

insync

ISSUE 67

SINGAPORE CUSTOMS MAGAZINE

— P.02 —

**International Customs Day 2023:
More than 300 Singapore Customs officers presented
with service medals for their contributions**



FEATURES

Strengthening CBREN preparedness through annual joint exercise with PSA Singapore



FEATURES

Annual Enforcement Results 2022



NEWS

Partnering Korea Customs Service to facilitate end-to-end digital trade

CONTENTS

FEATURES

- 01 Strengthening CBREN preparedness through annual joint exercise with PSA Singapore
- 04 Annual Enforcement Results 2022

SPOTLIGHT

- 02 International Customs Day 2023: More than 300 Singapore Customs officers presented with service medals for their contributions

NEWS

- 10 Partnering Korea Customs Service to facilitate end-to-end digital trade
- 10 New STP partners on board

DO YOU KNOW?

- 11 Check your permit clearance status via NTP

TRAINING CALENDAR

- 12 Training Calendar



EDITORS' NOTE

The first quarter of 2023 saw annual events, which either took a hiatus or were conducted virtually during the pandemic years, resumed to being held in person and in their usual scale.

In January, Singapore Customs held a joint exercise with PSA at the Pasir Panjang Export Inspection Station, to simulate the response for the detection of radiation from an export container. The annual exercise ensures our officers maintain a high level of preparedness in managing and handling different emergency scenarios encountered. More on the next page.

In the same month, Singapore Customs officers came together as one to celebrate International Customs Day with a staff award presentation ceremony. More than 300 Singapore Customs officers were presented with service medals for their contributions. Read more about the event highlights and the different Singapore Customs Medals on pages 2 and 3.

At the start of the second quarter of 2023, we present our Annual Enforcement Results for 2022 (pages 4 to 9), where we share key statistics and interesting cases handled last year. Among the cases were the arrests of 25 men for trying to smuggle duty-unpaid cigarettes from vessels onto Singapore's shores (pages 5 and 6).

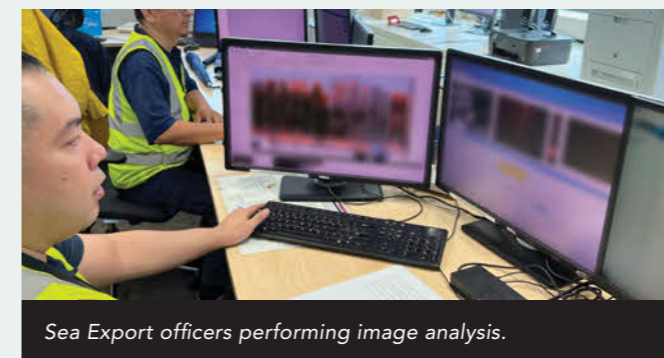
Adopting a whole-of-government approach, Singapore Customs continues to work closely with other enforcement agencies to disrupt the supply and distribution of duty-unpaid cigarettes and enforce against other revenue-related offences.

TAN XIAN LIN AND ISABEL CHIA
Editors

FEATURES

Strengthening CBREN preparedness through annual joint exercise with PSA Singapore

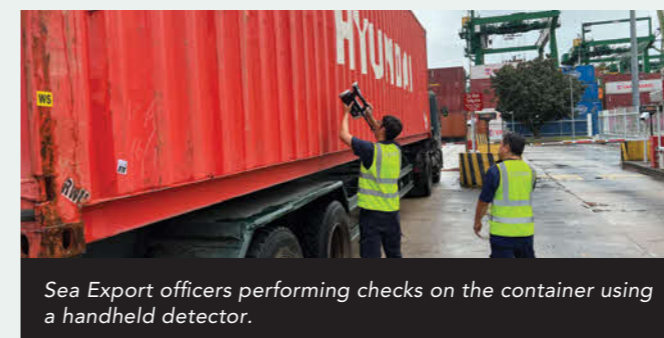
- On 20 January 2023, the Sea Export Section under Singapore Customs' Sea Checkpoints Branch conducted its joint annual chemical, biological, radiological, explosive or nuclear (CBREN) simulation exercise with PSA Singapore (PSA) at the Pasir Panjang Export Inspection Station (PPEIS), to simulate the response for the detection of radiation from an export container. Singapore Customs activated the standard operating procedures (SOPs) and notified PSA accordingly, and the various teams from PSA responded swiftly to contain and mitigate the incident.



Sea Export officers performing image analysis.

The export container had entered PSA Pasir Panjang, passing through the Radiation Portal Monitors (RPM). The RPM detected radiation, and Sea Export officers at PPEIS were alerted through an alarm system. Officers then performed image analysis on the said container as it entered through the scanner at PPEIS to ascertain if there were any anomalies and items of concern within the container.

Our trained officers responded swiftly to the situation, while remaining cautious and adhering to SOPs. Safety vests were donned, and officers used radiation pagers to confirm that it was safe to approach the container for further checks using a handheld radiation detector. The detector will inform officers on the source of radiation and the radiation levels in different parts of the container.



Sea Export officers performing checks on the container using a handheld detector.

PSA's Security and Emergency Response Team (SERT) was activated and they conducted further assessment on site upon arrival. The container was moved to PSA's isolation yard, with the Emergency Response Team securing the container at the isolation yard.

The annual joint exercise with PSA ensures our officers maintain a high level of preparedness in managing and handling different emergency scenarios encountered, including the detection and mitigation of hazardous materials detected in export containers. The exercise enables Singapore Customs and PSA to have a better understanding of each other's capabilities, with a deeper appreciation of the professionalism and competency displayed by the participants from both sides.



Participants from PSA and Singapore Customs for the annual joint exercise.

PSA works closely with Singapore Customs to ensure a robust, safe, and secure free trade zone to support the global supply chain.

The CBREN exercise is a testament to the capabilities of both our response forces to react and handle any threats in the course of operations.

— William Lai, SM Security & Emergency Response Department

To read, download or subscribe to inSYNC, please visit www.customs.gov.sg.

Please let us know what you think of inSYNC. We welcome your ideas on what you would like to see and how we can do better. Write in to the **Editor** at customs_media@customs.gov.sg.



inSYNC is a publication of Singapore Customs. Copyright of the materials contained in this publication belongs to Singapore Customs. Nothing in here shall be reproduced in whole or in part without prior written consent of Singapore Customs. All rights reserved. All information is correct at time of publication.

[fb.com/SingaporeCustoms](https://www.facebook.com/SingaporeCustoms)

Design by Oxygen Studio Designs Pte Ltd



INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS DAY 2023: More than 300 Singapore Customs officers presented with service medals for their contributions

On 26 January every year, the global Customs community comes together to celebrate International Customs Day. This year's theme, selected by the World Customs Organisation (WCO), is "Nurturing the Next Generation: Promoting a Culture of Knowledge-sharing and Professional Pride in Customs".

As part of its annual tradition, Singapore Customs officers joined other customs administrations worldwide in observing International Customs Day with a staff award presentation ceremony held at NTUC Centre Auditorium on 26 January 2023.

Director-General of Singapore Customs, Mr Tan Hung Hooi, presented nine Singapore Customs officers with the WCO Certificate of Merit for demonstrating strong commitment in their work towards this year's theme of encouraging and building knowledge-sharing in the workplace.

In his opening remarks, Mr Tan noted that the problems that Customs face today are no longer of a singular dimension as compared to yester years.

They are more complex, cutting across more than one domain, with more unknowns and ambiguities.

"As such, we need to have a collaborative mindset and this will drive the need to share knowledge in order to solve complex problems... My continued focus is about promoting an organisation culture that is conducive which can continue to meet Customs' mission objectives," said Mr Tan.

More than 300 Customs officers were also presented with the Singapore Customs Medals and several other awards to recognise their achievements and contributions in areas such as service excellence, trade, pro-enterprise, enforcement and innovation.



Director-General Tan with this year's WCO Certificate of Merit recipients.

The Singapore Customs Medals were introduced from 1 April 2022 to recognise the service, commitment and contributions of Customs officers to the nation, as they carry out the mission of protecting revenue and keeping trade easy, fair and secure over the years.

Mr Tan related examples of how Customs officers have displayed outstanding efforts in carrying out their duties, and commended them for their dedication and professionalism in pressing on to fulfil Customs' mission.

"I would like to say a big thank you to all our officers who have worked tirelessly over the years to bring Customs to greater heights. It is also your generous knowledge sharing and dedication that have helped and will continue to help shape and inspire the next generation of Customs officers," he said.



Customs attaché from various customs administrations also joined in for the event.

The Singapore Customs Medals comprise the following four categories of medals:

- The **Customs Service Medals**, which include the Good Service Medal and Long Service Medal, are awarded to eligible officers for recognition of their dedication and commitment to the department upon completing certain lengths of service.
- The **Customs Medal for Exemplary Service** is a commendation award which recognises outstanding achievements attained by our officers, while the **Customs Overseas Service Medal** is to be conferred on officers who have participated in overseas missions.
- The **Customs Medal of Distinction** is for Heads of foreign customs administrations for the purpose of fostering good bilateral relations.



The Singapore Customs Medals.

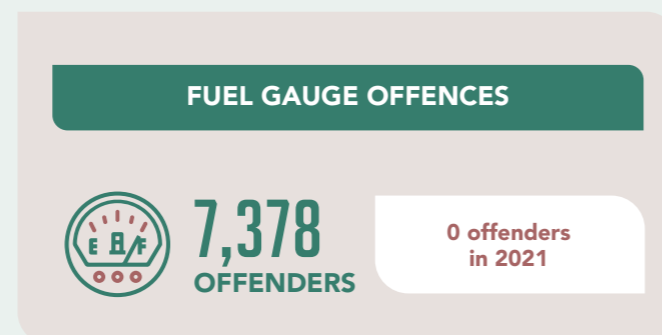
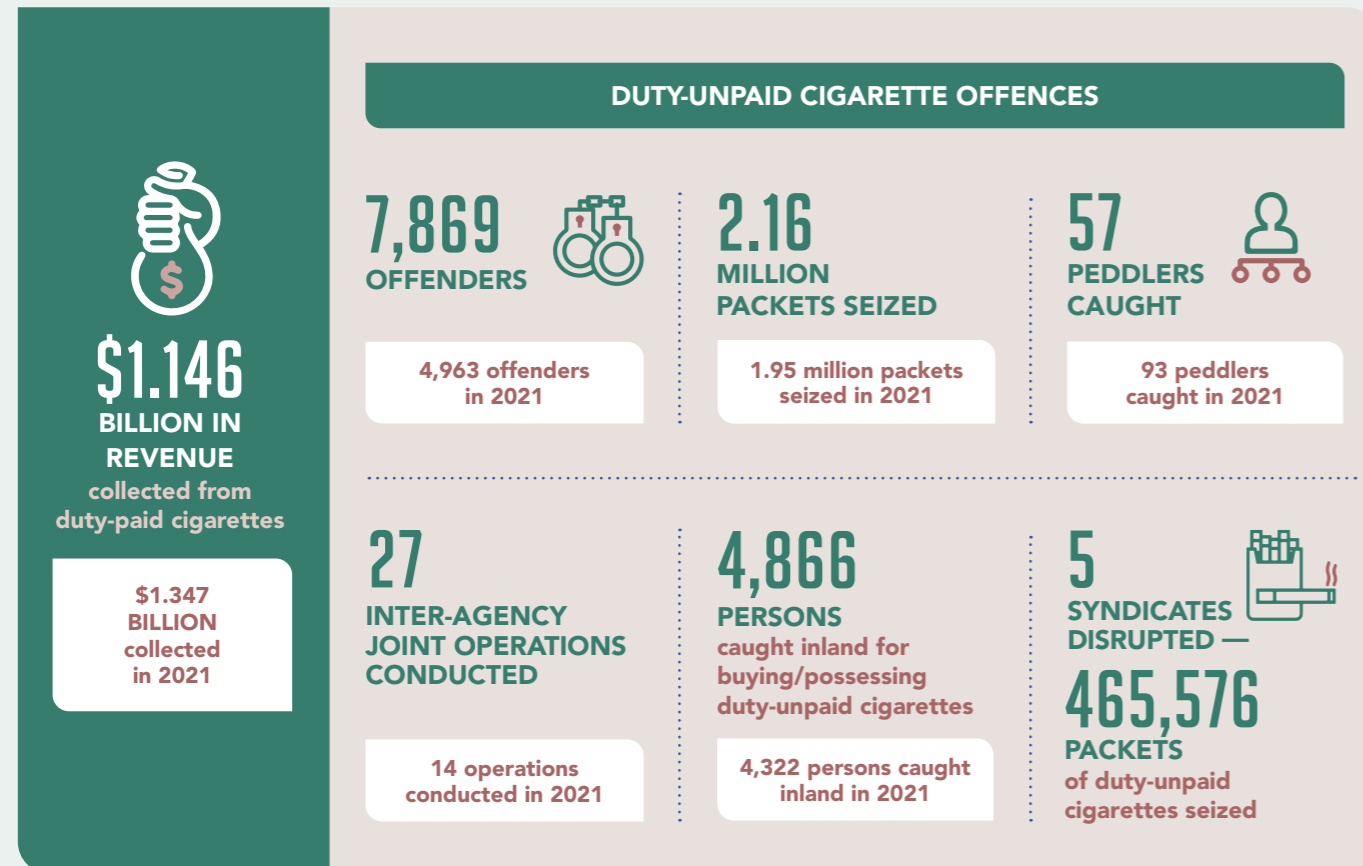
As we transform our work and upskill our officers, it is also important that our officers find purpose in their work and we continue to deliver on our mission.

— Director-General of Singapore Customs, Mr Tan Hung Hooi



Annual Enforcement Results 2022

- Adopting a whole-of-government approach, Singapore Customs continues to work closely with other enforcement agencies to disrupt the supply and distribution of duty-unpaid cigarettes and enforce against other revenue-related offences. Here are the key numbers in 2022.



Annual Enforcement Results 2022 Cigarette Smuggling from Ship-to-Shore

- In 2022, 25 men were caught trying to smuggle duty-unpaid cigarettes from vessels onto Singapore's shores. A total of 7,851 cartons, 1,255 packets and 46 sticks of duty-unpaid cigarettes were seized.

CASE 1

Three Indonesian men were sentenced to imprisonment of between 22 months and two weeks and 23 months and two weeks on 15 March 2022 for dealing with duty-unpaid cigarettes.

On 15 February 2022, Police Coast Guard (PCG) officers detected several boxes wrapped in black plastic bags, tied together with a rope, drifting towards the shoreline near Tuas South Avenue 3. PCG officers retrieved the boxes and uncovered 1,500 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes. They reviewed the security camera footage of that area and ascertained that the floating boxes were thrown by crew members of a tugboat on 14 February 2022. PCG officers subsequently arrested three men.

Investigation revealed that the three men were crew members of a tugboat pulling a barge to deliver sand to Singapore. One of the crew members was engaged by an unknown man to deliver duty-unpaid cigarettes into Singapore. He then engaged the other two crew members to assist him in the illegal act.



Duty-unpaid cigarettes found in boxes wrapped in black plastic bags.



Duty-unpaid cigarettes wrapped in plastic bags found in the barge's manhole.



Duty-unpaid cigarettes seized from the barge.

CASE 2

Six Indonesian men were sentenced to imprisonment of between eight months and two weeks and nine months on 17 March 2022 for dealing with duty-unpaid cigarettes.

On 22 February 2022, PCG officers conducted a check on a tugboat and its barge near Tuas South Boulevard and uncovered 417 cartons and seven packets of duty-unpaid cigarettes inside the barge's manhole. All six men arrested were crew members of the tugboat.

Investigations revealed that all of them had purchased duty-unpaid cigarettes in Indonesia and stored them in the barge's manhole. After the vessel had reached Singapore's territorial waters, they would resell the duty-unpaid cigarettes to crew members of tugboats berthed within Singapore's territorial waters.



CASE 3

On 8 July 2022, during an operation conducted at Pasir Panjang Ferry Terminal, Singapore Customs officers conducted checks on six men – four Singaporeans, one Malaysian and one Indonesian – leaving the place with large bags. Officers found 170 cartons and 25 sticks of duty-unpaid cigarettes in their possession. Four of the men were arrested, while two of the Singaporeans were detained for further investigations.

Officers conducted further checks on a ferry and uncovered another 170 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes onboard and also arrested another Indonesian man.

A follow-up search at the offenders' residences led to a seizure of 46 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes. Another 13 packets and 25 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes were found in one of the offender's workplace and another offender's car respectively.

Investigation revealed that two of the Singaporeans and the Malaysian were working at Pulau Busing and had been purchasing duty-unpaid cigarettes from unknown Indonesian crewmen with the intention of re-selling them. The trio then sought help from the other two Singaporeans to carry the duty-unpaid cigarettes from Pulau Busing to Pasir Panjang Ferry Terminal.

The two Indonesians, who were the captain and engineer of a ferry, had been smuggling duty-unpaid cigarettes into Singapore by concealing them in the ferry and reselling them.

The two Singaporeans, two Indonesians, and a Malaysian were sentenced to imprisonment of between two months and five months for their offences involving duty-unpaid cigarettes. The Malaysian was also fined \$12,500. Investigations are ongoing for the remaining two Singaporeans.



Duty-unpaid cigarettes found concealed in the ferry.

Annual Enforcement Results 2022 Illegal Removal of Duty-Unpaid Liquor by a Licensed Warehouse Operator

••• Licensed warehouses (LW) are premises licensed by Singapore Customs to store dutiable goods such as liquor, with the duty and Goods and Services Tax (GST) suspended pending re-export or removal for local consumption. Duty and GST are payable if the goods are to be removed from the LW for local consumption. Removing duty-suspended goods from an LW for local consumption without paying the duty and GST is an offence.

Based on information received, Singapore Customs initiated investigations into an LW operator. Investigations revealed that the general manager of the LW company had instructed an employee to remove 1,440 cans of duty-suspended beer in December 2018 for consumption at a company event. However, no duty payment permit was obtained for the removal of beer

for local consumption, and no duty and GST payment was made.

To prevent Singapore Customs from discovering the discrepancies between the physical quantity in the LW and the inventory records lodged with Singapore Customs, the general manager instructed the employee

to declare the beer in an export permit when exporting goods on behalf of a customer. This was to give the impression that the beer was exported under the export permit, and therefore no duty and GST was payable.

The duty and GST involved amounted to \$6,566 and \$519 respectively.

The LW operator was fined \$26,300 on 1 December 2022 for the illegal removal of duty-suspended beer. Another similar charge was taken into consideration during sentencing.

Court proceedings are ongoing against the general manager and the employee.

Annual Enforcement Results 2022 Suppression of Value of Goods to Evade GST

••• Singapore Customs successfully uncovered fraudulent acts by freight forwarders who pocketed the difference between the GST paid to Customs and the amount collected from their customers on goods imported.

CASE 1

A Singaporean man, the sole proprietor of a freight forwarding business, was sentenced to a fine of \$3,000,000, in default 24 months' imprisonment, on 30 June 2022 for fraudulent evasion of GST on goods imported between January 2016 and 2020.

Singapore Customs initiated investigations for under-declaration of the values of goods following an inspection conducted on a consignment of goods imported by a customer of the freight forwarder.

Investigations revealed that the sole proprietor handled customs clearance of shipments from China for his customers. His customers would provide him

with copies of their suppliers' packing lists and invoices, which he would collate into consolidated packing lists. However, he would suppress the values of the goods in the consolidated packing lists before handing them over to his appointed declaring agents to apply for Cargo Clearance Permits (CCPs)¹.

The declaring agents would pay Singapore Customs the GST amounts based on the suppressed values stated in the consolidated packing lists, and bill the sole proprietor for the lower GST amounts paid. The sole proprietor would in turn collect from his customers the actual GST amounts payable based on the suppliers' packing lists and invoices and pocket the differences.

The sole proprietor pleaded guilty to three charges of fraudulent evasion of GST involving 361 CCPs totalling \$604,227 in GST evaded. Another six similar charges involving 141 CCPs totalling \$206,281 in GST evaded were taken into consideration during sentencing.

¹A CCP is required to account for the import and tax payment of the goods. Before the actual importation, an importer is required to obtain a CCP. To obtain a CCP, a declaration is required to be made to Singapore Customs electronically and the GST payable would then be paid to the State.

CASE 2

A Singaporean man, the sole director of a freight forwarding company, was sentenced to a fine of \$2,380,000, in default 32 months' imprisonment, on 5 July 2022 for fraudulent evasion of GST on goods imported between November 2017 and July 2020.

Singapore Customs commenced investigations into the company when officers detected discrepancies between copies of a CCP provided by the importer and the company. The values of the goods in the copy of the CCP provided by the importer were higher than the values in the copy provided by the company.

Investigations revealed that the director submitted false values of goods when applying for CCPs.

He edited the invoices furnished by the importers to reflect lower values and declared the lower values to Customs. Upon approval of the CCPs and payment of GST based on the lower values, he edited the CCPs to reflect the actual values of the goods and gave the edited CCPs to the importers in order to collect the rightful amount of GST from them. He pocketed the difference between GST paid by the importers and the GST paid to Customs. The total GST short-paid amounted to \$433,484.

The director pleaded guilty to two charges of fraudulent evasion of GST involving 808 CCPs with \$366,189 in GST evaded. Two similar charges involving 110 CCPs with \$67,296 in GST evaded and four other charges of falsification of documents involving 908 CCPs were taken into consideration during sentencing.



Annual Enforcement Results 2022

Importation of Motor Vehicles with Suppressed Values

CASE 1

A Singaporean man, the sole proprietor of a business importing motor vehicles, was sentenced to a fine of about \$5.6 million, in default 40 months' imprisonment, on 9 March 2022 for fraudulent evasion of duty and GST by suppressing the values of 464 motor vehicles imported into Singapore between June and November 2016.

Singapore Customs initiated investigations when officers detected that he had failed to declare the values of optional features of vehicles to Singapore Customs for assessing the duty and GST payable on the vehicles.

Investigations revealed that two invoices would be prepared for each imported motor vehicle. The first invoice would state the partial value of the motor vehicle, while the other invoice would indicate the remaining value, which was falsely described as "liaison fee". The sole proprietor had only declared the partial value in the first invoice to Singapore Customs but failed to declare the "liaison fee", despite knowing that this amount had to be declared. His actions had resulted in the short-payment of duty and GST amounting to \$703,609 and \$295,515 respectively.

The sole proprietor pleaded guilty to one amalgamated charge of fraudulent evasion of duty. Another amalgamated charge of fraudulent evasion of GST was taken into consideration during sentencing.

CASE 2

A Singaporean man, the sole director of a car import company, was convicted on 28 October 2022 and subsequently sentenced to a fine of \$465,034, in default 30 weeks' imprisonment for fraudulent evasion of duty and GST by suppressing the values of nine motor vehicles imported into Singapore between November 2016 and 2017.

Singapore Customs initiated investigations into the company after officers detected discrepancies in the invoices submitted by the company for the import of a motor vehicle.

Investigations revealed that the director had knowingly under-declared the values of the imported motor vehicles by submitting fictitious invoices created by him which bore lower values. With the aid of digital forensics, officers uncovered the original invoices and sales contracts. The values stated in the original invoices were higher than those reflected in the invoices submitted to Singapore Customs. The total duty and GST evaded amounted to \$27,291 and \$11,462 respectively.

The director was convicted of 14 charges of fraudulent evasion of duty and GST after trial in the State Courts.

Annual Enforcement Results 2022

Making False Statements When Applying for Preferential Certificates of Origin for Goods Exported

A Singapore permanent resident who was the former director of a company was sentenced to a fine of \$558,000, in default 56 weeks' imprisonment, on 30 August 2022 for making false statements when applying for Preferential Certificates of Origin (PCOs)¹ between August 2017 and April 2019 for goods exported by his company.

Singapore Customs initiated investigations after receiving information that the company was making

false statements on the country of origin of scrap metals in PCO applications.

Investigations revealed that the former director had purchased scrap metals from various suppliers in China and re-exported them from Singapore to India. The Indian buyers had requested him to obtain PCOs for the goods in order to enjoy preferential tariff treatment under the India-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement and ASEAN-India Free Trade

Area Trade in Goods Agreement. Despite knowing that only goods manufactured in Singapore or wholly obtained in Singapore were eligible for PCOs, he made false statements in the applications for the PCOs that the country of origin for the scrap metals was Singapore, when they were in fact from China.

The former director was also approached by an unknown Malaysian to apply for PCOs using his company's name as the exporter for the shipment of scrap metals to India, as the buyer wanted to enjoy preferential tariff treatment. The company would earn a commission for every PCO applied. Though the company was not involved in any transactions between the unknown Malaysian and buyers in India, he created invoices issued under his company's name

and submitted them for PCO applications, to give the impression that the scrap metals were sold by his company and of Singapore origin, when in fact the goods had originated from China.

The total value of the goods involved amounted to about \$9.72 million for all the 137 PCOs applied.

The former director pleaded guilty to two charges of making false statements in 93 applications of PCOs. Six similar charges involving 44 applications of PCOs were taken into consideration during sentencing.

¹A PCO is a trade document that identifies the origin of the goods and confers a tariff benefit in the importing country usually under a free trade agreement. It may only be issued by Singapore Customs and is applicable only for goods that are manufactured or wholly obtained from Singapore.

Annual Enforcement Results 2022

Supplying and Exporting Prohibited Goods from Singapore to North Korea

••• **With effect from 8 November 2017, all commercial trade of goods with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), regardless of whether they are imported, exported, transhipped or brought in transit through Singapore, is prohibited.**

Three Singaporean men were sentenced to imprisonment of between eight days and five weeks in 2022 for exporting prohibited goods to the DPRK between November 2017 and September 2018, which were offences under the Regulation of Imports and Exports Regulations.

Singapore Customs conducted checks into potential shipping of prohibited goods to the DPRK and uncovered evidence against the three Singaporean men for their involvement in supplying and exporting prohibited goods to the DPRK through Dalian, China, and Klang, Malaysia.

Investigations revealed that the channel manager of Company A, whose job involved liaising with customers for sales of beverages to several Singapore companies, including Company B, sold beverages to three companies with knowledge that the beverages sold would be exported to the DPRK. The total value of the goods sold amounted to \$1,294,663.

Investigations also revealed that in August 2018, one of the directors of Company B had procured beverages from the channel manager of Company A and from

another wholesaler, with the intention for the goods to be exported to the DPRK. The total value of the goods procured and exported amounted to \$129,879.

The channel manager of Company A was sentenced to five weeks' imprisonment. He pleaded guilty to four charges of abetting to export prohibited goods valued at \$235,826 to the DPRK. Another 24 similar charges involving prohibited goods valued at \$1,058,837 were taken into consideration during the sentencing.

The director of Company B was sentenced to 12 days' imprisonment. He pleaded guilty to one charge for exporting prohibited goods valued at \$84,492 to DPRK. Two similar charges involving prohibited goods valued at \$45,387 were taken into consideration during the sentencing. Court proceedings against the other two Singapore companies and their directors are ongoing.

Investigations into an export manager of Company C revealed that he had exported various food and beverage products to DPRK despite being aware that it is prohibited. To circumvent the trade prohibition, the export manager came up with an arrangement where he would sell the goods to a Singapore company, which would then ship the goods to the DPRK via Dalian, China. Court proceedings against the Singapore company and its director are ongoing. The total value of the goods exported amounted to \$126,474.

The export manager of Company C was sentenced to eight days' imprisonment. He pleaded guilty to one charge for exporting prohibited goods valued at \$45,905 to the DPRK. Another two similar charges involving prohibited goods valued at \$80,569 were taken into consideration during the sentencing.



Partnering Korea Customs Service to facilitate end-to-end digital trade

On 1 December 2022, Singapore Customs and Korea Customs Service signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) under the ambit of the Korea-Singapore Digital Partnership Agreement (KSDPA), which aims to promote trade facilitation and further strengthen bilateral trade relations.

With the MOU, both parties will collaborate on initiatives which facilitate the use and adoption of data exchange systems for the exchange of electronic trade documents. Both will also cooperate in areas of improving digital connectivity between single windows under the KSDPA.

The KSDPA, which entered into force on 14 January 2023, enables the two countries to establish a seamless digital trading environment and facilitate greater collaboration in the digital economy between businesses from both sides.



The Commissioner of Korea Customs Service, Mr Yoon Tae-Sik (top), and Director-General of Singapore Customs, Mr Tan Hung Hooi (bottom), signing the MOU on Electronic Exchange of Data to Facilitate the Implementation of the KSDPA.



The signatories from both sides holding up the signed MOU.

New STP partners on board

The Secure Trade Partnership (STP) is a Singapore Customs certification programme that encourages companies to adopt robust security measures and contribute towards improving the security of the

global supply chain. It is consistent with the World Customs Organisation SAFE Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade. The following companies were STP-certified in the fourth quarter of 2022.

Arkema Pte Ltd Global leader in specialty materials

"Arkema is honoured to be awarded the STP certification. We have a strong commitment to maintaining the security of our supply chain and this certification will bolster our supply chain and trust with our customers," said Mr Danny Foong, General Manager.

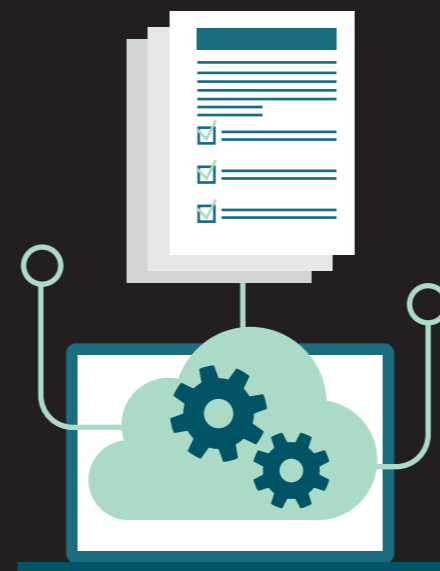
Vanguard International Semiconductor Singapore Pte Ltd Specialty integrated circuit foundry service provider

"With STP certification, it helps establish a trusting relationship with our client for a smooth, safe and secure movement of goods across borders," said Dr Goh Inn-Swee, General Manager.

DO YOU KNOW?

CHECK YOUR PERMIT CLEARANCE STATUS VIA NTP

Launched on the Networked Trade Platform (NTP) on 6 January 2023, the Permit Clearance Enquiry Service (PCES) allows traders to check on the clearance status of their cargo clearance permits, including import, export and transhipment for both containerised and conventional cargo.



Ⓞ WHERE CAN I ACCESS THE SERVICE, AND WHAT DO I NEED?

PCES can be found on NTP (www.ntp.gov.sg > Government Services > Import/Export/Transhipment > Permit Clearance Enquiry). Traders, or any party involved in the shipment, only require the permit number and its Unique Entity Number (UEN) to perform the query, without having to log in to NTP.

Ⓞ WHAT UEN CAN I USE FOR ENQUIRY PURPOSES?

You may use the UEN of the importer, exporter, declaring agent, handling agent or carrier that are associated with the permit.

Ⓞ HOW FAST WILL THE PERMIT CLEARANCE STATUS BE UPDATED IN NTP AFTER THE PERMIT HAS BEEN CLEARED?

The permit clearance status will be updated immediately after the permit has been cleared.

Ⓞ ARE ENDORSED EXPORT PERMITS MEANT FOR THE HAND CARRIED EXPORTS SCHEME (HCES) SEARCHABLE VIA THIS SERVICE?

No, traders will continue to receive an electronic copy of the clearance status of the goods inspected (digital clearance) via the HCES digital service on NTP. Please refer to **Notice No: 06/2019 Digital Service for Hand Carried Exports Scheme** for more details.

Ⓞ WHY DOES THE SEARCH RESULT INDICATE THAT MY PERMIT IS NOT SEARCHABLE VIA THIS SERVICE?

This service is only meant for permits that are required to be produced for clearance at the respective checkpoints. As such, permits that are not required to be produced for clearance will not be searchable via this service.

For more information, please refer to **Circular 02/2023** on the Customs website.

TRAINING CALENDAR

With the appointment of Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP) and Republic Polytechnic (RP) to conduct the existing suite of business courses since January 2020, the business courses conducted by Singapore Customs Academy has ceased from January 2020.

For latest course updates and to sign up for the business courses conducted by NYP or RP, please visit the respective polytechnic's website. All courses will be conducted virtually, except for SC111.

SC100

NYP:

**8 TO 9 MAY 2023,
5 TO 6 JUN 2023,
3 TO 4 JUL 2023**

SC101

**10 MAY 2023, 7 JUN 2023,
5 JUL 2023**

Same dates for SC102 & SC103

RP:

**15 TO 16 MAY 2023,
19 TO 20 JUN 2023,
17 TO 18 JUL 2023**

SC101

**17 MAY 2023, 21 JUN 2023,
19 JUL 2023**

Same dates for SC102 & SC103

BASICS OF EVERY DECLARANT

This course provides an overview of customs procedures pertaining to the import and export of goods, the basic requirements for preparing TradeNet declarations, classification of goods, and the rules of origin:

- SC101 Customs Procedures (Two days)
- SC102 Classification and the Harmonised System (half-day)
- SC103 Rules of Origin/Free Trade Agreements (half-day)

Participants may register for individual modules.

OUTREACH PROGRAMME FOR NEWLY-REGISTERED MANUFACTURERS

Conducted by Singapore Customs, this programme is designed to equip newly-registered manufacturers with a better understanding of the rules of origin under Singapore's Free Trade Agreements, the application procedure for certificates of origin, and the compliance requirements.

For enquiries, please email customs_roo@customs.gov.sg.

SC111

NYP:

**12 MAY 2023, 9 JUN 2023,
7 JUL 2023**

RP:

**18 MAY 2023, 22 JUN 2023,
20 JUL 2023**

HANDS-ON TRADENET DECLARATION

This one-day workshop provides new declarants with basic information on TradeNet and its various message and declaration types.

The guided practical session uses simulated scenarios to prepare and submit a declaration using the Government Frontend Solution.

SC200

NYP:

**11 MAY 2023, 8 JUN 2023,
6 JUL 2023**

Same dates for SC201 & SC202

RP:

**19 MAY 2023, 23 JUN 2023,
21 JUL 2023**

Same dates for SC201 & SC202

STRATEGIC GOODS CONTROL PROGRAMME

This one-day seminar provides an overview of Singapore's strategic goods control system and its regulations, registration procedures and permit requirements for strategic goods transactions, as well as the essentials of an internal (export control) compliance programme.

The seminar comprises two modules:

- SC201 Basics of Strategic Goods Control (half-day)
- SC202 Essentials of Internal (Export Control) Compliance Programme (half-day)

Participants may register for individual modules.