



NEWS RELEASE

FAR EASTRON (S) CO. PTE LTD FINED FOR EXPORTING STRATEGIC GOODS WITHOUT PERMIT

1. On 17 May 05, Far Eastron (S) Co. Pte Ltd was charged in the Subordinate Court for exporting strategic goods without the required permit in violation of the Strategic Goods (Control) Act (SGCA). The company had exported a consignment of controlled dual-use integrated circuits valued at US\$21,736 on 23 Dec 2003 without first obtaining the required strategic goods “Joint Declaration 3” TradeNet permit from Singapore Customs.
2. On 15 July 2005, Far Eastron was fined a total of \$20,000 after pleading guilty to the charge.
3. Under the SGCA, companies which wish to export, tranship or bring in transit strategic goods are required to obtain a Joint Declaration 3 TradeNet permit from Singapore Customs.
4. The export of strategic goods without the required permit is a violation of the SGCA and is subject to the following maximum penalties:
 - Up to \$100,000 fine or 3 times the value of the goods, or/and 2 years jail for a first offence
 - Up to \$200,000 fine or 4 times the value of the goods, or/and 3 years jail for subsequent offences.

5. The Strategic Goods (Control) Act (SGCA) has been effective since 1 Jan 2003 to regulate the transfer of strategic goods¹. Singapore Customs hopes that the successful prosecution of “Far Easton” will send a strong and clear message to all traders that they must exercise due care and diligence if they are involved in the transfer of strategic and dual use goods.

6. Singapore Customs is empowered by the SGCA to control the export, transshipment, transit, brokering and intangible transfer² of strategic goods and technology, which could contribute towards the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, or missiles capable of delivering these weapons. [For more information, please go to the Singapore Customs’ strategic goods control website: <http://www.stgc.gov.sg>]

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END OF NEWS RELEASE

¹ Strategic goods refer to goods relating to the development, production and use of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and also conventional arms and military equipment. These include certain "**dual-use**" goods that have both civilian and military applications such as certain electronic components, machine tools, cameras, lasers, cryptography software, and chemicals.

² i.e. electronic transmission via e-mail, fax and internet.