



SINGAPORE CUSTOMS 新加坡关税局 **KASTAM SINGAPURA** சிங்கப்பூர் சுங்கத்துறை

MEDIA RELEASE

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Company director fined \$48,000 for counterfeiting export documents

A company director was sentenced on 2 October 2013 to a fine of \$48,000 or in default 12 weeks' jail for counterfeiting documents used by his company to export goods.

Harold Toh Thiam Luck, 46, pleaded guilty to four charges of counterfeiting Certificates of Origin. Another nine charges were taken into consideration. Certificates of Origin are used by exporters to certify the country of origin of their goods.

Toh, the director of Fukutomi Technologies Pte Ltd, is the first person to be prosecuted by Singapore Customs for committing such offences.

Singapore Customs' investigations revealed that between November 2008 and February 2011, Toh had counterfeited Certificates of Origin in relation to Fukutomi's exports with a fake "SINGAPORE MANUFACTURERS' FEDERATION" stamp. The Singapore Manufacturing Federation is one of the five organisations in Singapore, besides Singapore Customs, authorised to issue Certificates of Origin to exporters.

The counterfeited certificates were fabricated so that the goods exported by Fukutomi Technologies Pte Ltd could gain easier access into the importing countries. The total value of the goods involved exceeded \$300,000.

By counterfeiting the Certificates of Origin, Toh had committed offences under the Regulation of Imports and Exports Regulations. Such offences undermine the reputation of Certificates of Origin issued in Singapore and the country's reputation as a trusted global trade hub.

Any person found guilty of counterfeiting, falsifying or using, when counterfeited or falsified, any permit, certificate or document granted or issued under these Regulations will be liable to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 or three times the value of the goods in respect of which the offence was committed, whichever is greater, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both.

Repeat offenders will be liable to a fine not exceeding \$200,000 or four times the value of the goods in respect of which the offence was committed, whichever is greater, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years or to both.

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