

All Traders and Declaring Agents

We are pleased to inform you of the following 3 new and simplified procedures which will take effect from 1 Nov 97. These new initiatives are introduced to further expedite cargo clearance at the Customs Checkpoints and facilitate trade.

I. PAPERLESS CLEARANCE OF CONTAINERISED CARGO

1. Traders are presently required to produce the Cargo Clearance Permits and containerised cargo to Customs at the checkpoints for clearance. We are pleased to inform you that Customs is implementing the paperless clearance of containerised cargo.
2. With effect from 1 Nov 97, traders are no longer required to produce the following types of Cargo Clearance Permits to Customs at the checkpoints for clearance:
 - a. Inward, Exemption, MES and GST payment permits for containerised cargo imported by sea and released from the Free Trade Zones.
 - b. Outward permits for containerised cargo going to the Free Trade Zones and Woodlands/Tuas Checkpoint bound for Peninsular Malaysia.
 - c. Transshipment permits for containerised cargo imported by sea moving from one Free Trade Zone to another Free Trade Zone.
 - d. Transshipment permits for containerised cargo imported by sea moving from the Free Trade Zones to Woodlands/Tuas Checkpoint bound for Peninsular Malaysia.
3. Traders are only required to declare and obtain approval for the above-mentioned containerised cargo through TradeNet and produce only the containers to Customs at the checkpoints for clearance. The permits are only required to be produced to the Customs officers when there is Customs supervision of unstuffing or stuffing of the containers at the traders' premises or licensed warehouses.

II. MASTER'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND RETURN OF PERMITS

1. With effect from 1 Nov 97, Customs is dispensing with the master's acknowledgment requirement and return of used permits to Customs for outward and transshipment permits covering motor vehicles, petroleum and non-dutiable products. Traders will continue to obtain the master's acknowledgment on Cargo Clearance Permits covering liquor and tobacco products before returning the permits to Customs.

III. PRODUCTION OF BANK-IN SLIPS TO CHECKPOINTS

1. With effect from 1 Nov 97, traders are no longer required to produce the bank-in slips to Customs at the checkpoints for payment made at the banks under the G1 permit condition. Traders are however required to ensure that payments are made before removal of the goods.
