

Manifest Reconciliation Statement (MRS) Scheme for Sea Shipments

I&E Notice No. 23/98

30 Nov 98

To: All Traders, Freight Forwarders,
Cargo Agents and Carriers

Background

TDB has implemented the Manifest Reconciliation Statement (MRS) Scheme for sea shipments on 1 Apr 95. Under Regulations 11 and 12 of the Regulation of the Imports and Exports Regulations (Cap. 272A, R1), the owner, master or agent of any vessel or aircraft must submit the MRS in a manner as the Board may require.

There are currently 268 shipping agents who are making use of the Scheme. They account for the bulk of inbound and outbound sea consignments. Shipping agents can take advantage of the Scheme by registering with TDB.

Retention of Permits

Currently, registered users of the Scheme need only retain the Manifests and Permits in their premises for one month from the date of submission of their MRSs for TDB's audit purposes. Registered users may choose to retain these documents in electronic form.

If you record the relevant Permit number(s) for the particular consignment in the Manifest, then the retention of Permits will not be required. If you prefer this option, you must inform TDB in writing in advance.

Implementation of the MRS

In our **I&E Notice No. 18/98 dated 23 Sep 98**, we have stated that, from **15 Dec 98**, all owners, masters or agents of the vessels shall submit the MRS for vessels that arrive in or depart from Singapore. This is implemented as a result of the successful parallel run of the MRS Scheme for more than 3 and a half years.

Submission of the MRS via Internet will be available to all registered users once the enhancements to the system are completed. Further details on this mode of submission will be announced at a later date.

Submission of the MRS

Registered users of the Scheme will submit the MRS to TDB, within 14 days of the departure and within 17 days of the arrival of the vessel in lieu of the Manifests and Permits. When there is cargo discharged from or loaded on board a vessel, the shipping agent will complete the MRS as shown in **Annex 1**.

If you have multiple arrivals/departures of vessels where there is no discharging or loading of cargo (No Cargo Status [Nil MRS]), you can submit the information in one MRS. A sample copy is attached for reference (**Annex 2**).

Registration of non-MRS users

We would advise you to register your company early to take advantage of the MRS Scheme. To do this, please complete the attached Registration Form (Annex 3) and sign the Terms and Conditions and fax them to TDB as soon as possible.

If you want more information, you can e-mail to us at customs_mrs@customs.gov.sg. We will be pleased to explain to you the procedures of the Scheme.

PHUA KIA CHEW
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
TRADE FACILITATION DIVISION