

## **SINGAPORE CUSTOMS PRESS STATEMENT**

### **TWO COMPANIES SUMMONED FOR OFFENCES UNDER THE REGULATION OF IMPORT & EXPORT REGULATIONS**

On 18 and 19 August 2003, Singapore Customs served summons on International Scientific Pte Ltd and Welcome Trading Co Pte Ltd for committing offences under the Regulation of Import & Export Regulations -

- International Scientific Pte Ltd at 33 Tanjung Penjuru, Singapore 609029 is alleged to have falsely declared the country of origin in the import permits covering five consignments of sodium cyanide imported into Singapore between Sep 2002 and Apr 2003; and
- Welcome Trading Co Pte Ltd at 1 North Bridge Road #12-04/05 High Street Centre Building, Singapore 179094 is alleged to have exported two consignments of sodium cyanide on 30 Sep and 3 Nov 2002 without an export permit.

False declaration of goods imported is an offence punishable under Section 28(1) of the Regulation of Import and Export Act. On conviction, the offender may be fined not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

Exporting goods out of Singapore without an export permit is an offence punishable under Regulation 45 of the Regulation of Import and Export Regulations. Upon conviction, the offender may be sentenced (a) on the first conviction to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 or 3 times the value of the goods in respect of which the offence was committed, whichever is the greater, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both; and (b) on the second or subsequent conviction to a fine not exceeding \$200,000 or 4 times the value of the goods in respect of which the offence was committed, whichever is the greater, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both.

The two cases will be mentioned in Court 26N on 2 Sep 2003.

All commercial goods entering and leaving Singapore must be covered by a permit. Importers and exporters must ensure the correctness and completeness of their declarations to Customs. False declaration and non-declaration of imports or exports are serious offences under the Regulation of Import and Exports Regulations. Those caught stand to face severe penalties of large monetary fines or imprisonment or both.

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1 Sep 2003