

# Origin of Goods and Swiss Content

Information  
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Schweizerische Exportrisikoversicherung  
Assurance suisse contre les risques à l'exportation  
Assicurazione svizzera contro i rischi delle esportazioni  
Swiss Export Risk Insurance



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## Legal basis

In the interest of creating and preserving jobs in Switzerland and promoting Swiss foreign trade, SERV offers cover for export transactions from countries where payment is subject to particular risk. In order to realise these economic benefits, the required Swiss origin or content of exports is of key importance.

## Swiss origin

Goods are considered of Swiss origin, pursuant to Art. 9–16, Swiss Ordinance on the Certification of Non-Preferential Origin of Goods (OCG, CC 946.31), if they are made of domestic materials or are manufactured entirely in Switzerland, or were processed or finished in Switzerland to a sufficient extent (Art. 3 para. 1 SERV-V). Products are considered processed or finished in Switzerland to a sufficient extent if the foreign materials they contain account for no more than 50 percent of the ex-factory price (Art. 11 para. 1 let. a OCG).

Certificates of origin or domestic verification of origin qualify as proof of origin and of the value or price of a product. No certificate of origin can be issued for services.

Further information on certificates of origin for goods can be obtained from the responsible cantonal chambers of commerce ([www.sihk.ch](http://www.sihk.ch)).

## Swiss content

An export is eligible for cover pursuant to Art. 3 para. 2 first sentence SERV-V, if the amount of Swiss content of the order value is at least 20 percent.

The amount of Swiss content is the difference between the order value of the export contract and the value of foreign content supplied or subcontracted.

## Swiss content under 20 percent

Export transactions may also be eligible for cover, if the amount of Swiss content of the order value is under 20 percent. In this case, SERV verifies if the export transaction complies with SERV's objectives pursuant to Art. 5 SERVG and with the principles of its business policy pursuant to Art. 6 SERVG. The decision is at SERV's discretion, taking particularly into account the following points (cf. Art. 3 para. 3 SERV-V):

- The amount of Swiss content represents an added value that is relevant to success in international competition, especially because it is accrued by the production of key components, research and development, engineering and planning services.
- The amount of Swiss content of the exporter's total revenue from export transactions for a specified period of time is appropriate, irrespective of whether these export transactions are insured by SERV.
- The average amount of Swiss content of all export transactions of an exporter insured by SERV that are carried out within a specified period of time, is appropriate.
- Newly developed products are being exported or new markets are entered.

SERV has no ceiling with regards to foreign content of the order value of an export transaction nor does it charge premium surcharges for the inclusion of foreign content.

In the case of business transactions involving a high percentage of foreign subcontracted content, the possibility of cooperation in the form of a reinsurance, coinsurance or parallel insurance agreement with the public export credit insurance agencies of the country of the foreign supplier or subcontractor or with a private credit insurance agency shall however be considered. The decision is at SERV's discretion.

### **Content framework agreement**

SERV may conclude content framework agreements with its clients. The content framework agreement includes the main aspects of an exporter's transactions eligibility, determines the conditions for transactions covered by SERV and governs the calculation of the required amount of Swiss content. Content framework agreements are generally valid one year; SERV reserves the right to extend or renew them.

### **Local costs**

Local costs incurred in the country of import that form part of the export contract are deemed to be foreign subcontracted content. In the case of medium-/long-term export financing, local costs can be covered up to a maximum of 50 per cent of the export contract value (i.e. the total order value less local costs). The limit is 40 per cent in countries in consensus category I (high-income OECD countries).

### **Commercial and export transactions of holding or foreign base companies**

Commercial transactions with raw goods that are not of Swiss origin and do not involve processing or finishing in Switzerland and are conducted by trading companies domiciled in Switzerland generally do not qualify for SERV coverage.

Export transactions of holding or foreign base companies, i.e. companies with no operative business or with activities of low economic substance, are generally not considered eligible for cover according to SERV's objective pursuant to Art. 5 SERVG.