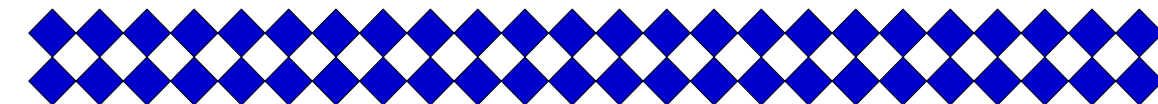


ASEAN CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

COMPLIANCE BULETIN

3RD ISSUE / 2012



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BRUNEI DARUSSALAM AND EXCISE

Case 1 - 1520 Turtle Eggs Seized In Temburong Customs Control Post

Date and Time of Offence		20 th July 2010	
Place of Offence		Control Post Labu, Temburong Brunei	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Veachel number	Bas Passenger	Flight number	
Routing	From Sandakan Sabah to Brunei Darussalam	Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex	Male	Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality	Bruneian	Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	1520 turtle eggs	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)	RM 1050	Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)*			
<p>A total of 1520 turtle eggs seized from a bus passenger. The bus was travelling from kota kinabalu, Malaysia. Customs officers in Labu, Temburong Brunei had made an inspection to the said bus and found numbers of turtle eggs kept in two luggage. Initial investigation revealed that it belonged to one of the passenger, a Bruneian.</p> <p>The man stated he bought the turtle eggs in Sandakan Sabah for RM 1050. He further stated he always brought in turtle eggs whenever his trip to Sandakan and would normally bring 500 eggs and never declare.</p> <p>A further investigation revealed his purposed of bringing the turtle eggs were to sell it off mostly to his friends, B\$10.00 for 12 turtle eggs and the proceeds from sale are for his ticket expenses to Sandakan where it would cost him about B\$100.</p>			
Case Photos*		Additional Information/ General Profiling*	
Please see attached photo images		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conceal in (2) Two Travel Beg LuggageThe case has not been brought to the court. The defendant may face two charges u/s 140 (1) of the Customs Order, 2006 and u/s 8(1) Cap.102 of the Wild Life Protection Act	

Attached Photo Images



Conceal in Travel Luggage



1520 Turtle Eggs Seized

Case 2 - Hefty Fined Face By A Foreigner Fisherman

Date and Time of Offence		6th June 2011	
Place of Offence		Coastal Water Off Serasa Beach	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number	Boat	Flight number	
Routing	From Pekan Sundar,Malaysia	Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex	Male	Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality	Bruneian	Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	the total quantity of the cigarettes were 200 cartons	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)	\$1,265.00	Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <p>Brunei Marine Police officers of the Royal Brunei Police Force stopped a grey/red-coloured boat owned by the defendant on the coastal water off Serasa Beach. The defendant was the boat conductor together with his 9 years old son as a passenger .He informed the Marine Police that they went fishing since 4 pm in the afternoon at Pasir Tinggi (Awat-Awat) Sarawak.</p> <p>During the inspection, the Marine Police officers asked the defendant to lift the fishing net where they found a blue canvas sheet underneath. As the blue canvas was lifted, the officers found four boxes under it and the defendant confessed that all the boxes contained cigarettes. The case was handed over to Royal Customs and Excise Department Brunei for further investigation. In the investigation, the defendant admitted he collect the cigarettes in Pekan Sundar,Malaysia from a Chinese male and paid a total sum of \$1,265.00 and the total quantity of the cigarettes were 200 cartons.</p>			
Case Photos* <p style="text-align: center;">Please see attached photo images</p>		Additional Information/ General Profiling* <p>On 15th September 2011, a Foreigner who were a fulltime fisherman was fined B\$100,000 by the Magistrate Court Bandar Seri Begawan and was ordered to pay on that day or served imprisonment sentence of 10 months. The defendant was unable to pay and was sent to jail.</p>	

Attached Photo Images



Under Blue Canvas Sheet Underneath the Fishing Net



Total Quantity of the Cigarettes were 200 Cartons

Case 3 - Failed To Declare 29,750 Cartons of Cigarettes

Date and Time of Offence		7th November 2011	
Place of Offence		Customs Control Post Sungai Tujoh in Kuala Belait	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number	Container Truck	Flight number	
Routing	Miri-Lawas, Malaysia via Brunei	Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex	Male	Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality	Bruneian	Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	the total quantity of the cigarettes were 200 cartons	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)	\$1,265.00	Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <p>Brunei Marine Police officers of the Royal Brunei Police Force stopped a grey/red-coloured boat owned by the defendant on the coastal water off Serasa Beach. The defendant was the boat conductor together with his 9 years old son as a passenger. He informed the Marine Police that they went fishing since 4 pm in the afternoon at Pasir Tinggi (Awat-Awat) Sarawak.</p> <p>During the inspection, the Marine Police officers asked the defendant to lift the fishing net where they found a blue canvas sheet underneath. As the blue canvas was lifted, the officers found four boxes under it and the defendant confessed that all the boxes contained cigarettes. The case was handed over to Royal Customs and Excise Department Brunei for further investigation. In the investigation, the defendant admitted he collect the cigarettes in Pekan Sundar, Malaysia from a Chinese male and paid a total sum of \$1,265.00 and the total quantity of the cigarettes were 200 cartons.</p>			
Case Photos* <p style="text-align: center;">Please see attached photo images</p>		Additional Information/ General Profiling* <p>The case were brought to Magistrate Court Bandar Seri Begawan on the 10th January 2012 where both drivers faced charge under section 138 (1) Customs Order, 2006 for false declaration and were fined B\$10,000 individually.</p>	

Attached Photo Images



Total Quantity of the Cigarettes were 29,750 Cartons

Case 4 - Modified Fuel Tanks Suspected For Refueling

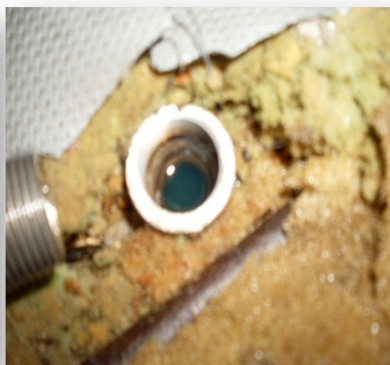
Date and Time of Offence		11th January 2012	
Place of Offence		Customs Control Post Kuala Lurah	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number	Van	Flight number	
Routing	Exit Brunei Via Limbang, Malaysia	Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex	Male	Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality		Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	Diesel Fuel	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)		Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customs officers detained the defendant on the 11th January 2012 when the vehicle he drove was about to exit Brunei via Customs Control Post in Kuala Lurah. Inspection was conducted to the said vehicle and Customs found out there were modified fuel tanks under the rear passenger's seat suspected for refueling. Customs also found three gallons of Diesel Fuel at the car boot. Investigation revealed that the defendant modified the fuel tanks and admitted he used hose to transferred fuels from drums to the modified tanks for exporting the fuel out of Brunei. 			
Case Photos* <p style="text-align: center;">Please see attached photo images</p>		Additional Information/ General Profiling* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the 12th January 2012, a foreigner was fine \$10,000 by the Magistrate Court Bandar Seri Begawan for the offence of exporting without a license by the Controller Of Customs to wit, 349 liters of Diesoline. Fuel is a subsidize goods in Negara Brunei Darussalam. In an attempt at fraudulent evasion of a prohibition of export applicable to Diesoline, under the Customs 	

Continue*

(Prohibition and Restriction on Import and Export) (Amendment) Order 1978 is an offence under section 140 (1) (g) of the Customs Order 2006 where it carries a penalty as follow; for the first offence, to a fine of not less than \$10,000 and not exceeding \$ 500,000, imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or both; and

- For a second or subsequent offence, to a fine of not less than \$20,000 and not exceeding \$500,000 imprisonment for a term of not less than 6 months and not exceeding 5 years or both.

Attached Photo Images



Modified the Fuel Tank

Case 5 - Technician Fine For Contraband Goods

Date and Time of Offence		6th April 2011	
Place of Offence		Customs Control Post Sungai Tujoh in Kuala Belait	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number	Saloon Car	Flight number	
Routing	Entering Brunei from Miri, Sarawak	Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex	Male	Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality		Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	61 Cartons of various brands cigarettes	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)		Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> While conducting routine inspection to vehicles entering Brunei from Miri, Sarawak, and a particular car driven by a Chinese male was suspected to have in possession contraband goods. This was deduced from the uncertain behavior of the man as he stopped for Customs inspection. Initial inspection was carried out on the rear boot but nothing was found. Feeling unsatisfied, Customs Officials continue the inspection to the front engine boot and just as suspected found a canvas bag containing cartons of cigarettes. 			
Case Photos* <p style="text-align: center;">Please see attached photo images</p>		Additional Information/ General Profiling* <p>The man was charge under section 146 (1) (d) of Excise Order, 2006 for the possession of cigarettes and was sentenced to a fine of B\$31,000.</p>	

Attached Photo Images



Case 6 - Cigarettes Under The Heap Of Stones

Date and Time of Offence			
Place of Offence		Quarry Stones at the Industrial Area	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number	Lorry	Flight number	
Routing		Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex	Male	Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality	Indonesian	Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	250 cartons various brand of cigarettes	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)		Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <p>After a few days of monitoring and observation, a group of Customs Preventive Personnel succeeded in detaining a lorry with full load of quarry stones at the Industrial Area. The industrial area identify is the place by some of the truck driver to retrieve cigarettes they have concealed under the heap of stones and passed them to the buyer before continue driving to a proper place to unload the stones.</p> <p>As soon as the truck passed the Customs Control Post, a group of Preventive officers followed the truck until it arrived at the Industrial area. The other group who had been placed somewhere around the area kept an eye on the truck. The driver stopped the truck then climbed up and dug the stone trying to get something. Preventive officers went close to the lorry, approached the driver and introduce themselves. The officers asked the driver what he was up to and the driver was slightly shocked and tried to swindle by saying he was only checking the lorry's condition. The officers were not amused with his answer and proceed to climb up the lorry and founded a black plastic bag believed to have contained contraband goods. The officers then asked the driver to open the plastic bag and found several cartons of cigarettes. The driver believe to be an Indonesian National together with the lorry was brought to loading area escorted by Customs Preventive, however when they arrived at the road junction the driver immediately stopped and jumped out of the lorry and dashed off to the nearby bushes. The officers tried to chased him but to no avail. A thorough inspection was conducted where they unloaded the stones and witnessed by the owner of the quarry's company.</p>			
Case Photos* Please see attached photo images		Additional Information/ General Profiling*	

Attached Photo Images



Case 7 - Cookies Tin-A Mode Of Operation To Conceal Pills And Drugs

Date and Time of Offence			
Place of Offence		Customs Control Post Sungai Tujoh in Kuala Belait	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number		Flight number	
Routing	Flight from Thailand to Brunei	Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex	Male	Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality	Bruneian	Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	3 Kg and several hundred types of pills related drugs	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)		Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <p>An attempt to smuggle drugs weighing about 3 kg and several hundred types of pills related drugs was a failure as Customs officers succeeded in breaking the intent to smuggle drugs. The suspects were local resident of Brunei, work as Airline Crew and believe to be boarded flight from Thailand. Duty officers had monitored the 2 suspects from; when they get off the plane, passport verification and at the luggage collection. Initially the 2nd suspect approached the Customs inspection counter while the main suspect waits and hovering at the luggage collection. When the 2nd suspect were brought in to a room for thorough inspection, the other officers saw the main suspect let off one luggage from the trolley and proceeded to the inspection counter.</p> <p>Inspection was conducted on the main suspect and nothing was found. Before the suspect was released, duty officers asked the suspect regards to the luggage that he left at the luggage collection. At first the suspect denied but eventually admitted he left it there. The suspect together with Customs officials went to the luggage collection to collect the said luggage. A thorough inspection on the said luggage were done and the officers founded few numbers of cookies tin in the luggage contained several hundreds of pills (Steroid) and the officers proceed to inspect other cookies tin where they found contained 3 pieces/bars believed to be drugs wrapped with plastics and covered with biscuits on top. Both suspects were detained and handed over to Narcotic Control Bureau for further action and investigation with regards to their involvement on the drugs that were discovered.</p>			
Case Photos* <p>Please see attached photo images</p>		Additional Information/ General Profiling*	

Attached Photo Images



COMBODIA CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

Case 1 - Diversion Of Goods “Diesel”

Date and Time of Offence		20th November 2011	
Place of Offence		Sea Area of Koh Kog Province	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number		Flight number	
Routing		Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex		Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality		Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	98,204 Liters of Diesel	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)		Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <p>Cambodia Customs Marine Office (CCMO) which is under supervision of Department of Prevention and Suppression of Offence (DPSO), General Department of Cambodia Customs and Excise (CCE), has seized 98,204 liters of diesel in the sea area of Koh Kong province, when the goods are illegally discharged from a vessel used to carry barge to small boat. The barge is not oil tanker barge and vessel is not oil tanker vessel. So the discharge is contraband which is under the type of modus of operandi of violation of customs law and regulation known as illegal diversion of goods. The diesel is hidden in vessel's tank.</p> <p>After CCMO receives intelligence which based on the reliable information provided by informer, CCMO officials patrolled the area and meet the suspicious activity of discharging diesel from the vessel to boat. CCMO officials asked for documents allowing or permitting the discharge of goods, but both captain and boat owner have nothing to show our officials. Then the vessel and boat are taken to the CCMO station in Preah Sihanouk-ville province. By the customs law and regulations, the case [diesel goods and vessel] is filled with offence record/report to the Dispute Settlement Office for administrative decision. For this case, the persons involved are not arrested because the case is not criminal offence. The result is in a heavy penalty on both goods and vessel.</p>			
Case Photos* <p style="text-align: center;">Please see attached photo images</p>		Additional Information/ General Profiling*	

[Attached Photo Images](#)



Cambodia Customs Marine Office seized the vessel and boat when they discharge illegally diesel from vessel to boat.

Case 2 - Smuggling Of Leo Beer

Date and Time of Offence		17th June 2010	
Place of Offence		Odar Mean Chey	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number		Flight number	
Routing		Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex		Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality		Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	3,400 cartons or 81,600 cans of "Leo" Beer	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)		Value (in B\$)	

Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)*

Customs Investigation and Anti-smuggling Office (CIAO) of the Department of Prevention and Suppression of Offence (DPSO) in cooperation with Customs Sub-branch of Odar Mean Chey, General Department of Cambodia Customs and Excise (CCE), has seized 3,400 cartons or 81,600 cans of "Leo" beer in Odar Mean Chey which bordered with Thailand. The goods are not duty paid because when asked for customs declaration and duty payment receipt, the owner has nothing to prove the consignment and transportation. More important proof is that the goods are not affixed of customs duty stamps as required by customs regulations. The goods are from Thailand. Thus, the case is contraband under the type of modus of operandi of smuggling or non declaration. The goods are hidden in truck covered by plastic sheet.

After CIAO received intelligence with reliable information provided by informer, CIAO officials ambush the truck near the customs checkpoint and stop the truck for checking and questioning. CIAO officials ask for documents relating to import and duty payment of goods, but the owner have nothing to show our officials. Then the truck and goods (Leo Beer) are taken to the Customs station in Siem Reap province for detailed check. As result, implementing customs law and regulations, the case [Leo beer goods and vehicle] is filed with offence record/report to the Dispute Settlement Office for administrative decision. For this case, the persons involved are not arrested because the case is not criminal offence. The result is in a heavy penalty on both goods and vehicle.

Case Photos* <p>Please see attached photo images</p>	Additional Information/ General Profiling*
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[Attached Photo Images](#)

(No Picture Available)

Case 3 - Smuggling of Handset of Nokia Cell Phone

Date and Time of Offence		26th May 2010	
Place of Offence		Phnom Penh	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number		Flight number	
Routing		Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex		Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality		Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	350 Units of Handset of Cell Phone "Nokia" Brand	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)		Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <p>Customs Investigation and Anti-smuggling Office (CIAO) of the Department of Prevention and Suppression of Offence (DPSO), General Department of Cambodia Customs and Excise (CCE), has seized 350 units of handset of cell phone "Nokia" brand, in Phnom Penh. There is no specification of source of goods and transportation route in this case. The goods are not locally produced because Cambodia has no factory for such production. The goods are not duty paid because when asked for customs declaration and duty payment receipt, the owner has nothing to prove the consignment and transportation. Thus, the case is contraband under the type of modus of operandi of smuggling or non declaration. The goods are hidden in light container truck.</p>			
Case Photos* <p style="text-align: center;">Please see attached photo images</p>		Additional Information/ General Profiling*	

[Attached Photo Images](#)

(No Picture Available)

Case 4 - Smuggling Of Luxurious Wood

Date and Time of Offence		17th August 2010	
Place of Offence		Prey Veng Province	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number		Flight number	
Routing		Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex		Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality		Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	469 Pieces of Luxurious Wood	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)		Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <p>Customs Investigation and Anti-smuggling Office (CIAO) of the Department of Prevention and Suppression of Offence (DPSO), General Department of Cambodia Customs and Excise (CCE), has seized 469 pieces of luxurious wood in Prey Veng province. There is an indication of route which is from Odar Mean Chey to Cambodia-Vietnam border for this case. Wood is restricted goods which required a license for export, and a transport permit for transporting. The investigation result is that the goods consignment of wood is attempted for export without license. When asked for documents of proof (license, transport permit and other relevant paper of legal source of wood etc...), the driver who is representative of the owner has not any document to prove the consignment and transportation. Thus, the case is contraband of attempted violation of customs law and other national laws. The goods are loaded into 2 trucks. After CIAO receives intelligence with reliable information provided by informer, CIAO officials chase to stop the vehicle for checking and questioning. When CIAO officials ask for documents relating to the source of wood, license, transport permit etc..., the driver has nothing to show our officials. Then the vehicle and goods (luxurious wood) are taken to the CIAO Temporary Storage Area for detailed check. As result, implementing customs law and regulations, the case is filed with offence record/report to the Dispute Settlement Office for further action to send the case to the court. The owner of vehicle [the vehicle of truck] was fined of millions of Cambodian Riel, and wood was sentenced to.</p>			
Case Photos*		Additional Information/ General Profiling*	
Please see attached photo images			

[Attached Photo Images](#)

(No Picture Available)

MYANMAR CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

Case 1 - Money Cannot Make Everything

Date and Time of Offence		20th November 2011	
Place of Offence		Sea Area of Koh Kog Province	
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number		Flight number	
Routing		Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex		Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality		Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	98,204 Liters of Diesel	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)		Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <p>When the check-point gate had already closed, a truck driver requested the assigned customs officers to open the gate because the truck was carrying the pavement stones which were urgent for the road project. When the customs officers and the assigned police officers were about to search the truck before opening the gate, the driver made a phone call to someone called Aikset (Shan Nationality). When the officers asked him why he had called Aikset, he replied that Aikset would explain in details. Fifteen minutes later, Aikset came in a modernized car and offered a bribe of Baht 10, 00000 to open the gate. The combined team did not accept the offer and continue searching. The meticulous search revealed the concealed packets of methyl amphetamine tablets bearing WY logo (14.60kg). Further investigation revealed that the following were concealed at Aikset's home.</p>			
Case Photos* <p style="text-align: center;">Please see attached photo images</p>		Additional Information/ General Profiling* 	

Attached Photo Images



Food Colour Powder



Amphetamine chloride



Lethal Weapon

Attached Photo Images



Dye Powder



Tablet Machine

Case 2 - Truckload Of Jade Stones Seized

Date and Time of Offence		28th November 2011 @ 2100hrs	
Place of Offence			
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number	Truck	Flight number	
Routing	Myanmar-China Border	Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex	Male	Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality		Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	Jade Stones	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)	€ 1376252.00.	Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <p>Information was received by the No (5) Regional Customs Office of Northern Shan State that seven trucks suspicious of being loaded with illegal goods were moving towards the Myanmar-China Border. The next day, indentifying the truck numbers, the Customs officers of the Regional Customs Office were keeping the trucks under surveillance. Noticing that the trucks were moving sluggishly without being full of load, the assigned customs officers stopped the trucks on the way to border point and conducted a search of the seven trucks and found the haul of illegal shipment of jade stones. On preparing to get the statement in details, the car drivers ran away and so the customs officers managed to get the trucks to the regional office warehouse. The shipper of the haul of jade stones is still at large. After unloading and appraising it was learnt that the appraised value amounted to € 1376252.00. Regional Customs officers have been honored by Director-General of Myanmar Customs Department for their intelligent effort on International Customs Day.</p>			
Case Photos*		Additional Information/ General Profiling*	
Please see attached photo images			

Attached Photo Images



SINGAPORE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

Case 1 - Singapore Customs Seized Largest Transshipment Haul Of Cigarettes For 2011 (Over 500,000 Packets Uncovered In Joint Operation)

Date and Time of Offence		25th April 2011	
Place of Offence			
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number	Container	Flight number	
Routing		Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex	Male	Goods Declaration	
Age		Quantity/Packing	
Nationality		Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	502,500 Packets (or 50,220 cartons) of Cigarettes	Type & Quantity	
Value (in RM\$)		Value (in B\$)	
Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)* <p>Singapore Customs seized a container load of 502,500 packets (or 50,250 cartons) of cigarettes in a joint operation conducted between Singapore Customs and the Royal Malaysian Customs. This was the largest transshipment haul seized by Singapore Customs in 2011. The successful joint operation between the two Customs authorities was conducted from 22 to 25 April 2011. The goods in the container were declared in the manifest as hydraulic brakes. Suspecting that the goods could be incorrectly declared and cigarettes were most likely the loot in the container, Singapore Customs made arrangements with the shipping agent to inspect the container. On 25 April 2011, officers detained the container for customs inspection, where 502,500 packets of assorted brands of cigarettes bearing Malaysian health warnings were detected inside the container, instead of hydraulic brakes as declared.</p>			
Case Photos* <p style="text-align: center;">Please see attached photo images</p>		Additional Information/ General Profiling* <p>Preliminary investigations revealed transshipment and was bound for Malaysia. The container was immediately seized. Further investigations are on-going into this case.</p>	

Attached Photo Images



Cigarettes packed in brown boxes filled the container



A total of 502,500 packets of cigarettes were seized in container arising from incorrect manifest declaration.

Case 2 - Paying For Their Own Folly (Three Men Arrested For Chearing On The Tourist Re-fined Scheme)

Date and Time of Offence			
Place of Offence			
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number		Flight number	
Routing		Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex	3 Male	Goods Declaration	
Age	43, 42 and 74 Years Old	Quantity/Packing	
Nationality		Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	502,500 Packets (or 50,220 cartons) of Cigarettes	Type & Quantity	
Value (in S\$)	S\$18,000	Value (in B\$)	

Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)*

Two male Indian nationals – Pakkiri Mohamed Abdul Karim, 43, and Perumal Sugumaran, 42 – and a Singaporean man, 74, were arrested for cheating on the Tourist Refund Scheme by conspiring to retain 11 pieces of Goods and Services Tax (GST refunded” jewellery in Singapore. Pakkiri and Perumal were each sentenced to a Court fine of \$3,000 or, in default, three weeks’ imprisonment. Investigations are still ongoing for the Singaporean offender. The jewellery involved was worth more than S\$18,000, with GST exceeding \$1,000.

2. On 6 June 2011, Pakkiri approached Customs Officers at the GST Refund counter at the transit area of Singapore Changi Airport Terminal 2, holding a pouch containing 11 pieces of jewellery and their purchase receipts. He was scheduled to depart for India later that day. After collecting the GST refund for the jewellery, Pakkiri proceeded to the transit area and handed over the pouch to a Singaporean man, who was later found to be holder of an airport access pass. Pakkiri then left for the boarding area, after tearing and disposing the receipts.

3. The Singaporean man placed the pouch inside his pocket and left the transit area. He then proceeded to the Departure Hall, where he was joined by Perumal. Sensing that something was amiss, Immigration & Checkpoints Authority officers moved in to check on them, and found the pouch of jewellery on Perumal. He was arrested immediately. The Singaporean man and Pakkiri were also apprehended. Investigations by Singapore Customs revealed that Pakkiri had planned to leave the jewellery with Perumal, and to collect it back on the following Friday upon his planned return to Singapore. Aware that he was not allowed to bring goods into Singapore after the GST claims for such goods had been made, he sought help from the Singaporean man to hand over the jewellery to Perumal.

Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)*

4. The Tourist Refund Scheme is for tourists to claim a refund of the GST paid on the goods that are brought out of Singapore. Tourists must personally hand-carry the purchased items for inspection, get the refund claim form endorsed by Singapore Customs officers and then bring the goods out of Singapore. Other persons receiving or in possession of such goods after the refund claim form has been endorsed by Singapore Customs would be committing an offence under the GST Act.

Case Photos*

Please see attached photo images

Additional Information/ General Profiling*

The two Indian nationals were sentenced to a court fine of S\$3000, or in default 3 weeks' imprisonment. The Singaporean involved was given a stern warning.

Attached Photo Images



Pouch containing the 11 pieces of jewellery



The jewellery found in the pouch

Case 3 - Six (6) Men Arrested And 35,000 Packets Of Contraband Cigarettes Seized

Date and Time of Offence			
Place of Offence			
Case Details:			
Passenger		Cargo/Parcel/Mail	
Flight number		Flight number	
Routing		Routing	
(a) Arrestee		(a) Consignment	
Sex	Male	Goods Declaration	
Age	21 and 54 Years Old	Quantity/Packing	
Nationality	Singaporeans and Bangladeshis	Consignee/Consignor	
(b) Seizure		(b) Seizure	
Type & Quantity	Over 35,000 Packets Of Contraband Cigarettes	Type & Quantity	
Value (in S\$)	S\$320,000	Value (in S\$)	
<p>Brief fact of the case (including method of concealment and modus operandi)*</p> <p>Singapore Customs (SC) caught six men in the alleged illicit act of unpacking over 35,000 packets of contraband cigarettes concealed drums of rubber sheets in one of its latest raids. Such elaborate and meticulous modus operandi of hiding contrabands has been the trend among syndicates observed by SC officers since 2009. The syndicate members – two Singaporeans and four Bangladeshis, aged between 21 and 54 – were arrested. With the estimated total worth exceeding \$320,000, the cigarettes seized would have attracted duty and GST amounting to \$280,000.</p> <p>2. Working on intelligence gathered, SC officers began surveillance activities on 5 August 2010. Their target was a lorry and the officers were careful not to be detected when trailing him to a factory-cum-warehouse compound along Defu Lane 1. The driver stopped the lorry at the back of the factory, deposited six pallets of rolled-up rubber sheets and left the compound hastily. Customs officers then saw two men appear and started taking stock of the consignment of rubber. The men were later established to be Singaporeans.</p> <p>3. On the following day, the two Singaporean men were tailed by officers to the red-light district in Geylang. They approached four Bangladeshi men loitering by the roadside and started talking to them. Throughout the conversation, the Singaporean men seemed to be explaining to the Bangladeshis on some matter while the latter nodded their heads. Shortly after, the six men flagged down two taxis and left Geylang. Still keeping watch on the group, Customs officers soon realized that the taxis were heading to the factory at Defu Lane 1.</p> <p>4. It was late afternoon when the group of six arrived at Defu Lane. The men alighted at the loading/unloading bay of the warehouse located on the factory compound. Without a word, one of the Singaporean men walked away briskly to the back of the factory. The rest of the group entered the warehouse discreetly and waited quietly in the darkness.</p>			

5. An hour later, a forklift drove from behind the factory and broke the silence of the compound. The machine was stacked to the top with pallets of rubber sheets. The heavy load was placed at the entrance of warehouse. The other five men emerged from the warehouse and action began. The men were seen removing cartons and cartons of contraband cigarettes out from rolled-up rubber sheets. The illegal loot was to be repacked into large white boxes. With their suspicion confirmed, officers moved in swiftly. The men looked surprised and confused to see the officers. With no escape routes in sight, they felt utterly dejected and allowed themselves to be arrested by the officers without much resistance.

Case Photos*

Please see attached photo images

Additional Information/ General Profiling*

Attached Photo Images



Lorry driver deposited six pallets of rubber drums at the back of the factory.



Inside each drum, the cover load of rubber sheets made up the first layer.



On removing the top layer, contraband cigarettes were uncovered.



Every roll of rubber contained 37 cartons of contraband cigarettes.



35,000 packets of contraband cigarettes of assorted brands were seized.

