

# HST

## What it means to our customers

*Effective July 1st, the HST will replace the GST and PST in British Columbia.*

### The Good news:

- Cameras, accessories and other merchandise: no effect
- Photofinishing: Prints, enlargements, gifts (everything except film developing): no effect
- Books: no effect (they'll be charged 5% HST)

### The not-so-good news:

Fortunately, only a few services, usually nominal amounts, will increase.

- Shipping will now be charged 12% HST (was 5% GST).
- Extended warranties will change to 12% HST (was 5% GST)
- Film developing will now be 12% HST (was 5% GST). Yes, we still offer film developing! No change for printing.
- Repairs will now be 12% HST (was 5% GST)
- Note: For online orders, taxes will be charged based on the applicable taxes of the province to where the order is being shipped.

### More good news:

- Savings! The switch from PST to HST will save our company 7% on some store and office supplies. Plus, the PST was a complicated, time-consuming tax to administer so we're looking forward to being rid of the PST. The overall savings will be minimal for our type of business but, it will enable us to pass along some **promotional savings** to our customers.  
This month: During July we're offering a **discount equal to the HST** on all online photofinishing orders through our website!
- The switch to HST will also save us 7% on some of the costs of store upgrades and renovations and thus enable us to gradually do some updates to a couple stores in the next year.

### Find out more:

To find out more about what's taxable and what's not, and how the HST will affect you, check out the BC government website:

[http://hst.blog.gov.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/GST\\_PST\\_HST\\_List\\_v04.pdf](http://hst.blog.gov.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/GST_PST_HST_List_v04.pdf)