

Customs (Container) Regulations

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CUSTOMS ACT (CHAPTER 70, SECTION 143)

CUSTOMS (CONTAINER) REGULATIONS

Rg 1

G.N. No. S 6/1975

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(30th September 2002)

[11th January 1975]

Citation

- 1.** These Regulations may be cited as the Customs (Container) Regulations.

Definitions

- 2.** In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“container” means a box, tank or container of standard dimensions which —

- (a)** is specially constructed for the safe carriage of goods;
- (b)** is of permanent character and can be used more than once;

- (c) is specially designed to facilitate carriage of goods by one or more modes of transport;
- (d) is fitted with devices which enable it to be locked and sealed;
- (e) has an internal volume of at least one cubic metre; and
- (f) has conspicuous and permanent identification marks;

“container freight station” means a place designated by the Director-General for the storage of —

- (a) goods after they have been unstuffed from containers or to be stuffed into containers; and
- (b) containers which have goods therein;

“container terminal” means a berth or wharf designated by the Director-General as a place from which containers are loaded on or unloaded from vessels, as the case may be;

“full container load”, in relation to a container, means a container with goods for one consignee only or a container with goods from one consignor only, as the case may be;

“less than full container load”, in relation to a container, means a container with goods for more than one consignee or a container with goods from more than one consignor, as the case may be.

Permit required for containers for transhipment

3.—(1) No container which has any goods therein and is imported or intended for transhipment shall be removed from the ship wherein they arrived or from the Woodlands Train Checkpoint if imported by train, or beyond the customs station at Woodlands or Tuas if imported by road, except under a permit issued by the proper officer of customs and in accordance with all the conditions specified in the permit.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), no permit shall be required for the removal by an authority administering a free trade zone of any container from a vessel direct into such free trade zone, if a full and correct inward manifest required under section 39 of the Act has been furnished to the proper officer of customs.

Permit required for movement of loaded containers

4. No container which has any goods therein may be moved from a container terminal to a consignee’s premises or to a container freight station inside customs territory except under a permit issued by the proper officer of customs and in accordance with all the

conditions specified in the permit.

Containers to be unstuffed at freight station

5. Every container with less than full container load shall be unstuffed in a container freight station unless a senior officer of customs otherwise requires.

Damaged containers

6. Any container damaged on import shall be brought to the attention of the proper officer of customs and may not be removed from the customs station at Woodlands or Tuas or from the Woodlands Train Checkpoint or from a container terminal, as the case may be, without the prior permission of a senior officer of customs.

Tampered seals to be notified to customs officer

7.—(1) The owner of a container or the agent appointed by him to take charge of or to manage the container shall forthwith notify the proper officer of customs if any seal placed on the container is found by the owner or agent to be tampered with, opened, broken, altered or removed on import.

(2) Such container shall not be removed from the customs station at Woodlands or Tuas or from the Woodlands Train Checkpoint or from a container terminal, as the case may be, without the prior permission of a senior officer of customs.

Permit to contain full description of contents of container

8.—(1) Where a permit to move a container from a container terminal to the consignee's premises is issued under regulation 4, that permit shall contain a full description of the contents of the container.

(2) Where a permit to move a container from a container terminal to a container freight station inside customs territory is issued under regulation 4, that permit shall contain the particulars shown in the ship's manifest and the container markings.

Permit required for removal of container

9. No container which has any goods therein may be removed from a consignor's premises or container freight station to a container terminal except in accordance with a permit, issued by the proper officer of customs, authorising the removal.

Supervision for stuffing and unstuffing

10. The stuffing and unstuffing of every container shall be carried out under the supervision of the proper officer of customs unless a senior officer of customs otherwise requires.

Permission for use of terminal or station in customs territory

11.—(1) No person shall, inside customs territory, make use of or operate a container terminal or container freight station to store, import or export any containerised goods without the written permission of the Director-General and except in accordance with such conditions as the Director-General may impose.

(2) Any person applying for such permission shall furnish the following particulars:

- (a) his name, identity card number and address;
- (b) the name of his firm and, if the applicant is a company, the name of the company;
- (c) the type and quantity of goods to be removed from, stored or moved into the container terminal or container freight station;
- (d) an estimate of the annual duty which shall be paid by him on goods removed from a container freight station, where permission to make use of or to operate the container freight station is applied for;
- (e) a site plan of the entire container terminal or container freight station, as the case may be, showing access roads and the buildings to be constructed thereon and the boundary or area thereof; and
- (f) where permission to make use of or to operate a container freight station is applied for, a plan of any building to be used for —
 - (i) stuffing containers;
 - (ii) unstuffing containers;
 - (iii) storage of dutiable goods pending stuffing or removal by consignees on payment of duty thereon, or for export, transshipment, or removal to a Government warehouse or licensed warehouse, as the case may be; and
 - (iv) accommodation for officers of customs in any area in the container freight station, which is to be used as a licensed warehouse or for the stuffing and unstuffing of containers.

(3) Upon receiving an application made under paragraph (2), the Director-General may grant such permission subject to such conditions as he thinks fit or refuse to grant it.

(4) The Director-General may, at any time, vary or revoke any condition of any permission granted under this regulation or impose conditions or additional conditions thereto.