

26 Feb 2024

Ref: RPNSG/RD/2024-01-0001

Dear Sir/Mdm,

CIRCULAR ON CUSTOMS PERMIT AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORT/EXPORT OF GOODS INVOLVING CONTROLLED RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS AND IRRADIATING APPARATUS

Background

The National Environment Agency (NEA) has observed that there are instances where Traders and Declaring Agents (DAs) used the wrong Harmonised System (HS) Code in their customs permit to import/export controlled radioactive materials and irradiating apparatus. The use of wrong HS codes has resulted in delays, and in some instances the importation/exportation without proper authorisation, contravening Section 6(1)(a) or 7(1)(a) of the Radiation Protection Act 2007.

2 This circular is to provide guidance on the use of the correct HS codes when applying for a customs permit and serves as a reminder to Traders and Declaring Agents to comply with the licensing requirements to import/export these controlled items. Any person found in contravention of Section 6(1)(a) and 7(1)(a) of the Radiation Protection Act 2007 is liable on conviction to a fine of up to \$100,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years or to both.

Licensing requirements for the import/export of controlled items

3 Import/export licences are required for the import/export of controlled radioactive materials and irradiating apparatus based on the following licensing requirements:

- a) **N4A import or N4B export licence:** Consignments containing controlled non-ionising irradiating apparatus;
- b) **IR4A import or IR4B export licence:** Consignments with controlled ionising irradiating apparatus (not containing a radioactive source); and
- c) **IR5A import or IR5B export licence:** Consignments with controlled ionising radiation irradiating apparatus (containing a radioactive source) or radioactive source.

Each import/export licence is charged at a fee of \$40 per consignment.

List of controlled items and corresponding HS codes

4 A non-exhaustive list of items controlled under the Radiation Protection Act 2007 can be found in **Annex A**. Importers/exporters should possess a valid dealer (N1/IR1) or possession (N2/IR2) licence/licence application for these items prior to arranging for the import/export of the controlled items. Importers/exporters must ensure that the appropriate import/export licence is obtained with the customs permit. **These controlled items must be declared with the correct HS codes (as listed in the document “list of HS codes for**

controlled irradiating apparatus and radioactive materials” on NEA’s website¹) in the customs permit application to enable the issuance of a valid import/export licence by NEA.

Information on submission of customs permit application through TradeNet

5 For controlled items that are authorised under a N1/IR1 licence, DAs should ensure that both “Licence No.” and “CA/SC Product Code” fields are declared accurately according to the details specified in the licence. In the case of controlled items imported/exported under a N2/IR2 licence, DAs should ensure that “Licence No.” and “CA/SC Product Code” fields are left blank. Please note that the terms 'MISC' and 'RADSPARE' should not be used in the “CA/SC Product Code” field for controlled radioactive materials and irradiating apparatus.

6 For non-controlled items that do not require an import or export licence but will be declared under a HS code for radioactive materials and irradiating apparatus, declarants may use the following codes based on the corresponding circumstances:

- If the shipped items are non-controlled spare parts of controlled irradiating apparatus, declarants should enter 'RADSPARE' in both the “Licence No.” and “CA/SC Product Code” fields.
- For non-controlled items, declarants should enter 'MISC' in the “CA/SC Product Code” field, provided the particular HS code allows for it².
- Otherwise, please contact NEA’s Radiation Protection and Nuclear Science Group (RPNSG) TradeNet team via NEA_RPNSD_Tradenet@nea.gov.sg in cases where the item has to be declared under a HS code for radioactive materials and irradiating apparatus, but the use of 'MISC' CA/SC Product Code is not allowed.

7 Traders and DAs should select the correct HS code to be used (as listed in the document “list of HS codes for controlled irradiating apparatus and radioactive materials” on NEA’s website). For the complete list, please refer to the HS Codes controlled by “RPN” in the “All HS/CA Product Code” file downloadable from the [HS/CA Product Code Search Engine](#).

8 More details on matters related to import/export of radioactive materials and controlled irradiating apparatus can be found on NEA’s website (<https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/radiation-safety/information-on-licence-to-import-or-export-irradiating-apparatus-and-radioactive-materials>). If you require any clarification, please submit your query electronically via the Online Feedback Form at <https://www.nea.gov.sg/corporate-functions/feedback> or via the myENV mobile application.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Hoo Wee Teck
Deputy Director
Ionising Radiation Control Department

Mr Ho Seng Kim
Deputy Director
Non-Ionising Radiation Control Department

Radiation Protection and Nuclear Science Group
National Environment Agency
(This is a computer-generated letter. No signature is required)

¹ <https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/radiation-safety/information-on-licence-to-import-or-export-irradiating-apparatus-and-radioactive-materials>

² Please refer to the HS/CA Product Code Search engine(<https://www.tradenet.gov.sg/tradenet/portlets/search/searchHSCA/searchInitHSCA.do>) to verify whether the HS codes allow 'MISC' CA/SC Product Code.

Annex A : Controlled Irradiating Apparatus and Radioactive Materials

Type	Examples of irradiating apparatus/ radioactive materials	Import	Export
Non-ionising radiation irradiating apparatus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ultraviolet sunlamps • Microwave ovens • Fetal heart monitoring doppler non-imaging ultrasound apparatus • Industrial ultrasound apparatus with power output of not more than 1200 W • Any apparatus with any or combination of the above 	Requires N4A import licence	Does not require export licence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical diagnostic imaging ultrasound • Therapeutic ultrasound • High intensity focus ultrasound • Aesthetic ultrasound (Cavitation) • Laboratory use ultrasound • Industrial ultrasound apparatus with power output of 1200 W or more • Magnetic resonance imaging apparatus • Class 3b and Class 4 industrial lasers • Class 3b and Class 4 medical and cosmetic lasers • Class 3b and Class 4 entertainment lasers • Class 3b and Class 4 laser pointers 		Requires N4B export licence
Ionising radiation irradiating apparatus (not containing radioactive material)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X-ray apparatus • Ortho Pantomo Graph (OPG) machine • Periapical (PA) machine • Computed Tomography (CT) scanner, including SPECT/CT and PET/CT • Static eliminator (X-ray type) • Linear accelerator • X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) analyser (X-ray type) • Ion implanter • Bone densitometer 	Requires IR4A import licence	Requires IR4B export licence
Ionising radiation irradiating apparatus (containing radioactive material) or Radioactive material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gamma knife • Level/Density/Thickness/Moisture gauge • Explosives Trace Detector • Gas Chromatography containing Electron Capture Device (GC-ECD) • Static eliminator (radioactive source type) • XRF analyser (radioactive source type) • Gamma projectors • Medical blood irradiators • Ores or any substances containing radioisotopes (which are above the respective exemption limits in the Radiation Protection (Ionising Radiation) Regulations) 	Requires IR5A import licence	Requires IR5B export licence