



**SINGAPORE CUSTOMS** 新加坡关税局 **KASTAM SINGAPURA** சிங்கப்பூர் கங்கத்துறை

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

6 November 2019

### **Importer of mobile phone repair parts fined \$72,400 for failing to declare actual values of imported mobile phone spare parts**

A Singaporean man, Jimmy Ong, 30, was fined \$72,400 by the State Courts on 6 November 2019 for fraudulent evasion of Goods and Services Tax (GST) by deliberately suppressing the import values of mobile phone spare parts in order to avail himself of the GST import relief granted to goods imported by post or air.

Ong, a partner of a mobile phone repair company, Quality Comm LLP, faced 48 charges of fraudulent evasion of GST. He pleaded guilty to 16 charges and the other 32 charges were taken into consideration in the sentencing.

In June 2018, Singapore Customs conducted an inspection on two boxes of mobile phone spare parts consigned to Ong at Changi Airfreight Centre. The two boxes contained 542 pieces of mobile phone spare parts. It was discovered that the invoice was falsified by stating that the value of the goods was less than \$400 when the actual value was established to be \$7,810. As GST import relief is granted on goods imported by post or air (excluding intoxicating liquors and tobacco) if the value did not exceed \$400, by under-stating the import values, the GST for this consignment was not paid.

Investigations revealed that Ong had purchased mobile phone spare parts from his suppliers in China and imported them into Singapore on 48 occasions between 2015 and 2018. The values of all these consignments were under-declared and the resulting amount of GST evaded was \$14,040.

Fraudulent evasion of GST on the importation of goods is a serious offence under the Customs Act. Anyone found guilty can be liable to a fine up to 20 times the amount of tax evaded and/or be jailed for up to six years.

Members of public with information on smuggling activities or evasion of Customs duty or GST can call the Singapore Customs hotline on 1800-233-000, email

customs\_intelligence@customs.gov.sg or use Customs@SG mobile app (which can be downloaded from the Apple Store or Google Play) to report these illegal activities.

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# ANNEX



Mobile phone spare parts that were imported

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