



Circular No: 01/2020
21 Feb 2020

Traders and Declaring Agents

Dear Sir/Madam

STORAGE OF DUTIABLE GOODS IN FREE TRADE ZONES & REPORTING SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTIONS

Storage of Dutiable Goods in FTZ

Under Section 5(4) of the Free Trade Zones Act, dutiable goods namely liquors and tobacco products as prescribed under the Free Trade Zones (Prescribed Goods) Notification are not allowed to be stored in Free Trade Zones (FTZ).

2 To facilitate the quick turnaround for transshipment and encourage entrepot trade, Singapore Customs has administratively allowed such dutiable goods to be temporarily stored in FTZs **for a period of up to 30 days**, pending transshipment or removal to a licensed warehouse or licensed factory warehouse (“licensed premises”). If longer term storage is required, such dutiable goods must be removed from the FTZ into the licensed premises. Please note that failure to deposit such dutiable goods in the licensed premises is an offence under Section 52(3) of the Customs Act. There is no storage restriction on dutiable goods brought into FTZ under “through” Bill of Lading or “through” Air WayBill. For more information on transshipment, please visit www.customs.gov.sg > businesses > transshipping goods > quick guide on transshipping goods.

Reporting Suspicious Transactions

3 Please also be reminded that under Section 39 of the Corruption, Drug Trafficking and other Serious Crimes (Confiscation of Benefits) Act, Cap 65A, all persons have the legal obligation to file a Suspicious Transaction Report (STR) to the Suspicious Transaction Reporting Office (STRO) if they know or have reasonable grounds to suspect that any property is connected to criminal activity, in the course of their trade, profession, business or employment.

4 All persons also have the duty to provide information on property and financial transactions belonging to terrorist and acts of terrorism financing under Sections 8

and 10 of the Terrorism (Suppression of Financing) Act to the Police or do so via a STR. Failure to do so may constitute a criminal offence.

5 More details on how to file a STR can be found here:
<https://www.police.gov.sg/Advisories/Crime/Commercial-Crimes/Suspicious-Transaction-Reporting-Office>

6 This circular supersedes Customs Circular No. 46/99 dated 17 Nov 1999 and part (C) of Customs Circular No. 4/98 dated 28 Feb 1998.

Yours faithfully

Jeanine Ho
Acting Head Permits 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_documentation@customs.gov.sg.