



NCD Form

NCD/Ref:

HQ/13/2025

## NATIONAL CLASSIFICATION DECISION

### Description of Commodity:

- Ultra HD Degreasers and Ultra Engine Cleaner and Ruff Stuff in 25L and 210L.

### Product specifications:

- 1.1. A degreaser is a powerful cleaning agent, available in water-based or solvent-based formulas, specifically designed to dissolve and remove tough grease, oil, grime, and other stubborn contaminants from surfaces and machinery. By chemically breaking down or lifting these water-insoluble substances, degreasers are essential for maintaining cleanliness and efficient operation in industrial, commercial, and domestic settings.
- 1.2. Degreasers are made from two primary types of active ingredients: solvents like alcohols, hydrocarbons, and ketones, which dissolve grease, and water-based alkaline solutions that use surfactants (soaps) to break down and emulsify grease into water. Some degreasers combine these approaches, using both solvents and water-soluble emulsifiers to create more effective cleaning solutions. Natural degreasers often incorporate ingredients like citrus oils, vinegar, and dish soap to cut through grease.
- 1.3. Degreaser components include solvents (like alcohols, ketones, and hydrocarbons), alkaline agents (such as sodium hydroxide), surfactants or emulsifiers to mix oil and water, and water itself to dilute and facilitate the emulsification process. The specific ingredients vary greatly depending on whether the degreaser is a solvent-based or water-based formulation, with different components chosen for their effectiveness against specific types of grease and oils.
- 1.4. An engine cleaner is a chemical product used to dissolve and remove grease, oil, and grime from an engine bay, and can be a spray-on degreaser or a pre-oil change treatment that removes internal sludge. To use spray-on cleaners, ensure the engine is cool, cover sensitive electrical components, then spray the cleaner, allow it to sit, agitate with a brush if needed, and rinse thoroughly before drying completely. For internal cleaning,

a product is added to the old oil before it's drained, with the engine idling for a short period before changing the oil and filter

- 1.5. An engine cleaner is a specific type of product designed to clean the interior of an engine, while a degreaser is a general-purpose cleaning agent formulated to remove grease and oil from external surfaces, like an engine bay. Degreasers are often harsh and can damage certain parts if not used carefully, whereas engine cleaners may contain detergents to flush out sludge or additives to improve engine performance.

**Trade Name:** Ultra HD Degreasers and Ultra Engine Cleaner and Ruff Stuff.

**Common Name:** Ultra HD Degreasers and Ultra Engine Cleaner and Ruff Stuff

**Scientific Name:** Nil

**Tariff Decision: HS Code: 34.02.90.90**

**Reasons:**

- General Interpretative Rule (GIR) 1, directs classification the goods based on the specific terms of the headings and any relevant Section or Chapter Notes
  - Section VI: Covers Products of the Chemical or Allied Industries.
  - Chapter 34: Covers Soap, organic surface-active agents, washing preparations, lubricating preparations, artificial waxes, prepared waxes, polishing or scouring preparations, candles and similar articles, modelling pastes, 'dental waxes' and dental preparations with a basis of plaster.
  - Heading 34.02: Covers Organic surface-active agents (other than soap); surface-active preparations, washing preparations (including auxiliary washing preparations) and cleaning preparations, whether or not containing soap, other than those of heading 34.01.
- Explanatory Note (EN) Note C from page VI-3402-4, to Heading 34.02: The Explanatory Notes confirm the inclusion of degreasing or cleaning preparations that do not have a basis of soap or other organic surface-active agents. These preparations are typically based on alkaline substances (like sodium carbonate or caustic soda) or solvents and emulsifiers, and may contain small quantities of soap or surface-active agents.

- GIR 6 was applied to determine the correct sub-heading within Heading 34.02. The distinction hinges on whether the product is considered "put up for retail sale."
  - **Packaging Size:** The product is imported in large containers (25L and 210L).
  - **Domestic market :** Based on local industry practice, these large volumes are not considered ready for end-user consumption and must be repackaged into smaller quantities to be useable by the retail customer.
- The large volumes are considered wholesale quantities and do not qualify as being put up for retail use.

This ruling is valid until **27 November 2028** and may be amended in part or wholly or withdrawn at any time by publication of a new ruling or a withdrawal notice.

If there is any amendment in the legislation that affects the content of this Ruling, such amendment overrides the information in this Ruling.

National Tariff Committee Chairperson: **Rutendo Mapani**      Signature: 

Date: 27 November 2025