Notice to Traders



Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Authorized Economic Operators between Hong Kong and Mainland Customs Amendment on the Procedures of Filling in the AEO Code in the Mainland



The Hong Kong-Mainland Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Authorized Economic Operators (AEO) has been fully implemented since 1 September 2014.

In response to the Mainland Customs' amendment on the procedures of filling in the AEO Code to the manifest and import/export cargo declaration systems, the latest procedures to fill in the AEO Code in the Mainland is now listed in **Annex 1**. The amendment becomes operational with effect from 1 November 2018. The Hong Kong importers and exporters are required to provide the required information in accordance with the amended procedures of the Hong Kong-Mainland AEO MRA to enjoy clearance facilitation.

Under the MRA, local companies accredited by Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) as AEOs can enjoy clearance facilitation, such as reduced examination or prioritized clearance, for goods exported to the Mainland upon arrival. Similarly, companies which have been certified by the Mainland Customs according to the "Measures for Enterprise Credit Management by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China" as "Advanced Certified Enterprises" [former "AA" Enterprises (equivalent to AEO)] will have their exported goods cleared expeditiously upon arrival in Hong Kong.

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 (https://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 - Mainland MRA

Hong Kong AEO Exporting Consignments to Mainland

1. Your company should convert your **HKAEO** number by deleting the first three characters "AEO".

Example:

Original HKAEO number	Converted HKAEO number
AEOHK0123456789	HK0123456789

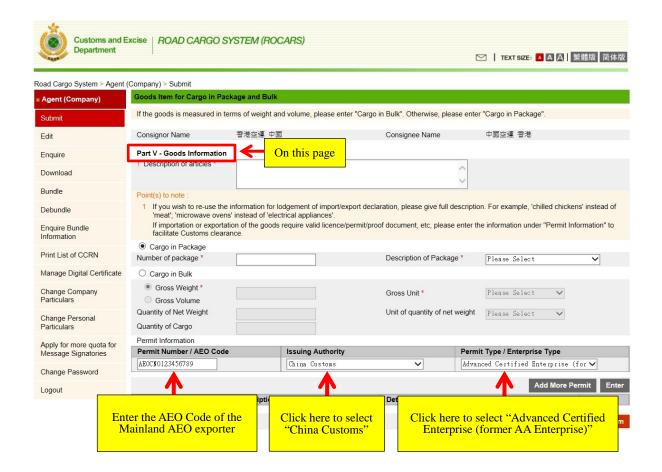
- 2. Provide the **converted HKAEO number** (i.e. **HK0123456789**) to importers or relevant companies in Mainland for their import declarations to the Mainland Customs.
- 3. The importers or relevant companies in Mainland should direct their customs brokers to input your **converted HKAEO number** to the "Shipper's AEO Code" field of the sea, road and air Manifests, as well as to the "Overseas Consignee" field of the Import and Export Cargo Declaration Form of the People's Republic of China.

Mainland AEO 1 Importing into Hong Kong

For Road Cargo

- 1. Your company should obtain the **China AEO Code** (i.e. **AEOCNxxxxxxxxxx**) from exporters in the Mainland (if they are AEO companies) before submitting electronic advance cargo information to Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) through the **Road Cargo System** (**ROCARS**).
- 2. In submitting cargo information to the ROCARS, your company should input (apart from the predefined set of cargo information) the China AEO Code into "Part V Goods Information" section. You should simply:
 - input the "China AEO Code" of the Mainland AEO exporter into the "Permit Number / AEO Code" field;
 - select "China Customs" in the "Issuing Authority" field; and
 - select "Advanced Certified Enterprise (former AA Enterprise)" in the "Permit Type / Enterprise Type" field.
- 3. Please refer to the screen capture for the above inputs on next page.

Mainland companies which have been certified by the Mainland Customs as "Advanced Certified Enterprises" (former "AA Enterprises") are AEOs



For Air and Sea Cargo

- 1. Your company should ask exporters in the Mainland (if they are AEO companies) to accurately furnish their **Company Names** and **Addresses** registered in the Industrial and Commercial Registration Office, 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 C&ED.