SINGAPORE CUSTOMS NEWSLETTER

# INSYNC



**ALL SET FOR AED** 

In the lead up to the implementation of the Advance Export Declaration (AED) requirement on 1 April 2013, Singapore Customs has put in place new infrastructure and processes to ensure a smooth transition for businesses

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# inSIGHT

### ADVANCING TRADE THROUGH SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY

This issue's cover story focuses on the implementation of the Advance Export Declaration (AED) requirement, which we have been working closely with the industry on since 2010.

Advance information is necessary for Singapore Customs to conduct timely risk assessment, identify high-risk consignments for early inspection and prevent illicit cargo from being exported.

From a broader perspective, AED is crucial in strengthening supply chain security. A robust supply chain allows Singapore to be regarded by its key trading partners and global industry players as a secure and trusted trading hub. Trade remains the lifeblood of Singapore's economy.

Through our regular consultation with companies and associations, which began as early as 2010, we recognise that meeting the requirement can be challenging. Thus, Singapore Customs has built in an 18-month adjustment period, so that businesses can fine-tune their processes to transition into declaring all exports in advance, without incurring penalties for non-compliance.

Our second story shows how one exporter, Infineon Technologies Asia Pacific, is leveraging on Electronic Data Interface (EDI) to meet the requirement without affecting their customers or driving costs up. We hope this example will inspire other exporters to look into innovative methods to streamline operations to comply with AED.

Tan Zi Jie Editor

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# **All Set for AED**

In the lead up to the implementation of the Advance Export Declaration (AED) requirement on 1 April 2013, Singapore Customs has put in place new infrastructure and processes to ensure a smooth transition for businesses.

AED requires declarations for the export of all goods, including non-controlled and non-dutiable goods, to be submitted before the goods are moved out of Singapore.

AED enables Singapore Customs to have export data before the goods leave Singapore. This is a basic requirement for supply chain security. AED will enable the agency to conduct timely risk assessment and if need be, inspect the consignments before they are exported. As such, AED will help to strengthen global supply chain security and enhance the country's position as a trusted trade hub.

Prior to the AED requirement, declarations for exports of non-controlled and non-dutiable items by sea and air were allowed to be made within three days of the goods leaving Singapore.

With AED in place, Singapore Customs officers can now detect and prevent illicit cargo from leaving the country through early inspection. High-risk shipments are targeted by the agency for checks. Targeted sea export goods will be directed to the new Pasir Panjang Export Inspection Station for scanning. For targeted air export cargo, they will be inspected by Singapore Customs officers at the various air cargo terminals within the Changi Airfreight Centre.

# ON THE DRAWING BOARD

Since 2010, Singapore Customs has been consulting extensively with stakeholders to formulate the AED requirement, with an eye on minimising its impact on trade. A series of industry consultations with individual companies and key associations were held from April to December 2010. Traders were also invited to contribute comments through a public consultation in 2011.

In 2011, planning for infrastructure to support the scanning of cargo began.

Located next to the terminal gate of Pasir Panjang Free Trade Zone, the new Pasir Panjang Export Inspection Station enables Singapore Customs to perform X-ray scans and radiation detection of container cargo exported by sea.

When planning for the construction of the station, one key requirement was for it to facilitate a fast, efficient and nonintrusive cargo scanning process. This is to reduce any impact on traders with tight shipping schedules.



But space constraints posed a great challenge. The 0.86ha plot of land had to accommodate an administration building and bulky cargo inspection equipment. Thus, careful consideration went into ensuring that there was sufficient space for drivers to manoeuvre the container cargo into, out of, and around the station safely and smoothly.

Singapore Customs enforces
AED for air cargo exports from its
new setup in the Changi Airfreight
Centre. To minimise the impact
on logistics players, the agency
has been working closely with
various parties to fine-tune its
procedures for cargo scanning,
which is conducted at the air cargo
terminals. One key objective was
to ensure that the operations of

ground handling agents and air express companies remain smooth and hassle-free.

The second station for scanning sea exports, located on Brani island in the Keppel Free Trade Zone, is slated for completion in 2014.

# NEW ROLES FOR CUSTOMS OFFICERS

As export scanning is a new function for the agency, new units comprising over 50 experienced Singapore Customs officers were formed in 2012.

These officers play an important part in ensuring the safety of the supply chain. They inspect and make timely assessments on the legitimacy of the cargo, to determine if it should be released or detained for further action. This involves examining X-ray images to detect anomalies, analysing permits and documentation, as well as physical cargo inspection.

Before taking on their new roles, the officers went through extensive training on documentation, strategic goods control and commodity identification. They also picked up skills from their counterparts at the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) through training courses and onthe-job attachments at ICA's Pasir Panjang Scanning Station.

To find out more about AED, visit the AED page at www.customs.gov.sg

The Pasir Panjang
Export Inspection Station
undergoing construction
earlier this year. Now
operational, the station is
located at the free trade
zone of Pasir Panjang
Terminal and enables
Singapore Customs to
scan and detect illicit cargo
before they are exported
out of the country by sea.





More than 50 Singapore Customs officers went through extensive training in image analysis and cargo inspection before taking on new export scanning duties.

# How Infineon Technologies Prepares for AED

Companies have an 18-month adjustment period to fully comply with the AED requirement. From 1 April 2013 till 1 October 2014, they can further fine-tune their processes, systems and information flow without facing penalties for non-compliance. Some businesses, such as Infineon Technologies Asia Pacific, have started early and began to streamline operations to meet the requirement.

Global semiconductor solution-provider Infineon Technologies Asia has a manufacturing plant and an Asia-Pacific distribution centre in Singapore. Every month, it exports 22,000 shipments of goods out of the country. As such, Infineon wants to ensure that its customers are not affected by AED and no additional costs are incurred.

The solution: to shorten the time required for their export declaration process. The company aims to do so by minimising manual data entry and fully harnessing the benefits of Electronic Data Interface (EDI).

EDI is the electronic exchange of business information, such as cargo data, with a company's business partners – instead of using a paper-based system.

Currently, Infineon's declaring agents receive 80 per cent of their data from Infineon through EDI. The declaring agents include additional shipping information before making the export declaration in TradeNet. Freight forwarders then transport the goods out of Singapore.

To further speed up the process, Infineon is aiming for 100 per cent

EDI implementation. Since November 2012, the company has been working with two of its major freight forwarders to integrate their data systems with Infineon's, so that the forwarders will receive 100 per cent of the data needed for export declaration via EDI.

Once systems are integrated, the freight forwarders only need to add in cargo flight information before directly submitting the TradeNet declaration to Singapore Customs. The project will be carried out in phases.

"With full EDI implementation, we can not only comply with AED regulations, but also improve the accuracy of our data and increase productivity through reduced manual data entries," said Roxane Desmicht, Infineon's Senior Director, Corporate Supply Chain Asia Pacific.

Peter Dressler, Head of Global Logistics said: "With increasing security threats to the global logistics sector, Infineon understands the need to ensure the highest security for shipments and data. The AED initiative in Singapore is an important step towards this goal."

# Nab that Illegal Cigarette Peddler!

As part of its ongoing efforts to combat contraband cigarettes, Singapore Customs held a series of community road shows in the heartlands in March and April this year.

The 1 IS ALL IT TAKES road show made its debut at the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) College Central on 30 and 31 January. In the months of March and April, seven other road shows were held at residential areas and schools around Singapore. They attracted many students and members of the public who participated actively in the games, which help to convey the message that it only takes one illegal cigarette for one to be marked a criminal.

Some tried their hands at spotting images of duty-unpaid cigarettes among legal ones in under 30 seconds. Others raced against one another to put together jigsaw-puzzle pieces to form the 1 IS ALL IT TAKES campaign posters.

One game even got participants to "arrest" offenders involved in buying or selling contraband cigarettes by throwing "handcuff" loops over die-cut images of the offenders.

Through these simple but engaging games, participants learnt how to spot illegal cigarette activities and take action by reporting them to Singapore Customs.

Road show participants also walked away with exclusive campaign goodies such as mugs and tote bags – that sport reminders to steer clear of illegal cigarettes and the Singapore Customs hotline number for tip-offs. Singapore Customs Community Engagement officers were present to interact with members of the public and spread the message.

Singapore Customs aims to encourage greater civic responsibility in the fight against illegal cigarettes through these road shows, which are part of the 1 IS ALL IT TAKES public outreach campaign.

Visit www.ltTakesOne.sg to learn more about the dangers of dealing with illegal cigarettes.

Handcuff that peddler! Members of the public "arresting" suspects involved in illegal cigarette activities at the Beo Crescent Market road show.



Top: The first road show at ITE College Central on 30 and 31 January attracted many student participants.

Bottom: The road show at Jurong Point reached out to foreign workers and citizens.





# In Pursuit of Excellence

The 2013 Business and Service Excellence Sharing session was held on 26 March to showcase best practices from outstanding organisations. As a Singapore Quality Award (SQA) winner, Singapore Customs was invited to share insights from its business excellence journey.

Left: Singapore Customs Director-General Fong Yong Kian related the agency's transformational leadership experience at the 2013 Business and Service Excellence Sharing session.

Right: Assistant Director-General (Policy & Planning) Lee Tiow Yong (middle) shared Singapore Customs' productivity practices with the audience.

Photo: SPRING Singapore

Through a series of talks and panel discussions, the one-day seminar focused on how leading organisations manage their business challenges and improve productivity. The speakers, a mix of private and public sector senior executives and academics, provided examples of best practices that spur innovation and productivity.

### **DRIVING PRODUCTIVITY**

The first session of the day discussed productivity practices. Singapore Customs Assistant Director-General (Policy & Planning) Lee Tiow Yong presented the agency's three-point strategy: engagement of staff, technology and innovation to enable transformation and co-creating solutions with partners and customers.

An engaged staff is a productive staff. Singapore Customs places heavy emphasis on energising its people by actively shaping the organisation's desired culture. Investing in people is also important, thus the agency has identified a set of core competencies to make sure each officer is equipped with the right skills to execute his job.

Leveraging on technology and innovation is also key. TradeFIRST, or the Trade Facilitation and Integrated Risk-based System, is a one-stop assessment framework for all Customs facilitation schemes. It not only provides convenience to traders, but also

cuts down the time needed to process applications.

Adopting a customer-centric approach – such as having dedicated Account Managers for companies – extends Singapore Customs' pro-enterprise approach and strengthens its engagement with its customers.

# LEADING WITH EMPATHY

In another plenary session,
Director-General Fong Yong Kian
related Singapore Customs'
transformational leadership
experience, introducing the
organisation's 4Cs of Leadership
– Connect, Contextualise, Courage
and managing Change.

As the top man, he makes it a point to meet 20 staff each week, for an hour or two without any prearranged agenda. This allows him to connect with staff and solicit their views on areas for improvement.

When asked by participants if business excellence is a paper chase and how to achieve staff buy-in and consensus, Mr Fong said it was important to be sincere when explaining changes.

"If it appears to be a paper exercise, it probably is. Then don't do it," he said. "We tell our staff that as an agency that serves the public, we want to be the best, and we use the Business Excellence Framework, which is well-established and widely recognised, to learn and see where we can do better."



# Budget Day Inspection

It was announced in Budget 2013 that the tax rates of non-cigarette tobacco products would be increased, to harmonise the rates with that of cigarettes. On the afternoon of Budget Day on 25 February, about 100 Singapore Customs officers were mobilised to conduct inspections on goods affected by the change and ensure that the correct amount of duties and Goods and Services Tax (GST) was applied to them.

The excise duties for Beedies, Ang Hoon and smokeless tobacco were increased by 25%, from \$239 per kilogramme to \$299 per kilogramme. For unmanufactured tobacco, the excise duties were increased by 1.5%, from \$347 per kilogramme to \$352 per kilogramme.

For full details on the tariff changes, refer to Circular 02/2013 at www.customs.gov.sg

To find out more about this year's Budget, visit www.singaporebudget.gov.sg





Officers verified the stock balance of affected non-cigarette tobacco goods such as loose tobacco leaves or Ang Hoon (left), and Beedies, a type of Indian cigarettes (above), held in the licensed warehouses against Singapore Customs' records.

The checks ensured that duty-paid non-cigarette tobacco goods were accounted for and have been removed from the licensed area of the licensed warehouses. If the affected goods are still stored in the licensed areas, the revised

duty rates will be applied to these goods.

A Licensed Warehouse is a designated area approved and licensed by Singapore Customs for storing imported dutiable goods, namely liquors, tobacco products, motor vehicles and petroleum, with the duty and GST payable suspended.



About 100 Singapore Customs officers went to 27 selected licensed warehouses to conduct checks. In total, 200 officers were on alert on Budget Day, ready to be deployed for inspection.

# Duo Fined \$1.02M Each for UnderDeclaring Values and Furnishing Money for the Purchase of 34 Imported Cars

Han Ong Guan and his son Jeremy Han Wan Kwang were sentenced to fines of \$1,021,000 each (or in default 32 weeks' imprisonment) for conspiring to underdeclare the values of 34 cars imported from Japan and furnishing money for the purchase of these cars.

Singapore Customs began investigating the incorrect declarations of the imported cars of various marques in January 2006.

The investigations revealed that father and son had conspired to under-declare the values of the cars. The Hans had also furnished money for the purchase of these cars.

The total excise duty and Goods and Services Tax (GST)

evaded as a result of the underdeclaration exceeded \$24,500 and \$7,300 respectively.

The Hans were found guilty of 35 charges each. They were sentenced by the court in February 2013. Of the 35 charges, 26 were related to the under-declaration of the values of the cars, which were imported between February and August 2005. The remaining nine charges were related to the furnishing of money for the purchase of these cars.

Under the Customs Act, it is the responsibility of importers to ensure the accuracy and completeness of declarations submitted to Singapore Customs. Any person who is guilty of fraudulent evasion of duty/GST will be liable on conviction to a fine of up to 20 times the duty/GST payable or \$5,000 per charge, whichever is higher, or imprisonment not exceeding two years, or to both for repeat offenders. Any abettor or conspirator will also be liable for the same punishment on conviction.

Any person guilty of furnishing money for the purpose of establishing or conducting any business comprising the sale, purchase, hire, receipt, concealment or disposal, or dealing of uncustomed goods shall be liable on conviction to a fine of up to \$1 million, subject to a minimum fine of \$100,000. He/she shall also be liable to an imprisonment term not exceeding six years.

# Facilitating FTA Goods in Transit

With the proliferation of free trade agreements (FTA) and cargo from exporting countries being increasingly transhipped through third countries such as Singapore, Singapore Customs has seen a doubling in the number of Certificates of Non-Manipulation it has issued since 2010 for such goods in transit. The certificate enables importers in the final destination country to enjoy preferential tariffs under the FTA.

### PROOF OF ORIGIN

When goods manufactured in one country are exported to its FTA-partner country, they can enjoy lower import tariffs in the partner country if they meet the origin criteria under that FTA.

Since direct routes between FTA-partner countries are not always available, traders increasingly use international transit to move their cargo. However, transit through a third country may result in goods being ineligible for preferential tariffs – unless it can be shown that the goods have not been manipulated en route.

A Certificate of Non-Manipulation, issued in the country of transit, provides documentary evidence that the goods have not been switched or modified during transit and that they retain the originating status of their country of export.

To qualify for the certificate, the goods must not have undergone any processing other than what is necessary to keep them in good condition, and must have been kept under customs surveillance. As such, importers often use the certificate when transhipping goods.

For goods that are transhipped through Singapore, Singapore Customs is the authority that issues the Certificate of Non-Manipulation. The application has to be filed by a local logistics service provider and the goods have to be stored in a Zero-GST warehouse, Licensed Warehouse or in a free trade zone during its period of transit in Singapore.

# GREATER DEMAND FOR CERTIFICATES OF NON-MANIPULATION

In recent years, Singapore Customs has seen an accelerated increase in the take-up rate for Certificates of Non-Manipulation.

In 2012, the department issued over 7,700 such certificates, twice the number issued in 2010. The year-on-year growth in the number



of certificates issued was 31% and 52% in 2011 and 2012 respectively.

This rapid increase is attributed to the recent proliferation of FTAs such as the European Union-Korea FTA, which was implemented in July 2011, as well as Singapore's extensive vessel connectivity to the rest of the world.

Singapore Customs' issuance of Certificates of Non-Manipulation facilitates the transhipment of such goods through Singapore. This provides more business opportunities for local logistic operators handling the transhipment trade and strengthens Singapore's status as a global transhipment hub.

# HOW THE CERTIFICATE OF NON-MANIPULATION WORKS FOR TRADERS USING SINGAPORE AS A TRANSHIPMENT HUB



- 1. Transhipment with storage of goods in Zero-GST Warehouse, Licensed Warehouse or free trade zone
- 2. Certificate of Non-Manipulation issued by Singapore Customs

# **BENEFITS OF FTA**

A free trade agreement (FTA) is an agreement between two or more countries to reduce or eliminate barriers of trade and facilitate the cross-border movement of goods and services between the parties' territories.

Some benefits of FTAs include: eliminating or reducing import tariff rates, preferential access to service sectors, easing investment rules, improving intellectual property regulations and opening up government procurement opportunities.

Besides supporting the transhipment trade, Singapore Customs also helps Singapore manufacturers reap benefits from FTAs.

If your company exports locally manufactured products, you can apply for the Preferential Certificate of Origin (PCO) to gain preferential tariff rates, so your Singapore-origin product can be more price-competitive in its overseas market.

Singapore Customs is the authority responsible for certifying the origin status of a locally manufactured product and issuing PCOs under FTAs.

More information on the Certificate of Non-Manipulation and Preferential Certificate of Origin is available at www.customs.gov.sg under Certificates of Origin/Rules of Origin.

To learn more about FTAs, visit www.fta.gov.sg

# Sharing Customs Expertise with ASEAN Counterparts

To promote the sharing of customs knowledge, Singapore Customs and Japan Customs recently conducted two courses for customs and trade officials from Southeast Asian countries at the Singapore Customs Academy.

The courses on national single window and trade facilitation included interactive classroom lectures, site visits and case study discussions. Held in February and March, they were organised under the ambit of the Japan-Singapore Partnership Programme for the 21st Century (JSPP21) and cosponsored by Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

# NATIONAL SINGLE WINDOW COURSE FOR ASEAN CUSTOMS

The inaugural National Single
Window for ASEAN Customs
Administrations course was held
from 25 February to 1 March.
Over 20 customs officials from
Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia,
Thailand, Vietnam and the
Philippines learnt about Singapore's
experience in developing and
implementing its National Single
Window system, TradeNet.

Singapore Customs pioneered the world's first electronic national single window system in 1989. With TradeNet, traders need to submit their trade permits to the system only once and the permit is then processed by multiple government agencies within minutes.

Japan Customs also shared their experience in developing Japan's national single window – the Nippon Automated Cargo and Port Consolidated System (NACCS) which was implemented in 2003.

For the participants, whose countries are at different stages of national single window adoption, the course was informative and relevant. For example, a visit to a licensed warehouse which had integrated its warehousing inventory system with TradeNet illustrated the possibilities and benefits of adopting and integrating data with infocomm technology.

# TRADE FACILITATION FOR MYANMAR

The Singapore Customs Academy and Japan Customs also designed and delivered a trade facilitation course to meet the needs of Myanmar officials.

More than 30 customs and trade officials from Myanmar attended the programme from 18 to 22 March. During the five-day course, Singapore Customs shared its experience in the adoption of infocomm technology and modernised procedures and formalities to facilitate legitimate trade.

In addition, experts from Japan Customs highlighted the importance of classification in customs modernisation and the implementation of the HS Convention in Japan. The course was useful to the officials, especially at a time when Myanmar is undergoing rapid development.



Singapore Customs, together with Japan Customs, conducted courses on national single window for ASEAN customs officials (right) and trade facilitation for 30 Myanmar customs and trade officials (above).



# **Innovating** for **Customs Progress**

Seven Singapore Customs officers received the World Customs Organisation (WCO) Certificate of Merit for their commitment towards promoting innovation. They received the certificates from Singapore Customs Director-General Fong Yong Kian when the agency celebrated International Customs Day 2013.

2013 has been designated the year of innovation by the WCO, with the theme of "Innovation for Customs Progress". In his International Customs Day 2013 message, WCO Secretary-General Kunio Mikuriya noted that innovation is a key driver for sustainable customs reform and modernisation. Innovation is necessary for customs administrations to "meet the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities presented by the 21st century border and trade environment".

He expressed confidence that the collective efforts of customs administrations to further innovate in 2013 will lead to greater economic competitiveness and generate global growth, when supported by enhanced trade facilitation – which involves a risk-based approach to supply chain security and deeper commitment to global compliance and good governance.

The seven Singapore Customs officers were commended for their work in promoting innovative ideas and practices, establishing new partnerships and adopting new solutions.

# **CUSTOMS INNOVATORS**

Goh Yeow Meng, Head of Risk Assessment, conceptualised and implemented various solutions to improve. These include collaborating with other agencies for a Whole-of-Government approach to target suspicious shipments and improving preclearance targeting through better use of data analytics.

Deputy Head of Company
Compliance Cheah Tuck Meng
enhanced the workflow of his Field
Compliance section by introducing
a tiered approach for supervision
of stuffing and unstuffing
operations, with less or no
supervision for the more compliant
companies. Tuck Meng is also
looking into the use of mobile
applications to enable his officers
to access companies' compliance
records while in the field.

Deputy Head of Intelligence
Jonathan Loh is adept at
combining traditional desk analysis
with field surveillance to gain
better insights into the operations
of smuggling syndicates. He
has helped to implement new
technology and monitoring
programs to enhance his branch's
operational capabilities. His efforts
contributed to the overall decline in
cigarette smuggling over the years.

Recipients of the 2013
WCO Certificate of Merit
from Singapore Customs:
(clockwise from top left)
Cheah Tuck Meng,
Jonathan Loh, Roy Tan,
Lim Chee Kiong, Alvin Tok,
Cindy Yeo, and
Goh Yeow Meng.



Alvin Tok, Deputy Head of Sea Checkpoints, and Cindy Yeo, Deputy Head of Procedures & Systems, were part of a multiagency team which facilitated the set-up of Jurong Island Terminal, allowing hazardous chemicals to be transported between mainland Singapore and Jurong Island by sea instead of by road. Alvin also oversaw the setting up of the agency's new export scanning function.

Cindy played a significant role in implementing various projects including the Declaring Agent Governance Framework and Secure Trade Partnership programme.

Roy Tan, Deputy Head of International Relations, and Lim Chee Kiong, Deputy Head of Schemes & Licensing, were part of a multi-agency team involved in the setting-up of Singapore's Air Cargo Express Hub, which makes possible the unrestricted flow and quick turnaround of express air cargo.

Chee Kiong was also actively involved in other innovative projects including the TradeNet upgrade and the Declaring Agent Governance Framework.



Singapore Customs will be participating in the Safety & Security Asia 2013 exhibition from 7 to 9 May at the Marina Bay Sands Singapore. The exhibition, targeted at traders, provides information on strategic issues and processes relating to the safety and security market in Southeast Asia.

As a major trading and transportation hub, it is vital for Singapore to remain as a secure and trusted node in the international supply chain. Singapore Customs administers the national supply chain security programme – the Secure Trade Partnership (STP). Through STP, the agency works with the industry to raise supply chain security standards. STP-certified traders enjoy faster clearance of goods and reduced inspections at the port of entry, among other benefits.

To find out how you can be part of the STP programme, speak to our officers at the exhibition.

### **DETAILS:**

Booth 2J02, Safety & Security Asia 2013 10am to 6pm 7 – 9 May 2013

Marina Bay Sands Singapore

TRAINING CALENDAR Please note that dates are subject to change. For full programme and registration details, visit www.customsacademy.gov.sg

PROGRAMME	DATES
SC100 BASICS OF EVERY DECLARANT  This three-day course provides trade declarants with an overview of customs procedures pertaining to the import and export of goods, the basic requirements for preparing TradeNet declarations, classification of goods, and the	8 May 2013 (SC 102 and SC 103 only)
rules of origin.  The course comprises three modules:  SC101 Customs Procedures (2 days)  SC102 Classification and the Harmonised System (Half-day)  SC103 Rules of Origin / Free Trade Agreements (Half-day)	5 Jun 2013 (SC 102 and SC 103 only)
Participants may register for individual modules.	
SC200 STRATEGIC GOODS CONTROL PROGRAMME	20 Jun 2013
This one-day seminar provides an overview of Singapore's strategic goods control system and its regulations, registration procedures and permit requirements for strategic goods transactions, as well as the essentials of an internal (export control) compliance programme.	
The seminar comprises two modules:	
Participants may register for individual modules.	
SC400 CUSTOMS COMPETENCY TEST FOR DECLARANTS  This module is designed to test an individual's knowledge of the customs procedures and documentation requirements. Upon passing this test, the individual can then apply for registration with SC as a declarant to submit TradeNet permit declarations.	26 Apr 2013 (AM and PM sessions)
The test will be an open-book exam comprising of 50 multiple choice questions. The topics tested include: customs procedures, TradeNet declarations, valuation, classification, Rules of Origin and specialised procedures. The one-hour test can be taken during the AM or PM session.	
Individuals who wish to sit for the test are advised to familiarise themselves with above-listed subject areas. They can do so through courses or eLearning at Singapore Customs Academy, the Customs Virtual Academy and by visiting the Customs website.	
TRADERS CLINICS	24 & 25 Apr 2013 29 & 30 May 2013 11 & 12 Jun 2013
These monthly one-on-one consultation sessions provide an avenue for traders to seek advice and provide feedback on general customs procedures and services.	
OUTREACH PROGRAMME FOR NEWLY-REGISTERED TRADERS	28 Jun 2013
This quarterly programme is designed to equip new traders with a better understanding of customs documentation procedures, as well as the various customs schemes and services available. For enquiries, please call 6355 2000 or email customs_documentation@customs.gov.sg	
OUTREACH PROGRAMME FOR NEWLY-REGISTERED MANUFACTURERS	10 Jun 2013
This bimonthly programme is designed to equip newly-registered manufacturers with a better understanding of the rules of origin under Singapore's free trade agreements, the application procedures for certificates of origin, and the compliance requirements. For enquiries, please email customs_roo@customs.gov.sg	



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