

# IN SYNC

## HIGHLIGHTS

Cost and Time Savings  
from Improved Declaring  
Agent Governance  
Framework

Page 04

Faster Customs  
Clearance for Singapore  
Exporters to Hong Kong

Page 06

Royal Malaysian Customs  
Department visits  
Singapore Customs

Page 09



## ENSURING SECURITY AND INTEGRITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING ENVIRONMENT

Whole-of-government approach and partnerships  
at multiple nodes in the supply chain are crucial  
in curbing transnational illicit trade.

Page 01

# CONTENTS

# inSIGHT

## FEATURES

- 01** Ensuring Security and Integrity of the International Trading Environment
- 04** Cost and Time Savings from Improved Declaring Agent Governance Framework

## Facilitating Trade by Building International Ties

Trade is the lifeblood of Singapore's economy. What we do at Singapore Customs assures the integrity of Singapore's external trading system.

Maintaining positive international relations is an integral element of what makes us tick. Business engagement, robust regulations, and effective enforcement all have to be supported by a strong undercurrent of good ties with our partners.

This issue's cover story gives a peek into how Singapore Customs works with members of the international community to stop transnational illicit trade.

We have also been meeting regional heads of customs administrations in Australia, ASEAN Directors-General in Vietnam, and hosting the Royal Malaysian Customs Department here at home. Read these stories on pages 07 to 09.

In June, a Hong Kong-Singapore mutual recognition arrangement was signed, enabling faster customs clearance for Singapore exporters to Hong Kong. To find out how exporters can benefit from this arrangement, see page 06.

**Neo Wen Tong**  
Editor

## UPDATES

- 06** Faster Customs Clearance for Singapore Exporters to Hong Kong
- 07** Bolstering Ties in the Asia Pacific Region
- 08** Strengthening Partnerships at the 23rd Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Customs
- 09** Royal Malaysian Customs Department Visits Singapore Customs
- 10** Singapore Customs Busts Contraband Cigarette Distribution Ring in Opera Estate
- 11** End of Adjustment Period for Advanced Export Declaration
- 12** New STP Companies on Board

## INSIDE CUSTOMS

- 13** Training Calendar

## DESIGN BY

Green House Design + Communications

Please let us know what you think of inSYNC. We welcome your ideas on what you would like to see and how we can do better. Write in to the Editor at [customs\\_media@customs.gov.sg](mailto:customs_media@customs.gov.sg)

inSYNC is a publication of Singapore Customs. Copyright of the materials contained in this publication belongs to Singapore Customs. Nothing in here shall be reproduced in whole or in part without prior written consent of Singapore Customs. All rights reserved. All information is correct at time of publication.



To read, download or subscribe to the online edition of inSYNC, please visit [www.customs.gov.sg/insync](http://www.customs.gov.sg/insync)

 [www.facebook.com/SingaporeCustoms](https://www.facebook.com/SingaporeCustoms)

 [www.twitter.com/sg\\_customs](https://www.twitter.com/sg_customs)



# Ensuring Security and Integrity of the International Trading Environment

*Whole-of-government approach and partnerships at multiple nodes in the supply chain are crucial in curbing transnational illicit trade.*

While globalisation has expanded international trade, it has similarly broadened the range of organised crime.

Syndicates are becoming more sophisticated in exploiting the supply chain and manipulating the trade system. Rapid technological advances have further injected a cyberspace dimension that complicates transnational enforcement, making it easier for criminal masterminds to orchestrate operations across various locations remotely.

## STRONG PARTNERSHIPS WITHIN SINGAPORE

Singapore has adopted a concerted approach by all relevant government agencies to ensure that trade into, through and from Singapore is legitimate and safe. The integrated whole-of-government approach ensures a swifter and more effective response to complex enforcement issues.

One such area is tackling the smuggling of contraband cigarettes. Transnational syndicates dealing in contraband cigarettes have been known to be linked to unlicensed moneylending, drugs, and immigration offences. Singapore Customs thus works closely with other domestic enforcement agencies like the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority, Central Narcotics Bureau, and the Singapore Police Force (SPF) to conduct joint operations and exchange intelligence.

Combating illicit trade in endangered species and hazardous substances is another area where the whole-of-government approach is essential. Working with the Agri-Food & Veterinary



Authority of Singapore (AVA), Singapore Customs battles the illicit transboundary trade of species protected under the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

For hazardous substances, Singapore Customs collaborates with the National Environment Agency (NEA) to deal with the illicit transboundary movement of environmentally damaging waste under the Montreal Protocol and Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal.

#### INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IS ESSENTIAL

Partnerships at multiple nodes in the supply chain are vital in combating transnational illicit trade. Countries where goods originate, transit, and are destined for all have a part to play.

In many instances, global supply chains have become more complex and convoluted, involving multiple transit and transshipment points. This presents a dynamic challenge – as soon as one country steps up its control mechanism, the illicit traders switch to another route.

To counter complex transnational illicit trade, customs administrations and authorities have to work together and share timely information to ensure swifter response.

#### SUPPORTING GLOBAL EFFORTS

Singapore Customs is a member of the World Customs Organisation (WCO) Regional Intelligence Liaison Offices (RILO) network. Within this network, the agency supports joint-action projects such as “Project Crocodile”, an ongoing project started in 2004 that combats cigarette smuggling in the region.

RILO is a regional centre that collects, analyses and supplements data, as well as disseminates information on trends, modus operandi, routes and significant cases of fraud. The RILO network currently comprises 11 Liaison Offices covering the WCO’s six regions.

Singapore Customs also participates in international operations such as those conducted under the support of the WCO and Asia-Europe Meeting.

These operations include WCO Great Apes and Integrity Operation in 2011, and WCO Operation HOPE in 2012, which were aimed at combating illicit wildlife trafficking. Other operations include WCO’s Operation Demeter II in 2012 and Operation Demeter III in 2013 against illicit waste trafficking.

## ILLICIT TRADE STOPPED BY AUTHORITIES

### 1 | TRANSHIPMENT OF 45 TONNES OF RED SANDALWOOD SEIZED

From October to November 2013, Singapore Customs and the AVA conducted a series of operations that led to the seizure of three containers that held 45 tonnes of red sandalwood.

The consignments were transiting Singapore from India and falsely declared as “hot lime pickles” and “casting wheels”. The red sandalwood seized was worth an estimated \$5 million, and was the largest seizure since 2011.



## 2 | ILLEGAL IVORY WORTH \$2 MILLION SEIZED

Acting on a foreign tip-off, officers from Singapore Customs and the AVA worked together to intercept and detain a shipment of illegal ivory, estimated to be worth \$2 million, in March 2014.

This is the third largest seizure of illegal ivory by Singapore authorities since 2002.

The shipment declared as coffee berries was transiting Singapore from Africa in a 20-foot container and destined for another Asian country.

A total of 106 pieces of illegal raw ivory tusks, weighing about one tonne, were recovered from 15 wooden crates.



## 3 | OVER 7,000 TONNES OF ILLEGAL WASTE NETTED

Singapore Customs and the NEA participated in Operation Demeter III in 2013, a joint global Customs initiative across the Europe and Asia Pacific region. The operation netted more than 7,000 tonnes of illegal waste, including hazardous waste, used vehicle parts and tyres, textiles, and e-waste.

Initiated by China Customs and organised by the WCO, the operation was carried out with the support of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and the United Nations Environment Programme's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.

During the five-week operation from October to November 2013, Customs officers representing 44 countries used risk assessment, profiling and targeting techniques, together with available intelligence, to identify and control high-risk consignments.

Singapore Customs tapped on CENcomm, the WCO's secure and encrypted communication tool, to exchange crucial intelligence and coordinate their operational activities during the course of this global enforcement initiative. Singapore Customs also passed on relevant information to next port of calls for suspicious shipments.



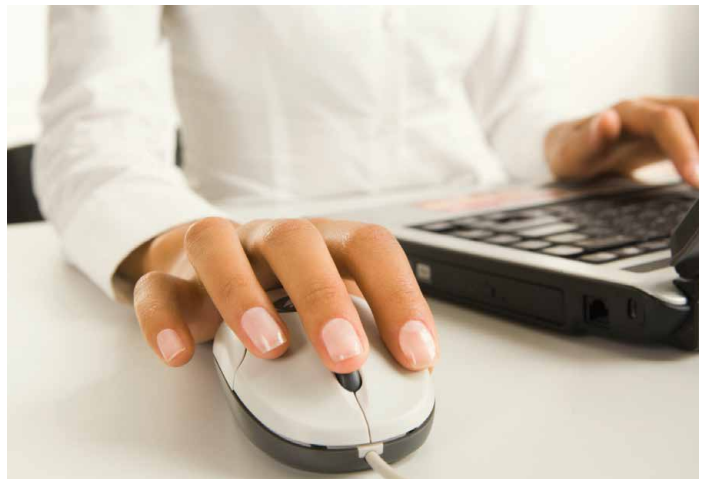
# Cost and Time Savings from Improved Declaring Agent Governance Framework

*With existing requirements repackaged in an easy-to-understand framework, companies are able to focus on more important aspects of trade.*

In 2013, Singapore Customs introduced the Declaring Agent (DA) Governance Framework to raise overall proficiency and professionalism of the DAs and declarants.

The framework drives the DA industry to improve their internal control procedures and processes, and encourages the keeping of good compliance records. By doing so, quicker processing and clearance of legitimate trade goods by government agencies may be possible through more efficient and effective risk-profiling – a result of reliable and correct trade data.

The pros do not stop here. Companies reported that the framework has also raised their staff productivity, assisted in more effective deployments and upped their competitiveness in the industry.



To find out more about the Declaring Agent Governance Framework, visit the Singapore Customs website.

Three industry players share their stories.

## CRIMSONLOGIC PTE LTD

“

Since information on the DA Governance Framework is made available online, CrimsonLogic staff have been able to receive first-hand information. This eliminates doubt when we seek clarification. Also, with the details in the DA Governance Framework, customers are more aware of the conditions they and the DA have to fulfil, to ensure there are no penalties involved should there be an error in information.

We truly recommend the use of the framework to importers and exporters in the event that they are seeking for more information. They need only to rely on the Internet for clarification. It helps us to save precious time and money.

”

💬 Mdm Fauziah Binte Abdul Rahim,  
Senior Executive, CrimsonLogic

## TRADENET SERVICES PTE LTD (TNETS)

“

There is now a common standard of knowledge and proficiency to which all service providers must adhere. This sets an industry benchmark ensuring that declarants have the necessary skills to perform their functions and levels the playing field. We now have a reference point that we can meet and exceed as we train our staff.

In a tight and high-cost labour market, it is critical that we seek every opportunity to increase productivity. The new framework has enabled us to do this by combining the standards set out in the framework with our own declarant training programme.

We have been able to create greater mobility within our workforce, and redeploy our team members more dynamically when the need arises. We had previously found it much more challenging to cater to variations in volume with particular customers. With the new framework in place, all of our 60-plus declarants are trained to a minimum standard and can be more readily deployed at shorter notice.

”

💬 Mr Neil Johnson, Director, TNETS

## TRADERSPERMITS

“

One of our responsibilities is to do the right declaration for our many varied customers, who range from our regulars to one-time, walk-in customers. The wide range of goods being imported and exported also poses a great challenge for us.

The framework helps us to focus on the important and necessary aspects of our trade. One of the main advantages is the reduction in bureaucracy. It is important for us to do what is necessary and that is to carry on with our business, with as little disruption as possible from the governing authorities.

With this framework, it helps us to ensure that we are doing as much as we can to comply. This releases us to do what is important, and that is to serve our customers.

”

💬 Ms Ng Bee Hong, Director, Traderspermits



# Faster Customs Clearance for Singapore Exporters to Hong Kong

*Singapore companies that have been certified by Singapore Customs can now enjoy faster customs clearance for the goods they export to Hong Kong.*

Singapore Customs and the Customs and Excise Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (HK C&ED) have agreed that such certified companies will have their exports recognised by the HK C&ED to be of lower risk, leading to quicker clearance when the goods arrive at Hong Kong's ports. These companies can therefore better plan their cargo movements, particularly for time-sensitive exports, and enjoy savings in costs which would otherwise be incurred due to port delays.

Similarly, companies in Hong Kong which have been certified by the HK C&ED will have their exports cleared expeditiously when the goods arrive in Singapore.

This mutual recognition arrangement (MRA) to enhance supply chain security and facilitate trade between Singapore and Hong Kong was signed at the 123rd/124th World Customs Organisation Council Sessions in Brussels, Belgium, on 27 June 2014.

Singapore's Director-General of Customs Ho Chee Pong and Hong Kong's Commissioner of Customs and Excise Clement Cheung signed the arrangement.

The Hong Kong-Singapore MRA recognises the compatibility of the supply chain security measures implemented by companies certified under Singapore Customs' Secure Trade Partnership (STP) programme – specifically the STP-Plus companies – and Hong Kong's Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) programme.

"Hong Kong is an important trading partner to Singapore, and this arrangement will bring benefits to our bilateral trade," said Mr Ho. "This MRA also contributes to the growing network of MRAs to strengthen supply chain security globally and promote the facilitation of low risk cargos."

Mr Cheung said: "Singapore is one of the principal trading partners of Hong Kong. The facilitation measures under the MRA will assist local traders in accessing the Singapore market, through which Hong Kong branded products and services are promoted in Singapore while enhancing the favourable image of Hong Kong brands. These bring more business opportunities to the import/export and logistics industries."

## COMPANIES WELCOME THE HONG KONG-SINGAPORE ARRANGEMENT

Companies in Singapore with significant trade with Hong Kong welcomed the signing of the MRA.

"As we export daily to our strategic customers in Hong Kong, this MRA would greatly benefit both our customers and Xilinx, especially in the event of a trade disruption," said Mr Eugene Khoo, Director of Logistics, Trade Compliance APAC & Inventory Control of Xilinx Asia Pacific Pte Ltd, a leading provider of All Programmable technologies and devices.

"Xilinx's shipments are time-sensitive and the ability to clear ahead of non-AEO companies would enhance Xilinx's customer service to our esteemed customers as well as assist our customers to better manage their manufacturing lead times under such circumstances," said Mr Khoo.



Director-General of Singapore Customs Ho Chee Pong (left), and Commissioner of the Customs and Excise Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China Clement Cheung signed the mutual recognition arrangement between Singapore and Hong Kong at the World Customs Organisation in Brussels, Belgium.



# Bolstering Ties in the Asia Pacific Region

*The biennial 15th World Customs Organisation Asia Pacific Regional Heads of Customs Administrations Conference was held from 30 April to 2 May in Port Douglas, Australia.*

Singapore Customs Director-General Ho Chee Pong attended the conference, which saw a gathering of heads of customs administrations from the Asia Pacific region and key personnel from the World Customs Organisation (WCO), Regional Intelligence Liaison Office Asia Pacific (RILO AP), and Regional Office of Capacity Building Asia Pacific (ROCB AP).

The conference endorsed several key initiatives that are important to the Asia Pacific region, such as Japan's proposal to implement a Regional Customs Laboratory and Republic of Korea's offer to continue to host the RILO AP Office for another four years.

Singapore was also endorsed as a member of the WCO Policy Commission from July 2014 to June 2016.

Mr Michael Pezzullo, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service, chaired the conference. In attendance were 25 member countries, WCO Secretary-General Kunio Mikuriya, and observers from RILO AP and ROCB AP.



*Singapore Customs Director-General Ho Chee Pong (right) presented a token of appreciation to Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) Chief Executive Officer Michael Pezzullo (centre). On the left is ACBPS Deputy Chief Executive (Border Enforcement) Marion Grant.*



*The conference saw a gathering of heads of customs administrations from the Asia Pacific region and key personnel from the World Customs Organisation, Regional Intelligence Liaison Office Asia Pacific, and Regional Office of Capacity Building Asia Pacific.*

# Strengthening Partnerships at the 23rd Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Customs

*Held from 3 to 5 June 2014 in Da Lat, Vietnam, the meeting was chaired by Mr Nguyen Ngoc Tuc, Director-General of the General Department of Vietnam Customs.*

Director-General of Singapore Customs Ho Chee Pong, as the Outgoing Chair, highlighted Customs' important role in the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community 2015 and the key achievements during the past year.

During the Meeting, the ASEAN Directors-General of Customs reviewed the work of the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Customs, the Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation Working Group, the Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working Group, the Customs Capacity Building Working Group, and the ASEAN Single Window Steering Committee.

Key achievements during the past year include the following:

- a) Development of the ASEAN Customs Enforcement Bulletin Volume V and the ASEAN Customs Post Clearance Audit Bulletin Volume V.
- b) On the ASEAN Agreement on Customs, eight Member States (up from five since the 22nd Director-General of Customs Meeting) have since notified or deposited instruments of ratification with the Secretary General of ASEAN upon the completion of their internal procedures.
- c) 13 (up from 11 since the 22nd Directors-General of Customs Meeting) of the ASEAN Economic Community Scorecard deliverables for Customs Integration have been fully implemented by all Member States.

The Meeting endorsed the chairmanship of the ASEAN Customs Working Groups for the period of 2014-2016: Singapore chairs the Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation Working Group, Malaysia chairs the Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working Group, and Indonesia chairs the Customs Capacity Building Working Group.

The Meeting also discussed issues about the ASEAN Single Window, ASEAN Customs Transit System and the setting of new directions for ASEAN Customs beyond 2015.

To strengthen Customs-to-Customs partnerships in the region, the Meeting also had a series of consultation sessions with the Customs administrations of China, Japan and Korea, and the World Customs Organisation. The Meeting also held consultation sessions with the US-ASEAN Business Council and the Conference of Asia-Pacific Express Carriers, to strengthen Customs-to-Business partnerships in the region.



*Director-General of Singapore Customs Ho Chee Pong (second from right) attended the 23rd Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Customs in Da Lat, Vietnam.*

# Royal Malaysian Customs Department Visits Singapore Customs

*Visit takes place ahead of Malaysia's implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on 1 April 2015.*

Singapore Customs hosted a Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD) delegation comprising 11 officials from the GST Division, led by Director Datuk Subromaniam Tholasy, on 26 June 2014.

During the visit, Singapore Customs presented an overview of its Zero GST Warehouse Scheme and related legislation. Imported non-dutiable goods can be stored in a Zero GST Warehouse pending re-export. The GST on the imported goods will be suspended as long as the goods remain in the warehouse.

Datuk Subromaniam in turn shared RMCD's tax suspension schemes. The meeting underscores close bilateral ties between the two customs administrations.

While in Singapore, the delegation also visited the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore to exchange views on GST implementation.



*Singapore Customs presented an overview of its Zero GST Warehouse Scheme and related legislation.*



*Assistant Director-General (Policy and Planning) Doreen Tan of Singapore Customs (sixth from the left) hosted the Royal Malaysian Customs Department delegation, led by Director of the GST Division Datuk Subromaniam Tholasy (sixth from the right), on 26 June 2014.*



# Singapore Customs Busts Contraband Cigarette Distribution Ring in Opera Estate

*Five Chinese work permit holders involved in contraband cigarette activities were arrested in Opera Estate on 31 May 2014 in an operation by Singapore Customs.*

A total of 394 cartons and 35 packets of duty-unpaid cigarettes worth more than \$42,300 were seized. The duty and Goods and Services Tax (GST) evaded exceeded \$33,800. A Singapore-registered private bus was also seized.

Based on a tip-off received, Singapore Customs officers kept a close watch along Swan Lake Avenue on 31 May 2014 afternoon. At about 2.50pm, the officers spotted Miao Wei, 39, driving a bus into Swan Lake Avenue and coming to a halt at Fidelio Street.

Miao and his passenger, Xu Renfeng, 29, then removed five canvas bags from the bus. The duo carried the bags to a terrace house at the adjoining Ernani Street and handed the bags to Wang Guangzhen, 26, who rented a room in the house.

The officers moved in to arrest the three men. They recovered 250 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes from the canvas bags, and 30 cartons and two packets from the bus.

The officers also raided the terrace house and arrested another two tenants, Guo Peiying, 26, and Shi Zhenyuan, 24. The two men had a total of 53 cartons and 18 packets of duty-unpaid cigarettes in their rooms. Another carton and 10 packets of duty-unpaid cigarettes were also found in Wang's room.

Xu's rented room in another terrace house nearby at Aida Street was raided next, and 60 cartons and five packets of duty-unpaid cigarettes were recovered from his room.

Investigations established that Wang had ordered the duty-unpaid cigarettes from Xu, who recruited Miao to deliver the cigarettes using his company's bus. Wang had intended to sell the contraband cigarettes at a profit.



Miao Wei used his company's bus to transport duty-unpaid cigarettes to Opera Estate.



Duty-unpaid cigarettes stored in the canvas bags.



More than 280 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes were recovered from the canvas bags and the bus.

For their involvement in contraband cigarette activities, Xu, Wang and Guo were sentenced to nine, six and four months' jail respectively. Miao was sentenced to six months' jail and a court fine of \$2,000, while Shi was sentenced to a court fine of \$5,800.

"Singapore Customs takes a serious view of foreigners who get involved in illegal contraband cigarette activities," said Mr Lim Guan Cheong, Head of Suppression and Community Engagement, Singapore Customs. "We will not hesitate to clamp down on such illegal activities and bring offenders who contravene Singapore's laws to justice."

"We would also like to advise people who rent out their rooms to tenants to remain alert, and ensure that their tenants are not using their rented rooms to store contraband cigarettes," said Mr Lim. "Also, we remind companies to watch their drivers to ensure that they do not use company vehicles for illegal activities."



More duty-unpaid cigarettes were recovered from the bedrooms rented by the work permit holders.

Buying, selling, conveying, delivering, storing, keeping, having in possession or dealing with duty-unpaid goods are serious offences under the Customs Act and the GST Act. Offenders will be severely dealt with. They can be fined up to 40 times the amount of duty and GST evaded and/or jailed for up to six years.

The minimum court fine for first-time and repeat offenders of tobacco-related offences are \$2,000 and \$4,000 respectively. Repeat offenders who are caught with more than two kilogrammes of tobacco products will also face mandatory imprisonment. Vehicles used in the commission of such offences are also liable to be forfeited.

Members of the public with information on smuggling activities or evasion of customs duty or GST can contact the Singapore Customs hotline on 1800-2330000 or email [customs\\_intelligence@customs.gov.sg](mailto:customs_intelligence@customs.gov.sg)

# End of Adjustment Period for Advanced Export Declaration

*From 1 October 2014, all export declarations must be submitted before export.*

The transition period ends on 30 September 2014. Subsequently, companies submitting late declarations are liable to penalties.

With the implementation of the Advanced Export Declaration (AED) requirement in April 2013, companies have had an 18-month transition period to fine-tune their processes.

Under the AED, all permit declarations must be submitted before the goods are exported, including non-controlled and non-dutiable goods exported by sea and air. Such advance information is necessary to strengthen supply chain security and enhance Singapore's position as a trusted trade hub.

For details on AED, visit the Singapore Customs website.

For further clarifications, email [customs\\_documentation@customs.gov.sg](mailto:customs_documentation@customs.gov.sg) or call 6355 2000 for assistance.

## NEW STP COMPANIES ON BOARD

Seven companies joined the Secure Trade Partnership (STP) and STP-Plus schemes in the second quarter of 2014. STP is a voluntary certification programme that encourages companies to adopt robust security measures and contribute to improving the security of the global supply chain.

### STP STATUS

#### SUTL CORPORATION

SUTL Corporation, a subsidiary of the SUTL Group of companies, is a Singapore-based enterprise experienced in distribution and trading with a global presence across 18 markets.

"This STP certification places SUTL as one of the trusted partners of Singapore Customs, allowing our customers to benefit from expedited clearance in participating countries through the Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRA). It is an affirmation of SUTL's commitment to be a reliable and quality partner in the global supply chain," said Mr Peter Tay, Executive Director, SUTL Global.

#### WORLDGATE EXPRESS LINES

Worldgate offers comprehensive one-stop global transport solutions under three complementary divisions, namely Ship Agency, International Freight Forwarding and Logistic Management.

"Being STP-certified, this has reaffirmed our reliability and commitment to protect the company's employees, properties, information and customers' assets from potential threats in the supply chain," said Ms Rajes Murugan, Deputy General Manager.

### STP-PLUS STATUS

#### GLOBAL AIRFREIGHT INTERNATIONAL

Global Airfreight International (GAI) offers complete supply chain solutions, where people are the core to making a difference.

"GAI is honoured to be awarded the STP-Plus status and to be part of this premium branding. Our customers will benefit from the highest possible security measures we have put in place and a faster customs clearance, enhancing our customer-delight culture and timely deliveries," said Mr Poh Choon Lay, Chief Operating Officer.

#### UNITED TEST & ASSEMBLY CENTER

United Test & Assembly Center's (UTAC) vision is to have passionate people providing customers with world class turnkey test and assembly services.

"With STP-Plus recognition, UTAC is able to ship cargo across other countries with stable, secure and robust measures and less hindrance. This eventually establishes mutual trust and confidence with our customers and suppliers all over the world," said Mr Murugan Darmiah, Logistics Manager and Strategic Goods Control Officer.

#### ARVATO DIGITAL SERVICES

Arvato Digital Services (ADS) is a leading international supplier for kitting, distribution of hardware and software products, and e-Commerce Backend Logistics.

"ADS places paramount emphasis on quality, security and integrity. This underlines the management philosophy, operation processes and control mechanism. ADS delivers the value of a stable and trusted supply chain to our customers. Certifying to STP-Plus further strengthens our commitment in supply chain security to our customers as well as to government authorities," said Ms Tay Siew Heang, Supply Chain Operations Director.

#### DOW CHEMICAL PACIFIC (SINGAPORE)

#### ROHM AND HAAS ELECTRONIC MATERIALS SINGAPORE

Dow Chemical Pacific (Singapore) provides innovative solutions for a wide range of products, including Performance Plastics, Performance Materials, Coatings and Infrastructure Solutions.

Rohm and Haas Electronic Materials Singapore (a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Dow Chemical Company) is one of the leading providers of electronic materials products in Semiconductor, Interconnect, Display and Growth Technologies.

"We have been an active participant in STP-Plus since 2007 and are delighted to expand our existing STP-Plus certification to all other legal entities in Singapore. This aligns with our key objective of expanding our supply chain security programs globally," said Ms Balbinder Dhaliwal, Regional Customs and Trade Compliance Leader – Asia Pacific.



# TRAINING CALENDAR

Please note that dates are subject to change. For full programme and registration details, please refer to [www.customsacademy.gov.sg](http://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 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)

Participants may register for individual modules.

3-5 September 2014  
8-10 October 2014

### SC200 STRATEGIC GOODS CONTROL PROGRAMME

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:

- SC201 Basics of Strategic Goods Control (half-day)
- SC202 Essentials of Internal (Export Control) Compliance Programme (half-day)

Participants may register for individual modules.

13 October 2014

### 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 Singapore Customs as a declarant to submit TradeNet permit declarations.

This is an open-book test comprising 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 Virtual Academy and by visiting the Singapore Customs website.

12 September 2014  
30 September 2014  
(AM and PM sessions available)

### OUTREACH PROGRAMME FOR NEWLY-REGISTERED TRADERS

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 email [customs\\_documentation@customs.gov.sg](mailto:customs_documentation@customs.gov.sg)

29 September 2014  
(AM and PM sessions available)

### OUTREACH PROGRAMME FOR NEWLY-REGISTERED MANUFACTURERS

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](mailto:customs_roo@customs.gov.sg)

25 September 2014  
13 November 2014

### TRADERS CLINIC

These one-to-one consultation sessions are an avenue for traders to seek general advice on general customs procedures and services. If you are interested, write in to [customs\\_documentation@customs.gov.sg](mailto:customs_documentation@customs.gov.sg) to set up a date. Sessions are subject to availability.



## **SINGAPORE CUSTOMS**

**We Make Trade Easy, Fair & Secure**

55 Newton Road #10-01 Revenue House Singapore 307987  
[www.customs.gov.sg](http://www.customs.gov.sg)