

# Import Control of Mastering Equipment and Replication Equipment for the Manufacture of CD or CD-ROM or VCD or DVD or DVD-ROM

I&E Notice No. 6/98

13 Apr 98

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

We would like to inform you that with effect from **17 Apr 98**, the import of mastering equipment and replication equipment for the manufacture of CD (compact disc), CD-ROM (compact disc - read only memory), VCD (video compact disc), DVD (digital video disc) and DVD-ROM (digital video disc - read only memory) will be subject to control under the Regulation of Imports and Exports Regulations. The HS code for these controlled items is **8479 89 000**. These items are used to produce CD, CD-ROM, VCD, DVD and DVD-ROM of HS 85.24.

## Import by an Approved Manufacturer

Approval to import these equipment for use in Singapore is restricted to an approved manufacturer who has been issued a 'Manufacturer Number' by the Economic Development Board (EDB). Local manufacturers of CD, CD-ROM, VCD, DVD and DVD-ROM are required to apply to the EDB to be an approved manufacturer. If the application is successful, the EDB will issue a Certificate of Registration with a 'Manufacturer Number' to the approved manufacturer. With this 'Manufacturer Number', the approved manufacturer may apply to import the controlled equipment for his company's own use. Import of these equipment for use in Singapore will not be permitted except for an approved manufacturer.

## Import for Re-export

An importer may also import the mastering equipment and replication equipment for re-export. The importer must ensure that any such equipment imported is re-exported and is not sold for use in Singapore without the prior approval of the TDB.

## Product Codes

When you declare an Import or Export Permit application through TradeNet, please use the following Product Codes for the controlled and non-controlled items under HS 8479 89 000:

### Product Code Product Description

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| a) <b>MASTER</b>     | for controlled mastering equipment of HS 8479 89 000 used to manufacture CD, CD-ROM, VCD, DVD and DVD-ROM   |
| b) <b>REPLICATOR</b> | for controlled replication equipment of HS 8479 89 000 used to manufacture CD, CD-ROM, VCD, DVD and DVD-ROM |
| c) <b>MISC</b>       | for non-controlled goods other than the   |

controlled mastering equipment and replication  
equipment under HS 8479 89 000.

### Preparation of Permit Application

Please take note of the following fields/columns when completing the Permit application:

- a. **Description of Goods** - for the controlled items, you must declare the complete description of the equipment that you are importing or exporting, including the functions, brand, model and serial no.
- b. **Product Code** - state the correct Product Code, either "**MASTER**" or "**REPLICATOR**" for the controlled items, and "**MISC**" for the non-controlled items classified under the same HS code **8479 89 000**.
- c. **Licence No.** - please enter the 'Manufacturer No.' in this field only if the item is controlled and if it is a direct import for local use by an approved manufacturer. Otherwise, this field must be left blank. If the importer is an agent or a supplier who is importing the controlled items for an approved manufacturer, the declarant must ensure that the manufacturer has been approved by the EDB and his 'Manufacturer No.' must be declared in the **Licence No.** field.

If an importer imports the controlled items for more than one approved manufacturer in the same shipment, the declarant must state all the Manufacturer Nos. in the Licence No. field. This field can accept up to ten Manufacturer Nos.

- d. **Previous Permit No.** - in the case of controlled items that are imported into Singapore for re-export or in transit, you must declare the previous Import Permit No. in the **Previous Permit No.** field when completing the Export Permit application. The **Licence No.** field is left blank.
- e. **Remarks** - with regard to (4) above, if there is more than one previous Import Permit No. to be declared, please complete the **Previous Permit No.** field and declare the rest of the Import Permit Nos. in the **Remarks** field. If there is insufficient space in the **Remarks** field, you may use the **Description of Goods** field.

Where an agent or a supplier imports the controlled items for an approved manufacturer, he must state the full name of the approved manufacturer in the **Remarks** field.

- f. **Exception Type/Indicator** - please leave this field blank.

### Submission of Supporting Documents

TDB will process your Permit application through TradeNet. We will inform you if you are required to submit or fax supporting documents such as invoices, Bills of Lading or Air Waybills, to TDB for verification.

### Obtaining Approval from TradeNet

Once you have obtained approval of your Permit application through TradeNet, you must check and comply with all the approval conditions, if any, stated in the Permit. We wish to draw your attention that if the controlled item is for re-export, you must ensure that the goods are not used nor sold in Singapore and that the goods will be re-exported from Singapore by the declared importer.

If the controlled goods are imported for use in Singapore, it is restricted only for the use by the approved manufacturer whose Manufacturer Number has been declared in the Permit.

## **Transfer or Disposal of the Controlled Items**

After importing the controlled items, an approved manufacturer is not allowed to sell or to transfer the mastering equipment and replication equipment to another company in Singapore either for local use or for re-export without the prior approval from TDB.

After using the imported controlled items, if an approved manufacturer decides to re-export them, he has to obtain the prior approval from TDB.

If an approved manufacturer intends to dispose of his controlled items as scrap, he must first inform TDB. The manufacturer shall produce to TDB documentary evidence of the destruction of the goods within a week of the destruction.

Where an importer has obtained an Import Permit to import the controlled goods for re-export, but subsequently decides to sell part of or all the goods to an approved manufacturer or to another exporter for re-export, both the importer and the approved manufacturer or exporter must seek the prior approval of TDB.

TDB officers may conduct random checks to verify the importers' records of their imports/exports of the mastering equipment and replication equipment and to ensure that the approved imports of the controlled items are in the approved manufacturer's premises or in the importer's warehouse prior to re-export.

## **Amendment and Cancellation**

You are advised to check and ensure that the particulars in your Import or Export Permit application are correct before submitting it for processing. After obtaining your Permit through TradeNet, if you need to amend any fields or cancel the Permit for valid reasons, you can submit your amendment or cancellation request through TradeNet for processing.

The fields that are allowed for amendments are indicated in the [I&E Notice No. 17/97](#) and Customs and Excise Department's circular No. 31/97 issued in 1997.

## **Further Enquiries**

If you need further clarifications, please contact :

- a. The Customs Call Centre on Permit application through TradeNet at Tel No. **6355 2000**; or
- b. Mr Chua Keng Hong of EDB on applying to be an approved manufacturer at Tel. No. **832 6765**.  
[With effect from 7 Jun 2001, please contact EDB at Tel No. 336 2288 instead of the above.]

PHUA KIA CHEW  
for TRADE DEVELOPMENT BOARD