



SINGAPORE CUSTOMS MEDIA RELEASE

NEW CUSTOMS TAX PAYMENT KIOSKS AT CHANGI AIRPORT SAVES TRAVELLERS TIME

Singapore Customs has piloted an innovative new service for payment of duties and Goods & Services Tax (GST) at all Changi Airport Terminals with the introduction of its Customs Tax Payment Kiosks. The kiosks, which were soft-launched in April 2009, have made it quicker and more convenient for arriving travellers to pay their customs taxes.

2 Visitors to Singapore and returning residents are required to declare dutiable items such as cigarettes and tobacco, liquor exceeding their duty-free concession, and imported goods such as new articles, souvenirs, gifts and food preparations in excess of their GST relief entitlement for payment of duties and GST. Information on duty-free concessions and GST relief is at Annex A.

3 With the introduction of the new Customs Tax Payment Kiosks, arriving passengers can now choose to make a self-declaration on their taxable items and pay the required duty and GST electronically through the kiosk without having to visit the Customs Tax Office to do so.

User-Friendly System

4 The self-declaration service and e-payment mechanism is a user-friendly and secure facility that is easy and convenient to use. Travellers will only need to key in the relevant information pertaining to their taxable items, and the system will automatically calculate the duties and GST due after deducting their GST relief entitlement. Payment can be made via VISA, MasterCard or NETS, and travellers will have to retain the receipts issued by the kiosk for checks by Immigration & Checkpoint Authority (ICA) officers when they exit the baggage claim hall. A set of useful tips for travellers using the kiosk is at Annex B.

5 Some 5,200 arriving travellers at Changi Airport paid their customs taxes via the Customs Tax Payment Kiosk in the four months since it was launched. They welcomed the new service for the ease and convenience it offers. Said Mr Eric Pablo Migal from the Philippines, "This machine is very helpful and improves efficiency of service in the airport."

6 With the successful implementation of this pilot project, Singapore Customs plans to roll-out the kiosk at all the other major land and sea checkpoints in 2010.



Arriving travellers at Changi Airport can now declare their taxable items and pay the required Customs duties and GST via the Customs Tax Payment Kiosk.

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Duty-Free Concessions

Liquor

Bona fide travellers 18 years and above, who have arrived from countries other than Malaysia and have spent 48 hours or more outside Singapore immediately before arrival, will be granted the following duty-free concessions for liquors:

- 1 litre spirits (brandy, whisky, gin, rum, vodka, etc.)
- 1 litre wine, and
- 1 litre beer or stout or ale or porter.

For liquor exceeding the above amounts, duty and GST will be payable.

Travellers who bring in liquors exceeding 10 litres will have to apply for a Customs permit.

Cigarettes & Tobacco Products

There is no duty-free concession for cigarettes and tobacco products. Duty and GST are payable on all such products brought into Singapore.

Travellers who bring in tobacco products exceeding 400 grams will have to apply for a Customs permit.

GST Relief

Bona fide travellers who are not holders of a work permit, employment pass, student pass, dependent pass or long-term pass issued by the Singapore Government will be given GST relief on new articles, souvenirs, gifts and food preparations (excluding intoxicating liquors and tobacco). Depending on their age and number of hours spent outside of Singapore immediately before arrival, GST relief will be granted on their goods up to the following values:

Period Away From Singapore	Below 18 years of age	18 years of age and above
Less than 24 hours	No Relief	\$50
24 to less than 48 hours	\$50	\$150
48 hours and above	\$100	\$300

For goods exceeding the above values, GST will be payable.

Travellers who bring in goods with GST payable in excess of \$300 will have to apply for a Customs permit.

Handy Tips for Using the Customs Tax Payment Kiosk

Visitors to Singapore, returning residents and crew members are required to declare dutiable items such as cigarettes and tobacco, liquor exceeding their duty-free concession, and imported goods such as new articles, souvenirs, gifts and food preparations.

They are advised to have their taxable items, passport, receipts and credit card (VISA or MasterCard) or NETS card ready, and key in the following information for the declaration:

- **Cigarettes** : Quantity & Value
- **Tobacco** : Weight & Value
- **Liquor in excess of duty-free concession** : Volume, Alcoholic Strength & Value
- **Imported goods such as new articles, souvenirs, gifts & food items**: Value