



SINGAPORE CUSTOMS 新加坡关税局 KASTAM SINGAPURA சிங்கப்பூர் சுங்கத்துறை

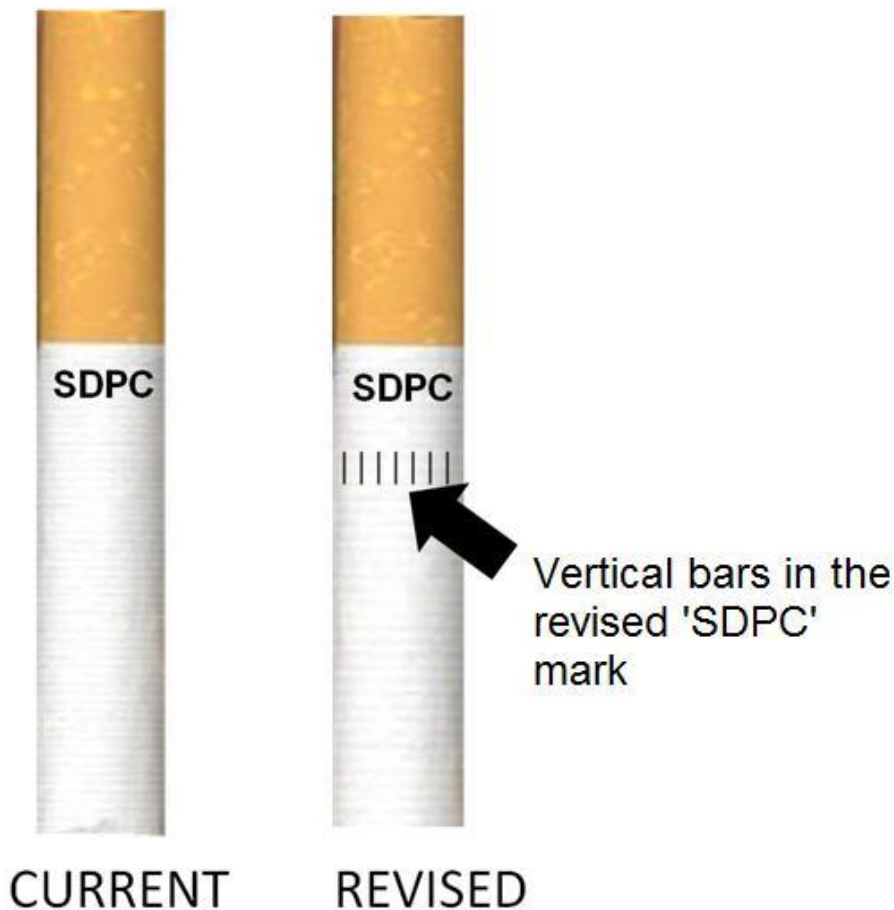
MEDIA RELEASE

29 Nov 2012

Revised 'SDPC' mark for cigarettes sold in Singapore from next March

From 1 Mar 2013, all cigarettes sold in Singapore will have a revised 'SDPC' (Singapore Duty-Paid Cigarette) mark.

2. In addition to the letters "SDPC", the new mark features a series of vertical bars around the cigarette stick (see illustration below).



3. The revised 'SDPC' mark is a measure to visibly differentiate duty-paid cigarettes from duty-unpaid ones (or contraband cigarettes). This will further enhance the effectiveness of the anti-contraband cigarette operations that Singapore Customs conducts across the island to curb the selling, buying and possession of contraband cigarettes.

4. To give cigarette manufacturers and retailers more time to phase in the revised 'SDPC' mark, cigarettes bearing the revised 'SDPC' mark will be allowed for sale from this Saturday (1 Dec 2012).
5. From 1 Mar 2013, all cigarettes without the revised 'SDPC' mark will be deemed to be duty-unpaid and illegal.
6. Arriving travellers and returning Singaporeans who bring in cigarettes from overseas for their own consumption are required to declare them at the Customs Red Channel for payment of duty and Goods and Services Tax (GST). They are advised to keep the receipt issued by Singapore Customs as proof of payment of duty and GST.
7. 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 evaded and/or jailed for up to six years.
8. First-time and repeat offenders of tobacco-related offences will face minimum court fines of \$2,000 and \$4,000 respectively. Repeat offenders who are caught with more than two kilogrammes of tobacco products will also face a mandatory jail sentence. Vehicles used in the commission of such offences may also be forfeited.
9. Members of the public with information on smuggling activities or evasion of Customs duty or GST should contact Singapore Customs on its hotline 1800-2330000 or email customs_intelligence@customs.gov.sg

###