

**Free Trade Zones Act
(CHAPTER 114)**

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FREE TRADE ZONES ACT

(CHAPTER 114)

(Original Enactment: Act 30 of 1966)

REVISED EDITION 2014

(31st May 2014)

An Act to provide for the establishment of free trade zones in Singapore and for matters incidental thereto.

[1st September 1969]

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Free Trade Zones Act.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“authority” means any statutory body or department of the Government or company which has been appointed under section 3(2) to administer, maintain and operate any free trade zone which has been so declared under section 3(1);

“Committee” means the Free Trade Zone Advisory Committee appointed under section 4;

“Director-General” means the Director-General of Customs appointed under section 4(1) of the Customs Act (Cap. 70);

“customs duty” means any customs duty or excise tax imposed under the Customs Act;

“customs territory” means Singapore and the territorial waters of Singapore but excluding any free trade zone;

“dutiable goods” means any goods subject to the payment of customs duty on entry into customs territory or manufactured in Singapore including any free trade zone and on which customs duty has not been paid and includes goods manufactured in a free trade zone from materials of a class dutiable on entry

into customs territory for consumption within the customs territory;

“free trade zone” means any area declared to be a free trade zone under section 3(1);

“goods” includes animals, birds, fish, plants and all kinds of movable property;

“manufacture”, with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions, means the process of converting materials into a new product or article, whether or not by power-operated machinery, whereby a change in tariff classification has been effected; except that the Director-General may, in his discretion, determine that the result of any manufacture is not a new product or article and a change in tariff classification has not been effected;

“officer of customs”, “proper officer of customs” and “senior officer of customs” have the same meanings as in the Customs Act.

[11/97; 33/2000; 4/2003]

Declaration of free trade zones and appointment of authority

3.—(1) The Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, declare any area in Singapore to be a free trade zone and every such notification shall define the limits of that free trade zone.

(2) The Minister may appoint any statutory body or department of the Government or company as the authority to administer, maintain and operate any free trade zone which has been so declared under subsection (1).

Appointment of Free Trade Zone Advisory Committee

4. The Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint a Free Trade Zone Advisory Committee to advise him on all matters connected with free trade zones.

PART II

OPERATIONS PERMITTED WITHIN FREE TRADE ZONE

Dealing with or disposal of goods in free trade zone

5.—(1) Goods of any description, except such as are specifically and absolutely prohibited by any written law, may be brought into a free trade zone.

(2) Goods in a free trade zone may —

(a) be removed from the free trade zone, destroyed, or sent into customs

territory or into another free trade zone in the original package or otherwise; and

- (b) unless otherwise directed by the authority, be stored, sold, exhibited, broken up, repacked, assembled, distributed, sorted, graded, cleaned, mixed, or otherwise manipulated, or be manufactured in accordance with the provisions of this Act,

except that when any goods of a class dutiable on entry into customs territory whether in their original condition or after manufacture or as part or ingredient of any goods manufactured in a free trade zone are sent from a free trade zone into the customs territory, the goods shall be subject to the provisions of the Customs Act (Cap. 70) and any regulations made under that Act.

(3) Goods, except such as are prescribed under subsection (4), which have been brought into a free trade zone from customs territory shall be deemed to be exported for the purpose of drawback under the Customs Act.

(4) Subsection (2)(b) shall not apply to such goods as may be prescribed from time to time by the Minister by notification in the *Gazette*, save that such prescribed goods may be stored in a free trade zone for the purpose of transshipment or survey and repacking before removal into customs territory, and that such survey and repacking shall not be carried out except with the prior permission of a senior officer of customs and shall be subject to such conditions as he may think fit to impose.

Manipulation or manufacture in free trade zone

6.—(1) Any person who intends to assemble, mix or otherwise manipulate any goods or to carry out such manufacture as is permitted under section 10(1) for entry into customs territory, where either the manufactured goods or the materials used in the manufacture of the goods are dutiable, shall give the Director-General notice in writing of his intention and obtain his prior written permission to do so.

(2) Permission under subsection (1) shall be granted or withheld as the Director-General in his discretion shall think fit; except that, if permission is granted, such manipulation or manufacture shall be carried out under customs supervision.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), any manipulation or manufacture permitted under this section shall be subject to the regulations made under this Act and to such conditions as the Director-General may think fit to impose.

(4) The Director-General may, in his discretion, give an allowance for recoverable and irrecoverable waste, but if recoverable waste is sent into customs territory, it shall be dutiable in its condition and quantity and at its weight at the time of entry.