



दि प्लास्टिक्स एक्सपोर्ट प्रमोशन कौन्सिल

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THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

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26th September, 2017

All Members/All Members of the COA

Dear Sir,

Subject : Clarifications regarding RFID Electronic Seals under Self Sealing Procedure Implementation Deferred till 1st Nov 2017

Central Board of Customs and Excise has issued circular no. 37/2017 Dt. 20.09.2017 with clarifications about the Electronic Sealing for Containers by Exporters under Self-Sealing Procedure and also deferred implementation till 1st Nov 2017.

The important points are being highlighted below :-

- 1) Considering the difficulties expressed by trade associations in locating vendors of RFID seals, CBEC has decided that the date for mandatory self-sealing and use of RFID container seals is deferred to 1st November, 2017.
- 2) The existing practice may continue till such time. It is also provided that exporters are free to voluntarily adopt the new self-sealing procedure based upon RFID sealing, if readers are in place at the customs station of export from 01.10.2017.
- 3) In order to ensure that electronic seals deployed are of a reliable quality, the Board has adopted international standards laid down under ISO 17712:2013 for high security seals and prescribed that all vendors proposing to offer RFID Tamper Proof One-Time-Bolt Container Seals to exporters for self-sealing, must submit self-attested certificates from seal manufacturers to the Director (Customs), CBEC, North Block, New Delhi before commencing sales. Where the certification is found to comply with the requirements of the ISO standard, the names of such vendors shall be put up on the Board's website (www.cbec.gov.in) for ease of reference of the trade and field formations, as soon as they are received.
- 4) The RFID Seal vendors shall also produce a contract or communication between the vendor and manufacturer, to serve as a link document and undertake that the seals for which ISO certifications are submitted are the same seals pressed into service.
- 5) Any time a vendor changes his manufacturer-supplier, he shall provide the documentation referred in para 3 of circular 36/2017-Customs to the CBEC, before offering the seals for sale.

6) Clarification on type/ specification of the Web Hosted Application : While each vendor may develop and design their own web-enabled application, for the purposes of consistency in process of communication with the customs stations and the RMD, each vendor shall provide information as specified in para 4 (b) of circular 36/2017-Customs to the department by email in excel format or any other format that may be specified by any field formation or RMD. This would permit ease of consolidation of multiple feeds at the customs station and data integration. All field formations are advised to communicate the designation based email addresses to the vendors, once the list is placed on the website.

7) As a measure of data integrity and security of sealing, vendors are also required to ensure that the Tag Identification (TID) number is captured in their data base and the IEC code of the exporter is linked to the same at the time of sale of the seals. Upon reading at the Port / ICD, the software application shall ensure that the seal's identity is checked with its TID. Beyond this prescribed minimum feature, vendors will remain free to build upon any other features of RFID system for enhancing security / functionalities.

8) For the ease of reference of the exporters, vendors are advised to publicise on their website, name of each port / ICD where they have provided readers. Custodians and Customs brokers/CHA are also advised to proactively engage with vendors regarding availability of reading facilities at container terminals and ICDs so that there is no dislocation to logistics operations.

9) Apprehensions have been expressed by trade regarding the availability of reading facilities in hinterland ICDs. In view thereof, custodians of ICDs are requested to facilitate the process of receiving handheld readers or installation of fixed readers at the ICDs and to approach the Board in case readers are not made available by vendors at any ICD by 10th October, 2017

The original circular is available using below link for download-

<http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2017/circ37-2017cs.pdf>

Members are requested to take note of the deferred date, clarifications and do the needful accordingly. Issues faced in this regard, may be communicated to the council on e-mail id at bharti@plexconcil.org.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sribash Dasmohapatra

Executive Director