

Circular No: 04/2022 27 Apr 2022

Traders and Declaring Agents

Dear Sir/Madam

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AMENDED OPERATIONAL CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE (OCP) UNDER THE ASEAN TRADE IN GOODS AGREEMENT (ATIGA)

The amended ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) Operational Certification Procedure (OCP) will enter into force on <u>1 May 2022</u>. This circular outlines the key changes to the operational procedures under the ATIGA with effect from 1 May 2022. The full text of the amended ATIGA OCP will be published on Enterprise Singapore's website at <u>www.fta.gov.sg</u>.

2. With effect from 1 May 2022, please note that amendments are made to:

- a) Rule 10 (Issuance of the Certificate of Origin);
- b) Rule 11 (Back-to-Back Proof of Origin); and
- c) Rule 12B (List of Data Requirements for Origin Declaration)

Form D Issued after the Declared Shipment Date

3. Under the amended Rule 10 of the ATIGA OCP, where a Certificate of Origin (Form D) has not been issued due to involuntary errors or omissions or other valid causes, the Certificate of Origin (Form D) may be issued retroactively, and the "Issued Retroactively" box shall be ticked <u>when the Certificate of Origin (Form D) is issued after the declared shipment date.</u> For example, under the amended OCP, if the declared shipment date is 2 May 2022 and the Form D is issued on 3 May 2022, the "Issued Retroactively" box should be ticked. This is as opposed to the current OCP where the "Issued Retroactively" box is only ticked when the Certificate of Origin (Form D) is issued three days after the shipment date. For e-Form D users, this box in the approved Form D in the TradeNet Backend will be ticked automatically if the Form D is issued after the declared shipment date.

Validity Period for Consolidated shipments with Multiple Proofs of Origins

4. For back-to-back Proof of Origin under ATIGA, in accordance to the amended Rule 11 of the ATIGA OCP, you will be able to (a) apply for a back-to-back Certificate of Origin (Form D) or (b) make out a back-to-back Origin Declaration if you are a Certified Exporter, for consolidated export shipments. Please note that the back-toback Proof of Origin is required to be presented to the final importing country within

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the validity period of the earliest expiry date of the original Proofs of Origin. For example, under the amended OCP, if your back-to-back Proof of Origin approved on 2 May 2022 covered two original Proofs of Origin dated 20 Mar 2022 and 1 Apr 2022, the validity of your back-to-back Proof of Origin shall be until 19 Mar 2023 (i.e. 12 months from the date of issuance of the original Proof of Origin with the earliest expiry date which in this case, is 20 Mar 2022.)

Amendment of "exporting country" to "exporting Member State"

5. For Attachment 1 (List of Data Requirements) under the amended Rule 12B of the ATIGA OCP, there are minor editorial amendments to the data requirements for back-to-back Origin Declaration where "exporting country" has been replaced with "exporting Member State", illustrated in the table below.

Old ATIGA OCP	Amended ATIGA OCP (with effect from 1 May 2022)
2(viii) For the case of Back-to-back	2(viii) For the case of back-to-back
Origin Declaration, original Proof of	Origin Declaration, the original Proof(s)
Origin reference number, date of	of Origin reference number, date of
issuance, Country of Origin of the first	issuance, Country of Origin of the first
exporting country, and, if applicable, CE	exporting Member State, and, if
Authorisation Code of the first <i>exporting</i>	applicable, CE Authorisation Code of
country.	the first exporting Member State.

ATIGA Form D Sunset Clause

6. In the spirit of spearheading digitisation, Singapore Customs will eventually be ceasing the printing of hardcopy Form D and moving towards full transmission of Form D via the ASEAN Single Window (ASW). Singapore Customs would like to urge all exporters utilising ATIGA to familiarise and onboard themselves onto the ASW platform so as to transition to an electronic mode of submission seamlessly when we cease the printing of hardcopy Form D. You may refer to our website for more information on ASW through this link or the QR code appended below.



7. A list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) is attached in <u>Annex A</u>. If you need further clarification on the contents of this circular, you may write in to <u>customs roo@customs.gov.sg</u>.

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Yours faithfully

Chua Yock Chin Head Tariffs and Trade Services for Director-General of Customs Singapore Customs

(This is a computer-generated circular. No signature is required.)

We hope that this circular has been written in a way that is clear to you. If not, please let us have suggestions on how to improve this circular at <u>customs_roo@customs.gov.sg</u>.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1: Will there be any changes to the hardcopy Certificate of Origin (Form D)?

A1: There are minor editorial amendments to the hardcopy Certificate of Origin (Form D) and the Overleaf Notes. However, the process of applying for a Certificate of Origin (Form D) remains the same, aside from the amendments to Rule 10 and 11 highlighted in para 2. Singapore Customs will continue to issue Certificate of Origin in the old Form D format (i.e. pre-May 22 format) until existing stock of old Form D format are exhausted. During the transition period between 1 May 2022 and 31 Oct 2022, all ASEAN Member States (AMS) customs authorities agreed for AMS to accept both the old and new Form D formats before 31 Oct 22. From 1 Nov 2022 onwards, only Certificate of Origin in the new Form D format will be issued and accepted.

Q2: Will the validity date of my Certificate of Origin (Form D) be affected?

A2: No. While the Certificate of Origin in the old Form D format will cease to be issued from 1 Nov 2022 onwards, the validity of the Certificate of Origin in the old Form D format will continue to be accepted by customs authorities within its validity period of one year from the date of issuance date, in accordance to Rule 14 of the ATIGA OCP.

Q3: For back-to-back Certificate of Origin (Form D) applications, the date of issuance of the original Proof(s) of Origin and their reference number will have to be indicated on back-to-back Form D. Will there be additional data fields and data spaces in TradeNet for Form D applications for companies to enter this information?

A3: No. Such information shall be indicated in Box 7 of the back-to-back Certificate of Origin (Form D). The existing Box 7 in TradeNet should suffice for information involving multiple original proof(s) of origin, to be entered into it.

Q4: When will the sunset clause take effect?

A4: The sunset clause is targeted to be implemented soon but we will notify companies in advance prior to the implementation to allow time for the transition. Nevertheless, we would like to encourage all exporters to start transmitting their Form D electronically via the ASW.