

## CAM - HARMONIZED SALES TAX

*There has been a lot of information provided to movers about the new Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) in British Columbia and Ontario. Below is some information that was given to the Canadian Association of Movers by Danny Cisterna, a Partner with Deloitte & Touche LLP. It should give you some clarity on the issue. I believe it clears up some of the information that has been circulating about application of HST through the transition period and general application of GST and HST.*

**For moves, GST or HST is applicable based on the rate in the province of delivery. Over the transition date (July 1, 2010), HST is applicable on moves that load on July 1 or later.**

**For storage, GST or HST is based on the rate for the province where the goods are stored.** Storage should be invoiced separately from the invoice for the move. This differs from normal procedure for SIT as it's usually charged as part of the bill of lading.

**GST and HST rates for all provinces are as follows.**

Province	Tax	Rate
BC	HST	12%
AB, SK & MB	GST	5%
ON	HST	13%
QC	GST	5%
NB	HST	13%
NS	HST	15% (effective July 1, 2010)
PE	GST	5%
NL	HST	13%
YU, NW & NU	GST	5%

Example	Invoice Date	Start Date	End Date	Applicable Tax
Freight transportation service	June 15, 2010	June 30, 2010	July 2, 2010	5% GST (as the service begins before July 1, 2010)
Freight transportation service	June 15, 2010	July 2, 2010	July 5, 2010	13% HST (as the service begins after June 30, 2010)
Freight transportation service	April 30, 2010	July 2, 2010	July 5, 2010	5% GST only (since billed before May 1, 2010 – customer may be required to self-assess additional 8%)
Warehousing	May 5, 2010	May 1, 2010	July 31, 2010	5% GST for 2 months 13% HST for 1 month
Warehousing	April 30, 2010	May 1, 2010	July 31, 2010	5% GST only (since billed before May 1, 2010 – customer may be required to self-assess additional 8%)

*The above has rates for Ontario but for BC the HST would be 12%.*

**CAM recommends that you confirm the above information with your financial advisor and/or your van line.**

**For additional information, please see the Canada Revenue Agency's website at <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/E/pub/gi/notice247/notice247-e.html#P2.3.2>.**

# Don't Let Your Move Turn Into A Nightmare

*Everything else went so well.*

From outside, the five-bedroom, three-bathroom house looks like every other house on the street. Peer in the windows, however, and you'll find a scene so chilling you'll wonder if you've stumbled upon Elm Street. A bad moving company has struck again.

"We found them on Craigslist," wails Jane Doe, clutching her bathrobe closed with one hand. "They were pretty cheap."

Ms. Doe called Jinxed Moving as soon as the deal closed on what she and her husband Jack now jokingly describe as their dream home. The new house with a bungalow they had been residing in, and the couple, along with their two sets of twin girls, was excited. That excitement is gone.

"We have our own 10-year-old share a bathroom."

## First signs

The Does admit they were surprised when the movers arrived two weeks early. According to Jack Doe, a man, woman, and teenage boy rang the doorbell in the middle of the month and explained that they'd be staying with the Does to help with the packing.

"I thought 'Wow, this is customer service,'" Mr. Doe recalls. "But all they did was sit on the couch and say things like 'You'd better wrap that better' and 'That box is gonna be too heavy.'"

Things got worse the day of the move when the movers began throwing the Does' boxes into the back of a station wagon. When asked whether a moving truck would be provided, the female mover gasped and asked the Does if they knew "how much gas those things use."

## Broken dreams

Fifteen-year-old twins Lily and Rose spend most of their time sitting in their empty rooms, staring into space, remembering the stuff they used to have. Thanks to Jinxed, they'll never see that stuff again.

The contents of the five-bedroom were lost by the movers. The five-kilo metres between the two houses and haven't been recovered.

"When the door of the bathroom was open, and it was so hot, I should have worn a hat," says Lily. "All we have to wear are crys Rose."

The younger twins are unlucky. Their new possessions. Sadly, their furniture is broken, and the movers are trying to fit the broken pieces together. "I guess it happened," little Rose says.

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## Not the first time

For Jinxed Moving's customers, it happens more often than not. Many of those who have used the company about their experiences.

one person who didn't trust a moving company is on the market, and Jack Doe says they'll take anything just to get out. "A house is supposed to be a lifetime in your life. Everything so well. Our old house sold quickly. ATB Financial gave us a mortgage rate of a godsend. His head takes ash from his just made."

literature and music and ridiculed little Lucy's efforts to bake a birthday cake for her mother just days before leaving the old house.

All family members m they'll never trust a moving company. The dream home is on the market, and Jack Doe says they'll take anything just to get out.

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