

Notice to Traders



Hong Kong Customs Implements Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Authorized Economic Operators with Thailand Customs



The Hong Kong-Thailand Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on the Authorized Economic Operators (AEOs) becomes operational with effect from **28 November 2019**.

The Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) signed the MRA with the Thailand Customs on 11 June 2015. The MRA not only fosters closer cooperation between C&ED and its counterpart in Thailand in promoting a secure and efficient flow of goods in the international supply chain, but also further strengthens the trade competitiveness of Hong Kong companies in Thailand.

Under the MRA, local companies accredited by the C&ED as AEOs can enjoy Customs facilitation, such as reduced examination or prioritized clearance, for goods exported to Thailand upon arrival. Similarly, companies which have been certified by the Thailand Customs as AEOs will have their exported goods cleared expeditiously upon arrival in Hong Kong.

To enjoy clearance facilitation under the MRA, AEOs have to follow the procedures for the implementation of the Hong Kong-Thailand MRA at **Annex**.

Joining the Hong Kong AEO Programme

If you are not a Hong Kong AEO right now, you are cordially invited to join the Hong Kong AEO Programme to enjoy the clearance facilitation. Please contact our AEO Enquiry Hotline at 3759 2153 or visit our AEO website (http://www.customs.gov.hk/en/trade_facilitation/aeo/index.html) for more information about the Programme.

For enquiries on this Notice, please contact us at 3759 2153.

Customs and Excise Department

**Procedures to Enjoy Mutual Recognition Benefits
Under
Hong Kong – Thailand MRA**

Hong Kong AEO Exporting Consignments to Thailand

1. Your company should provide the following information accurately in shipping documents when exporting consignments to Thailand:
 - A. Company name certified under the Hong Kong AEO Programme
 - B. Country code (i.e. HK)
 - C. HK AEO code

2. Importers / Customs brokers in Thailand will input the above information when lodging import declarations to Thailand Customs through Thai Customs Electronic System (TCES). On **Import Declaration Control (Invoice)** of TCES, the above information will be entered through the following data fields:
 - D. Exporter Name (To input < *Company name certified under the Hong Kong AEO Programme* >)
 - A. Country Code (To input < *Country code (i.e. HK)* >)
 - B. AEO Ref. No. (To input < *HK AEO code* >)

3. TCES will recognize the AEO status of your company and Customs facilitation will be granted.

Importing Thailand AEO Consignments into Hong Kong

1. Your company should ask exporters in Thailand (if they are AEO companies) to accurately furnish their **Company Names** and **Operating Addresses** certified under the Thai AEO Programme, together with other cargo information, to their carriers (i.e. Airlines or Container lines).

2. Carriers will use such information in completing cargo manifests of the conveyances, which will be used for Customs clearance by the Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department.