



Understanding the “Liberation Day” Tariffs and What They Mean for the Electronics Industry

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Yesterday, President Donald Trump [announced sweeping new trade measures](#) under the banner of “Liberation Day,” invoking emergency powers to impose a new round of tariffs that could have significant implications for the U.S. electronics manufacturing industry.

Here’s what IPC members need to know:

Key Elements of the Tariff Framework

- **Universal Tariff:** Beginning **April 5**, a 10% tariff will apply to **all imports** into the United States, regardless of country of origin. This is *in addition* to all existing tariffs including Section 301 and earlier IEEPA tariffs announced in February and March 2025.
- **Country-Specific Tariffs:** Starting **April 9**, a separate and higher “reciprocal” tariff rate for specific countries will take place. These countries include [roughly 60 countries with the highest trade deficits](#). These are also *in addition* to all existing tariffs except as detailed in Annex II exemptions
- **Elimination of De Minimis Exemption for Low-Value Chinese Imports:** Effective **May 2**, duty-free treatment under the de minimis provision (for shipments valued at \$800 or less) [will no longer apply](#) to certain products from China and Hong Kong, including international postal packages.
- **Legal Basis:** The tariffs were issued under the **International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA)**, with the administration declaring a national emergency due to large and persistent U.S. trade deficits.

What’s Exempt?

[Certain goods are exempt](#) from these new tariffs:

- Products already under **Section 232 tariffs** (e.g., steel, aluminum, autos).
- Items critical to national security and not readily sourced domestically — including **semiconductors, pharmaceuticals, copper**, and specific minerals and energy-related products (listed in Annex II).

- **Automobiles and Automobile parts** that are subject to Section 232 Tariffs announced on March 26
- Articles originating in **Canada and Mexico** that meet **USMCA rules of origin**.

IPC's Position

At IPC, we are carefully evaluating the potential impact of these measures. We remain deeply concerned that broad-based tariffs such as these may:

- Increase the cost of components and materials for electronics manufacturers.
- Disrupt complex global supply chains.
- Undermine efforts to re-shore and grow U.S. manufacturing by raising the cost of inputs.

IPC will continue to advocate for policies that strengthen — not strain — our industry. Tariffs often have unintended consequences, and we urge policymakers to consider more targeted, strategic approaches to enhancing American competitiveness.

What's Next

We are actively engaging with government officials to better understand the implementation process and timelines. IPC will provide members with updates as more details become available, including potential avenues for comment or relief.

If your company expects to be affected or has insights to share, please contact us at RichardCappetto@ipc.org

Together, we'll work to ensure the voice of the electronics industry is heard in Washington.