SOPA Model Contracts and Arbitration Rules

SOPA Model Contracts effective 01 April 2024

Contract Number	Commodity
SOPA 101	SBM 48% F.O.R.
SOPA 102	SBM 50% F.O.R.
SOPA 103	SBM 46% Ex Godown
SOPA 104	SBM 48% Ex Godown
SOPA 105	SBM 50% Ex Godown
SOPA 106	Oil F.O.R.
SOPA 107	Oil Ex factory
SOPA 108	Soybean

Key Takeaways - SOPA Model Contracts

1. Specifications & Scale of Allowances:

There are specific allowances for deviations in these specifications, and the buyer has the option to reject if the quality does not meet the agreed standards.

2. Delivery Period, Extension of Delivery Period and Non-Delivery:

Procedures and consequences related to delivery by rail or road, including the timeframe for delivery, options in case of delays, and responsibilities of both the seller and the buyer in case of non-delivery or delays in unloading.

3. Weighment Samplings and Analysis:

Procedures for weighment, sampling, and analysis of the goods, including the involvement of surveyors, joint sampling, sealing of samples, and the importance of accurate analysis for determining the quality of the product.

4. Payment:

Different payment terms: Advance or deferred payment for contracts by road or rail dispatch, consequences of delayed payments, default scenarios, and responsibilities of both parties regarding payment settlements.

5. Force Majeure:

Provision for Force Majeure events beyond the control of either party, outlining the procedures to be followed in case of such events, including suspension of the contract, options for cancellation, and extensions based on the duration of the Force Majeure event.

Key Takeaways – SOPA Arbitration Rules

- 1. Applicable to contracts with a clause referring to SOPA for arbitration.
- 2. The Arbitration Panel of persons with at least 10 years of experience, nominated by the EC.
- 3. Arbitral Tribunal can be of 3 Arbitrators or a Sole Arbitrator.
- 4. The Arbitration proceedings can be conducted in at SOPA's HQ in person or virtual.
- 5. Arbitration fees determined basis of claim amount, with admin charges and honorarium for arbitrators.
- 6. Parties have specific timelines for submitting claims, appointing arbitrators, and responding to arbitration requests.
- 7. Simple and early resolution process as compared to commercial courts

Thank you