

Notice to Traders



Hong Kong Customs Implements Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Authorized Economic Operators with New Zealand Customs for Sea Cargo



The Hong Kong-New Zealand Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on the Authorized Economic Operators (AEOs) becomes operational for sea cargo with effect from **22 February 2019**.

The Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) signed the MRA with the New Zealand Customs Service (NZCS) on 28 June 2018. The MRA not only fosters closer cooperation between C&ED and its counterpart in New Zealand in promoting a secure and efficient flow of goods in the international supply chain, but also further strengthens the trade competitiveness of local companies in New Zealand.

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 New Zealand upon arrival. Similarly, companies which have been certified by the NZCS under the New Zealand Secure Exports Scheme (SES) will have their exported goods cleared expeditiously upon arrival in Hong Kong.

To enjoy clearance facilitation during import and export under the MRA, please follow the procedures for the implementation of the Hong Kong-New Zealand MRA at **Annex I**.

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 – New Zealand MRA**

Hong Kong AEO Exporting Consignments to New Zealand

1. The New Zealand Customs Service (NZCS) has recorded the AEO status of your company in its computer system and Customs facilitation will be granted when your importers / Customs brokers in New Zealand lodge import declarations to NZCS. Your company is not required to provide your HK AEO number or further information to your counterparts in New Zealand when exporting AEO consignments to New Zealand.

Importing New Zealand SES Consignments into Hong Kong

1. Your company should ask exporters in New Zealand (if they are New Zealand Secure Exports Scheme (SES) certified companies) to accurately furnish their **Company Names** and **Operating Addresses** certified under the SES, 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.