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All Traders and Declaring Agents

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KOREA-SINGAPORE MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENT

As part of our efforts to enhance global supply chain security and facilitate the movement of legitimate goods, Singapore Customs (SC) signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) in June 2010 with Korea Customs Service (KCS). The MRA will be operational with effect from 1 Jan 2011.

2. Under this MRA, SC will recognise South Korea's Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) companies as being of lower risk. Similarly, KCS will recognise Singapore's Secure Trade Partnership-Plus (STP-Plus) companies as being of lower risk. Goods exported or imported by such companies can thus enjoy a higher level of facilitation at clearance in Singapore as well as South Korea.

3. To enjoy the benefits under the Korea-Singapore MRA, Singapore's traders should input a special code in their trade permit application when importing from Korea's AEO exporters, and STP-Plus companies should inform their Korean importers of their code when exporting to Korea. In the event that the permit declaration has been outsourced to a declaring agent, Singapore's traders (including STP-Plus companies) should provide this special code (and their own STP-Plus code) to their declaring agents to enjoy the facilitation during import clearance. The procedures are outlined below.

(a) Importing from a Korea AEO

- i) The Singapore importer will receive the Korea AEO code from the Korea AEO exporter. This Korea AEO code will have 12 alphanumeric characters: a prefix "KRAEO" followed by 7 numerals.
- ii) **When declaring the import permit in TradeNet®, the Singapore importer or its declaring agent should input the prefix "AEOKR" followed by the 12-character AEO code given by the Korea exporter under the CA licence field. STP-Plus traders should also enter their STP-Plus code separately as a second occurrence in the CA licence field.**
- iii) Please note that the complete code will have 17 alphanumeric characters and will be in the form of "AEOKRKRAEOXXXXXXX".

(b) STP-Plus company exporting to Korea

- i) The Singapore STP-Plus exporter will be receiving its unique STP-Plus code from SC.
- ii) This AEO code will have 17 alphanumeric characters: a prefix “AEOSG” followed by 12 alphanumeric characters.
- iii) Please note that the code will be in the form of “AEOSGXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX”.
- iv) The Singapore STP-Plus exporter will have to provide the STP-Plus code to the Korea importer for their declaration to Korean Customs at time of import.

4. If you require further clarification, please email your enquiries to us at customs_documentation@customs.gov.sg or contact the Customs Call Centre at 6355 2000.

Yours sincerely,



WINSTON TAY
HEAD PROCEDURES & SYSTEMS
for DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF CUSTOMS