applicant” is the person who has applied for BTI.

A BTI decision should be notified to the applicant as soon as possible. Where it is not issued within 3 months from the acceptance of the application, the Customs authority should inform the applicant about the reasons for the delay and the new term for notification.

The term of three months runs from the moment when all elements necessary for the decision are in the hands of the Customs authority.

BTI is provided free of charge. Where Customs have incurred specific costs in analysis, obtaining expert advice, where these are necessary for the exact classification of the product, such costs may be passed on to the applicant.

Application form

Applications for BTI should be made on the [application form](#) which can be found also at the Customs offices.

The same form can also be used to apply for the re-issue of BTI.

The application should supply the following information:

- a. name and address of the holder;
- b. name and address of the applicant where this is not the holder;
- c. detailed description of the goods in order to allow their identification and exact customs classification;
- d. any other information (photographs, brochures, manuals, samples) which may contribute to the classification of the goods.

Validity of BTI

BTI will be valid for a period of 6 years. Since 1st January 1991, a BTI decision issued by the Customs authority of any Member State is binding for the competent authorities of all Member States.