

Revision of TradeFIRST assessment checklist

January 2017

Following feedback from industry, Singapore Customs has released a revised TradeFIRST* assessment checklist. The following revisions have been made to the checklist:

Area	Before	After
1) Guidance on checklist requirements	There was a lack of guidance on the exact type of information required for mandatory criteria making it difficult for businesses to submit the checklist without numerous exchanges with Customs.	The revised checklist now includes a “Dictionary” explaining the requirements of each criteria, including examples of supporting documents that should be submitted to Customs.
2) Streamlined checklist	The checklist had over 300 criteria.	Revised checklist has about 150 criteria.
3) Supporting documents	Traders were required to submit all supporting documents to Customs prior to an on-site assessment	Traders will only be required to submit the supporting documents in relation to a scheme’s mandatory criteria prior to the onsite assessment. Other supporting documents can be provided during the onsite assessment.

The new checklist has been made available since 31 January 2017. Companies that have submitted their applications before 31 January 2017 can still use the previous checklist, following which the new checklist should be used.

**TradeFIRST stands for Trade Facilitation & Integrated Risk-based System. It is an assessment framework that Customs uses to determine the level of facilitation accorded to traders. It is mandatory for all companies who wish to apply for a Singapore Customs scheme or licence.*

Let’s talk

For a deeper discussion of how this issue might affect your business, please contact:

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