

Update on Legislation and Control - Singapore

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Scope of Presentation

- Legislation
 - ❖ *Relevant Acts and Regulations*
 - ❖ *Policies on TBM*
- Border Controls
 - ❖ *Singapore TradeNet System*
 - ❖ *Enforcement Agencies*
- Challenges

Legislation

- Environmental Public Health Act
 - ❖ Environmental Public Health (General Waste Collection) Regulations
 - ❖ Environmental Public Health (Toxic Industrial Waste) Regulations
- Hazardous Waste (Control of Export, Import and Transit) Act & Regulations

HW Management & Control

- Adopts the Basel Convention in the control of hazardous wastes.
- PIC and Basel Permits are required for the import and export of hazardous e-waste into /out of Singapore.
- Does not encourage import/export of wastes for final disposal
- Import/ export of wastes for recycling in environmentally sound facilities considered on a case by case basis

Policy on Import and Export of Used EEE

Examples of
import of used
EEE for repair /
refurbishment

Faulty equipment for repair under RMA warranty
(eg. Hard disks)

Faulty equipment for repair by company having
contractual agreement with the manufacturer /
owner

Faulty or off-spec equipment for repair followed by
re-branding and subsequently sold as brand new
product with warranty

Faulty equipment for asset recovery or (i.e. reuse,
repair or recycle) by approved recycling facilities
only

BORDER CONTROLS



Singapore TradeNet® System

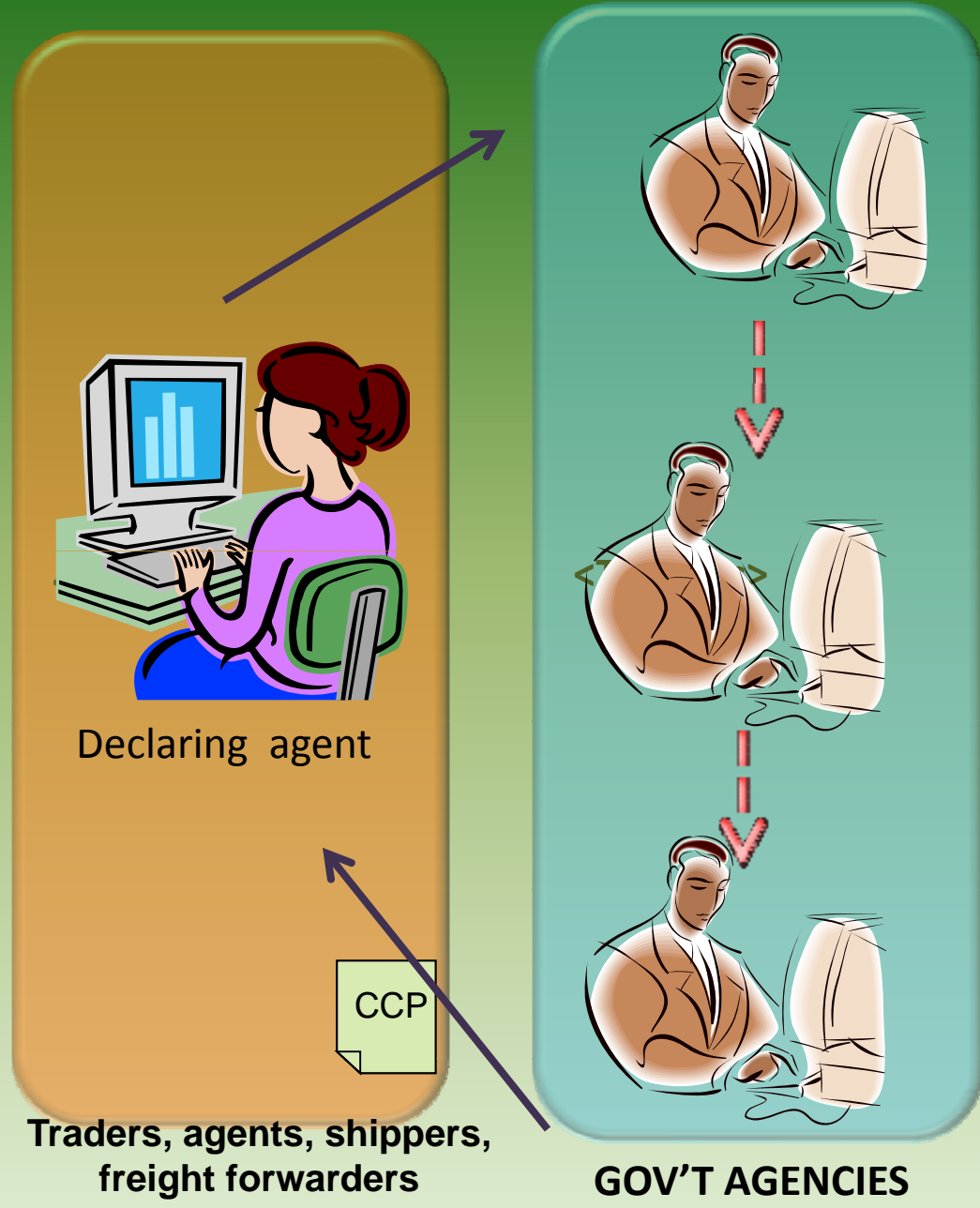
- One-stop web-based platform which provides the trading community with an electronic means of submitting trade documents to all relevant government authorities (Singapore Customs and the controlling agencies) for their processing, through a single electronic window.
- Since Oct 2007, import/export shipment of used electronic and electrical appliances (including second hand electronic and electrical appliances) are required to be made to NEA through the TradeNet system.
- <https://www.tradenet.gov.sg/tradenet/default.portal>

Singapore TradeNet® System

- Declarant declares the import / export using HS Codes and Product Codes
- Product codes assigned to different type of e-wastes eg. Import shipment of used PDAs for repair & refurbishment – HS Code: 84713010; Product Code: PCTWCB032.

68*	84713010	WASTE HANDHELD COMPUTERS INCL PALMTOPS & PERSONAL DIGITAL ASSISTANTS FOR RECYCLING	PCTWCB030	TNE
69*	84713010	USED HANDHELD COMPUTERS INCL PALMTOPS & PERSONAL DIGITAL ASSISTANTS FOR DIRECT REUSE	PCTWCB031	NMB
70*	84713010	USED HANDHELD COMPUTERS INCL PALMTOPS & PERSONAL DIGITAL ASSISTANTS FOR REPAIR AND/OR REFURBISHMENT	PCTWCB032	NMB

TradeNet Approval Process



Submission through TradeNet. Documents required:

- a) Invoice, packing list
- b) Shipment / transport documents
- c) Undertaking letter that equipment is in good working condition (used EEE)
- d) NEA's approval letter / Permit (e-wastes)

(a) NEA vets through application.
(b) Approves application
(Suspicious shipments can be sealed for further inspection)

(a) Customs vets application
(b) Issues Cargo Clearance Permit.

Enforcement

(Co-ordination with other national agencies)

- In the enforcement against illegal hazardous waste shipments SC and NEA work closely with other agencies as follows:
 - Maritime & Port Authority (MPA)
 - PSA Corporation
 - Immigration & Checkpoint Authority (ICA)
- Other than hazardous waste shipments, SC also work closely with NEA on other environmentally sensitive goods such as hazardous chemicals and ozone depleting substances
- The cooperation and coordination are in the following areas:
 - Sharing of intelligence or feedback obtained on illegal movements
 - Joint inspections and investigation
 - Training
 - Development of risk profiles

Key Enforcement Agencies on Hazardous Wastes

National Environment Agency

Competent Authority for Basel Convention.
Implements the requirements and obligations under
the Basel Convention.
Enforces relevant legislations to control TBM of HW.

Immigration & Checkpoint Authority

Border enforcement at the checkpoints.
Ensures legitimate movement of people, goods and
conveyances through checkpoints.
Physical presence at checkpoints to check cargo &
travellers.

Singapore Customs

Administer the TradeNet which regulate and control
all imports, exports & transit declarations including
hazardous waste

Cooperation with industries

- NEA also works with stakeholders (importers & exporters, recyclers, customs, etc) to
 - Evaluate implications of controls; and
 - Discuss on proposed tightening of controls
- NEA informs traders of the controls via:
 - Briefings
 - Circulars to all traders through the TRADENET system
 - NEA's website on "Control of Hazardous wastes"

Challenges Ahead

- Illegal transboundary movements and mismanagement of hazardous wastes may occur through many causes as follows:
 - False declaration
 - Ignorance among industries and traders on hazardous waste issues
 - Confusion among industries and traders on the different definitions of hazardous wastes between countries, especially common consumer items that they deal with everyday such as used electronic goods
 - Weakening economy
 - Companies may use recycling facilities as a front to receive hazardous wastes which are then channeled elsewhere and not recycled at facilities;
 - Companies cutting down on health and safety measures



Thank you

THANK YOU