



SINGAPORE CUSTOMS

55 Newton Road, #10-01 Revenue House, Singapore 307987

Tel: +65 6355 2000 Fax: +65 6251 3804

Email: customs_documentation@customs.gov.sg

Website : http://www.customs.gov.sg



Your Ref:
Circular No.: 17/2011
Date: 19 July 2011

All Traders and Declaring Agents

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JAPAN-SINGAPORE MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENT

As part of our efforts to enhance global supply chain security and facilitate the movement of legitimate goods, Singapore Customs (SC) signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) in June 2011 with the Customs Administration of Japan (Japan Customs). The MRA will be operational with effect from 1 August 2011.

2 Under this MRA, Japan Customs will recognise Singapore's Secure Trade Partnership-Plus (STP-Plus) companies as being of lower risk and thus facilitate the clearance of goods that are exported to or imported from these companies. Singapore Customs will extend the same treatment to Japan's Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) companies and to the goods that are exported to or imported from these companies.

3 The STP-Plus code or the special code from Japan AEO exporters/ importers is required to enjoy the benefits under the Japan-Singapore MRA. When outsourcing permit declarations to a declaring agent, Singapore's traders (including STP-Plus companies) should provide this special code (and their own STP-Plus code) to their declaring agents to enjoy the facilitation during import and export clearance. The procedures are outlined below.

Detailed Procedures to enjoy Mutual Recognition benefits in Japan for Singapore STP-Plus companies

- (a) STP-Plus companies which export goods to Japan or import goods from Japan should provide your "STP-Plus code" to the importer in Japan or the exporter in Japan for their import or export declarations to Japan Customs.
- (b) Following the specific rule announced by Japan Customs, the Japanese importer or exporter trading with STP-Plus companies will input a relevant code in their import or export declarations in Japan for mutual recognition purposes. Please refer to Annex I illustrations (1) and (2).

Detailed Procedures to enjoy Mutual Recognition benefits in Singapore for Japan AEO companies

- (a) Importing from a Japan AEO Exporter
 - i. For imports from a Japan AEO exporter, the **Singapore importer** may receive a "Japan AEO code" from the Japan AEO exporter. Alternatively, the Singapore importer may

approach the Japan AEO exporter for the code. The “Japan AEO code” will have 12 alphanumeric characters.

- ii. When declaring the import permit in TradeNet[®], the Singapore importer or its declaring agent should input the prefix “AEOJP” followed by the 12-character AEO code given by the Japan AEO exporter under the CA licence field, i.e. “AEOJPXXXXXXXXXXXX”. Please refer to Annex I illustration (3).

(b) Exporting to a Japan AEO Importer

- i. For exports destined to a Japan AEO importer, the **Singapore exporter** may receive a “Japan AEO code” from the Japan AEO importer. Alternatively, the Singapore exporter may approach the Japan AEO importer for the code. The “Japan AEO code” will have 12 alphanumeric characters.
- ii. When declaring the export permit in TradeNet[®], the Singapore exporter or its declaring agent should input the prefix “AEOJP” followed by the 12-character AEO code given by the Japan AEO importer under the CA licence field i.e. “AEOJPXXXXXXXXXXXX”. Please refer to Annex I illustration (4).

4 If you require further clarification, please email your enquiries to us at customs_documentation@customs.gov.sg or contact the Customs Call Centre at 6355 2000.

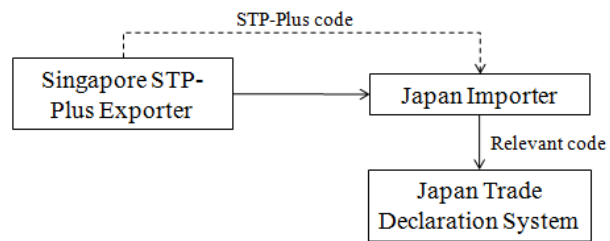
Yours sincerely,



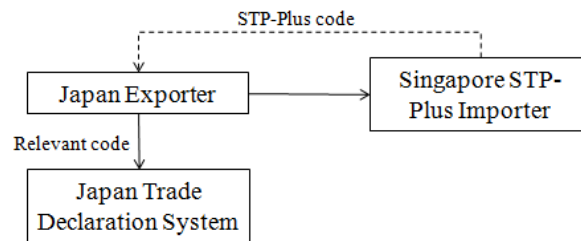
WINSTON TAY
HEAD PROCEDURES & SYSTEMS
for DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF CUSTOMS

Illustration of procedures to enjoy Mutual Recognition benefits:

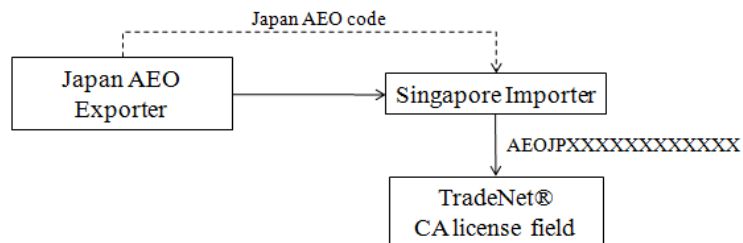
(1) in Japan for Singapore STP-Plus exporter



(2) in Japan for Singapore STP-Plus importer



(3) in Singapore for Japan AEO exporter



(4) in Singapore for Japan AEO importer

