Impact of Import Time on Export Patterns

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**Abstract**

This paper examines how time in importing process affects export patterns at an establishment-level. We first theoretically discuss the effects of import time on not only exports but also export shipment frequency and exports per shipment. Then, we derive some propositions on those effects. Next, by employing the highly-detailed customs data in Thailand from 2007 to 2011, we empirically investigate those propositions. In this paper, the time for import is measured by the difference between the dates at which import shipments were arrived in ports and were released from container yard. Our main finding is that the longer time reduces total exports, particularly through decreasing the number of export shipments. The significantly negative effects on exports per shipment appear one year after the experience of longer import time. For non-differentiated products, those effects instantaneously appear.

***Keywords***: Customs; Time; Thailand

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