COMMERCIAL SAMPLES AND MODELS

Exchange of notes at Paris September 22 and October 7, 1938, amending agreement of August 26, 1938
Entered into force October 7, 1938
Obsolete ¹

Department of State files

The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

No. 1301
PARIS, September 22, 1938

EXCELLENCY:
I have the honor to refer to the Embassy's Note No. 1251 of August 26, 1938,² and to Your Excellency's reply thereto of the same date, as well as to the previous exchange of views concerning the temporary admission into the United States of French samples and models and, reciprocally, the temporary admission into France of samples and models manufactured in the United States.

It has been noted that while the suggested reply of Your Excellency's Government, transmitted with the Embassy's note No. 1208 of July 30, 1938, the wording of which the Embassy was verbally informed was entirely satisfactory, contained the phrase in English, "whether directly or indirectly", with reference to "samples and models originating in and coming from the United States" when imported into France, the aforesaid note of Your Excellency's Government of August 26 omitted the words, "whether directly or indirectly". The Embassy is now in receipt of instructions therefore to inform Your Excellency's Government that it is our understanding that the phrase, "en provenance de", as used in the exchange of notes under reference shall include American samples and models entering France either directly or indirectly.

Inasmuch as the notes exchanged under date of August 26 do not as yet appear to have been published in the Journal Officiel, I venture to inquire of Your Excellency whether it is the intention of the French Government thus to publish them.

¹ See International Convention To Facilitate the Importation of Commercial Samples and Advertising Material (8 UST 1636; TIAS 3920).
² Ante, p. 1029.

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I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

For the Ambassador:

Edwin C. Wilson

**The Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the American Embassy**

[Translation]

**French Republic**  
**Ministry of Foreign Affairs**  
11/RB  
Division of Political and  
Commercial Affairs  
Commercial Relations

**Paris, October 7, 1938**

In its note of September 22 the Embassy of the United States requested the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to inform it if the formula: “samples and models originating in and coming from the United States . . . , imported by commercial travelers . . . shall be admitted temporarily free of duty within French customs territory”, which appears in the Franco-American exchange of letters of August 26, 1938, concerning samples and models, may be considered as applying to American samples and models imported “either directly or indirectly” into France.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honor to inform the Embassy that the provisions of the aforesaid exchange of letters may be considered as applying to samples and models originating in and coming from the United States, imported directly by American commercial travelers, or those which are addressed to them, in France, by the American houses or companies which they represent.

**Embassy of the United States**  
**Paris**