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Date: 27 May 2004



SINGAPORE CUSTOMS

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REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

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To: Shipping Agents registered with

Singapore Customs

EXEMPTION FROM SUBMISSION OF NIL MRS

We are pleased to inform you that from 1 Jun 04 you are not required to submit the Nil MRS (Nil Manifest Reconciliation Statement) if the vessel is not carrying goods for import into, export from and/or transshipment at Singapore. If there is discharge or loading of goods, please submit the normal cargo MRS to Singapore Customs (SC) within the stipulated time frame.

Amendment to the MRS Scheme Terms and Conditions

- We have amended the existing MRS Scheme Terms and Conditions to include a new clause in paragraph 4.4 and the existing paragraph 4.4 is renumbered as 4.5. The new paragraph 4.4 is as follows:
 - 4.4 The Director-General may exempt the User to deliver the Nil MRS within seventeen (17) days from the arrival of the vessel and fourteen (14) days of the departure of the vessel. In which case, the Director-General reserves the right to exempt the User from submission of the MRS to the Director-General.

Retention of Documents

Registered users of the MRS Scheme will retain the manifests, permits and other relevant documents such as through house bills of lading, PSA/JTC/MPA tax invoices, MPA vessel enquiry printout in their premises for at least one month from the date of submission of MRS for SC's audit purpose.

Verification Checks

We may request shipping agents for manifests, permits and other documents pertaining to a vessel or a number of vessels to be sent to SC for verification. SC officers may also call at your premise to conduct an audit on selected manifests, permits and other documents. Please extend your cooperation to the officers so that we can complete the audit expeditiously.

5 For further enquiries, you may contact our Customs Call Centre at telephone number 63552000.

PETER CHEAH

HEAD

PERMITS COMPLIANCE BRANCH

for DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF CUSTOMS