



Circular No: 13/2015
28 Sep 2015

To Traders and Declaring Agents

Dear Sir/Madam

ADVISORY: CUSTOMS SUPERVISION OF UNSTUFFING OF CONTAINERS

Singapore Customs conduct selective customs supervision of unstuffing of import containers and transshipment containers going to unmanned places to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements, such as to check that all goods conveyed in the containers have been accurately declared to Customs.

2 A container that has been selected for customs supervision of unstuffing will be sealed with a customs red seal and affixed with a warning tag (see **Annex A**) at the time of clearance at the checkpoint. A “Notice to Haulier” (see **Annex B**) will be issued to the prime mover driver to inform the trader of the customs supervision requirement. Traders are reminded not to break the customs red seal and/or unstuff the container without prior approval from Singapore Customs.

3 Traders should apply for customs supervision of unstuffing within one working day of clearance of the container from the checkpoint. The application is to be submitted via e-filing at www.customs.gov.sg. The intended date of unstuffing operation should be at least one working day from the date of e-filing. The actual time slot allocated for the customs supervision operation is subject to our manpower availability.

4 The hours for conducting customs supervision of unstuffing are 8.00 am to 5.00 pm on Mondays to Fridays and 8.00 am to 12.30 pm on Saturdays. No customs supervision is conducted on Sundays and Public Holidays. A fee will be levied for customs supervision.

5 The unauthorised breaking of customs red seal is an offence under Regulation 16(4) of the Customs (Container) Regulations. Any person guilty of breaking a customs red seal shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 and, in the case of a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$8,000.

6 For more information on e-filing for customs supervision, you may contact our call centre at 6355-2000 or email your enquiries to customs_whsg_supervision@customs.gov.sg.

Yours faithfully

Fauziah Abdul Sani
Head Company Compliance
for Director-General of Customs
Singapore Customs

(This is a computer-generated circular. No signature is required.)

We hope that this circular has been written in a way that is clear to you. If not, please let us have suggestions on how to improve this circular at customs_whsg_supervision@customs.gov.sg.

Annex A – Images of Customs Red Seal and Warning Tag



Annex B – Sample Copy of “Notice to Haulier”



Singapore Customs,
55 Newton Road #06-01,
Revenue House
Singapore 307987
Tel No. : 6355 2049
Fax No. : 6251 3227
Email: customs_whsg_supervision@customs.gov.sg

NOTICE TO HAULIER

(1) Date and Time:	
(2) Container No.:	
(3) Customs Seal No.:	
(4) Sealed By:	
(5) Permit / Doc No.:	
(6) Haulier's Name:	
(7) Driver's Name and NRIC / FIN No.:	
(8) Driver's Contact No.:	

PURPOSE FOR SEALING:

- For container that has been selected for Customs Inspection, the importer / haulier must apply for Customs supervision for unstuffing of the container via e-filing at <http://www.customs.gov.sg> by selecting the e-file option “Application for Customs supervision addressed to Company Compliance Branch – Supervision at Licensed Premises / Non-Licensed Premises”.
- For container that has been selected to be held at the designated Customs Holding Area pending Customs Inspection, the importer / haulier must deliver the container to the Customs Holding Area immediately and apply for Customs supervision for unstuffing of container via e-filing at <http://www.customs.gov.sg> by selecting the e-file option “Application for Customs supervision addressed to Company Compliance Branch – Supervision at Licensed Premises / Non-Licensed Premises” by the next working day.
- Others:
(Please specify)

CAUTION:

Please note that under Regulation 16(4) of the Customs (Container) Regulations,

No person shall, without prior permission of the proper officer of customs, tamper with, open, break, alter or remove any lock, seal or other safeguards used in respect of a container or container freight station.

Name / Rank / Signature of Sealing Officer

Gate / Unit

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