



SINGAPORE CUSTOMS

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Circular No.: 13/2012

Date: 14 Sep 2012

To: All Tobacco Importers,
Tobacco Manufacturers and
Licensed Warehouse Operators,
Traders and Declaring Agents

REVISED MARKING REQUIREMENTS ON CIGARETTE STICKS

The current “SDPC” marking requirement was implemented on 1 January 2009. With effect from 1 March 2013, there will be a revision of the “SDPC” marking and all individual sticks of cigarettes that are meant for sale or consumption in Singapore will have to bear the revised marking based on the specifications stated in the following paragraph.

Revised Marking Requirement

2 The revised marking is imposed on all individual cigarette sticks declared under HS Codes 24022020, 24022090 and 24029020, but excludes all other tobacco products. The revised marking should adhere to the following specifications:

- be marked with the letters “SDPC” around the cigarette rod, and with a series of vertical bars, in accordance with the specifications set out below;

The letters “SDPC” must:

- a. be positioned at least 35 millimetres from the cigarette end that is to be lighted;
- b. be in block letters of not less than 3 millimetres in height; and
- c. be in typeface Arial Bold and in black or such other colour as the Director-General of Customs may approve.

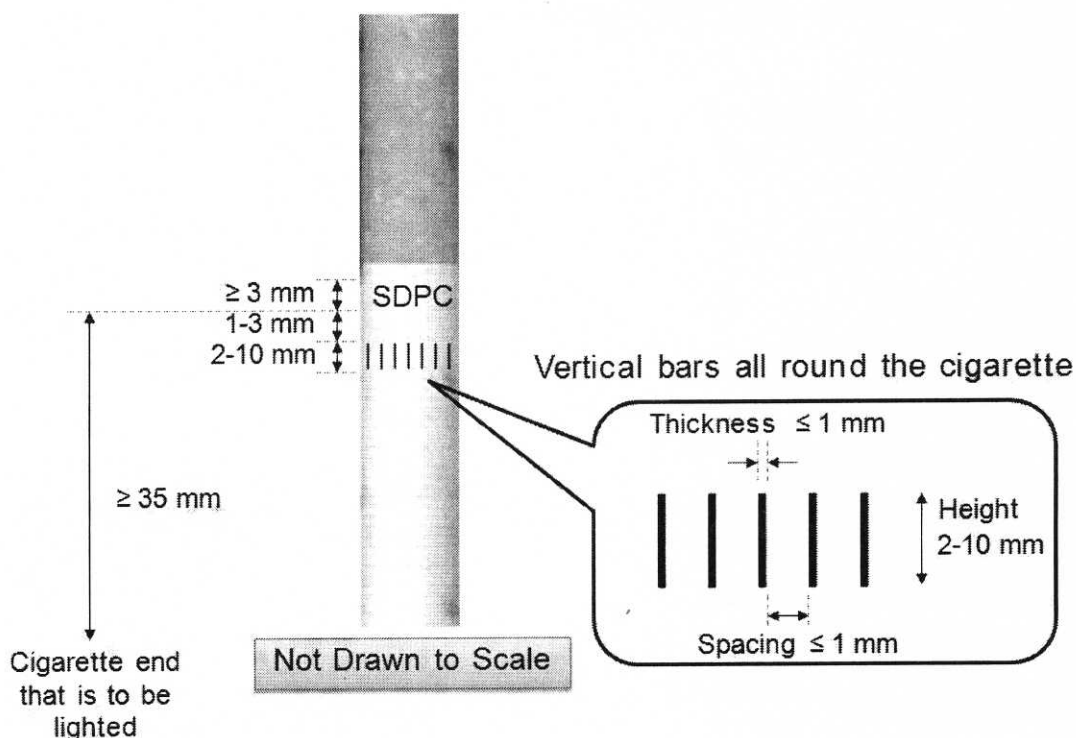
The “vertical bars” must:

- d. be positioned between the cigarette end that is to be lighted and the letters “SDPC”;
- e. be positioned at least 1 millimetre and not more than 3 millimetres away from the letters “SDPC”;
- f. be between 2 and 10 millimetres in height;
- g. be of a thickness of not more than 1 millimetre;
- h. have a space in between each vertical bar not more than 1 millimetre;
- i. be in typeface Arial Bold and in black or such other colour as the Director-General of Customs may approve.

*Our Vision: A leading Customs that advances Singapore's economy
by assuring the integrity of the trading system*

3 An illustration of the revised marking is as follows:

ILLUSTRATION



Permit Application

4 Declaration of payment permits for such marked cigarettes remains unchanged.

Implementation

5 The Customs Circular No. 14/2008 dated 13 Jun 2008 will be rescinded and replaced with this circular, with effect from 1 Mar 2013.


6 For all existing cigarette brands and products, please complete the "Application for Approval of Cigarettes Marking" form and submit it together with duty-paid samples of the cigarette sticks (minimum of 5 sticks for each product and each brand) duly marked with the revised markings to Singapore Customs for approval. Please download the application form from our website at <http://www.customs.gov.sg>, at the heading of "eServices / Online Services and Forms" and under "Permits/Licences".

7 To obtain approval for manufacture or import of new brands or products of cigarettes, you are requested to comply with the same procedures and submit the application form with the duty-paid cigarette samples to Singapore Customs before importing the cigarettes into Singapore.

8 Please drop off all applications together with the required number of duty-paid cigarette samples in a sealed envelope to the "SDPC" Box located at 55 Newton Road, 9th Floor, Revenue House, Singapore 307987. Please allow 7 working days to process your application.

9 To facilitate manufacturers and retailers phase in the revised design, Singapore Customs will allow the sales of the cigarettes bearing the revised marking from 1 December 2012. Hence, please submit your applications early.

10 If you require further clarifications, please contact our Customs Call Centre at Tel No.: 6355 2000 for assistance.


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