Subject: Electronic sealing—Deposit in and removal of goods from Custom bonded Warehouses—reg.

Attention of the Exporters, Importers, Customs Brokers and all other stakeholders is invited to Circular No. 10/2020-Customs dated 07.02.2020 issued by the OSD (Land Customs), CBIC, New Delhi regarding Electronic sealing—which has been revised as follows.


2. The regulations require that goods arriving at the warehouse from a Customs Station shall be affixed with a one-time lock with its Serial Number endorsed upon the Bill of Entry for Warehousing and the transport document. The warehouse keeper or bond Officer, as the case may be, is required to inspect the seal and when it is found intact, permit the goods to be unloaded at the warehouse. Circular 17/2016-Cus dated 14.5.2016 prescribes that in case of removal of goods from a Customs Station for deposit into a warehouse, the container or means of transport (closed trucks) should be affixed with a one-time lock by the proper officer at the Customs Station. A similar procedure has been provided under the Warehoused Goods (Removal) Regulations, 2016, for removal of warehoused goods from one warehouse to another and from a warehouse to customs station for export and also the manufacture and other operations in warehouse (no.2) Regulations, 2019. Also, the Principal Commissioner of Customs/Commissioner of Customs is duly empowered to permit movement of goods without affixation of OTLs, where the nature of goods or their manner of transport so warrant (e.g. Liquid Bulk Cargo transported through pipe lines and over dimensional Cargo).

3. Subsequently, the Board has prescribed the RFID self-sealing for export of containerized cargo. Circulars 36/2017, 37/2017 and 41/2017—Customs prescribe the use of “RFID tamper proof one-time bolt seal” and
providing of readers/procedure for its use by customs. It has now been
decided by the Board that RFID sealing shall be extended to transport of
goods for deposit in a warehouse as well as removal therefrom. Therefore,
wherever the warehousing regulations (referred in para 1 above) prescribe
affixing of a “One time-lock”, the importer or owner of the goods shall use
RFID anti tamper one-time locks (hereinafter referred as “RFID OTL”).

4 The RFID OTLs shall be sourced from the vendors whose names
appear in the list placed on the website of the CBIC (Please see web link

4.1 Considering the fact that the goods may be removed through a variety
of vehicles, different types of RFID OTLs, such as bolt seals (already
specified by Circular No. 36/2017-Cus) or wire cable seal shall be used. The
specification, data elements and procedures to be used under the
Regulations for warehousing shall be as follows:-

4.2. Seals

i. For Container (RFID One-Time Bolt Seal)
   As prescribed under Circular 36/2017-Customs dated 28.08.2017

ii. For closed body vehicles (RFID Wire Cable Seal)

(a) Each seal shall be a one-time lock bearing a unique serial number
and brand of the vendor in the format ABCD XXXX XXXX, where ABCD
stands for the brand of the vendor and X (8 digit) is a numerical digit
from 0-9.

(b) The RFID seal shall conform to ISO 17712 : 2013 and ISO IEC 18000-
6 Class I Gen 2 which is globally accepted in industrial applications and
can be read with the use of UHF (i.e. 860 MHz to 960 MHz) Reader
Scanners.

(c) The manufacturer or vendor, as the case may be, shall be in
possession of certifications required for conformance of the ISO standard
ISO 17712:2013 namely, clauses 4, 5 and 6 (as applicable to cable wire
seals).

(d) Before commencement of seals, the vendor shall submit self-certified
copies of the above certifications to the Risk Management Division (RMD).

4.3. Reader

The specification of readers to be deployed shall be prescribed under

4.4. Software & Application

(a) The data elements to be captured in the web application in the case of
removal goods from a Customs station to a Bonded Warehouse shall
be as follows:

i. IEC (importer exporter code)

ii. Bill of Entry Number

iii. Date
iv. RFID OTL number
v. Date of sealing
vi. Time of sealing
vii. Container number (where cargo is containerized or else not required)
viii. Registration number of vehicle
ix. Warehouse Code
x. Customs Location Code

(b) The data elements to be captured in the web application in the case of removal of goods from a warehouse to a customs station for export shall be as follows:

i. IEC (importer exporter code)
ii. Shipping Bill Number
iii. Date
iv. RFID OTL number
v. Date of sealing
vi. Time of sealing
vii. Container number (where cargo is containerized or else not required)
viii. Registration number of vehicle
ix. Customs Location Code
x. Warehouse Code

(c) The data elements to be captured in the web application in the case of removal of goods from a warehouse to another warehouse (section 67):

i. IEC (importer exporter code)
ii. Bill of Entry number
iii. Date
iv. Warehouse Code (Origin)
v. Warehouse code (Destination)
vi. RFID OTL Number
vii. Date of Sealing
viii. Time of Sealing
ix. Container number (where cargo is containerized or else not required)
x. Registration number of Vehicle

4.5. Procedure

(a) All licensees of Customs bonded warehouses shall have to procure Readers for scanning of RFID OTLs at the Bonded warehouse at their own cost.

(b) The licensee shall also procure RFID OTLs from the vendor for providing the same to importer, owner, exporter or in case of private bonded warehouses for their own use. It is clarified that the licensees are free to procure RFID OTLs from any one or more vendors.
(c) The vendors shall be required to prove readers to the Customs locations. Readers already deployed by vendors to port and ICDs for RFID sealing can be used for this procedure. Air Cargo Complexes, CPS and LCSs are also covered under this procedure for transport of bonded goods.

(d) Any importer permitted to remove goods for deposit in a warehouse shall obtain an RFID seal from the Warehouse where the goods are to be deposited.

Provided that for Warehouse to Warehouse transfer the owner of the goods shall procure RFID seal from the destination Warehouse.

(e) Vendors shall ensure that TID number is captured in their database and warehouse code of the licensee is linked to the same at the time of sale of seals.

(f) Vendors shall ensure that data can be unloaded from internet enabled Readers as well as desktops.

(g) Circular No. 19/2016- Cus dated 20th May 2016 prescribes that the importer shall declare the warehouse code in the Bill of Entry of warehousing. The out of Charge officer releasing the cargo for deposit in a warehouse is advised to match the warehouse code declared in the bill of entry with that linked to the seal. This procedure shall dispense the need for securing any space availability certificates by importers.

(h) The exporter of warehoused goods will be obligated to declare the physical serial number of the RFID OTL at the time of filling the online integrated shipping bill or in case of manual shipping bill, before the container or cargo is dispatched from the warehouse.

(i) In case the RFID OTL is found to be tampered at the Customs Station at the time of export, then mandatory examination would be carried out by the Customs authorities.

(j) In case at the time of arrival of goods at the warehouse, the RFID OTL is found to be tampered, then the licensee shall not permit unloading of the goods and shall inform the bond officer (Please refer sub regulations 5(1) and (7) of the Warehouse Custody & Handling of Goods) Regulations, 2016 and Regulation 10 (1) (ii) and 11 (ii) of Manufacture and Other Operations in Warehouse (no.2) Regulations, 2019).

(k) Under Regulations (5) of the Warehoused goods (Removal) Regulations 2016, and Regulation 10 of Manufacturer and Other Operations (no.2) Regulations, 2019, the importer or owner is required to produce an acknowledgement of the due arrival of goods. With the introduction of the procedure contained in this circular, the “trip report” generated by scanning the RFID OTL at the destination customs station or warehouse, shall be printed and retained for records by the customs station, bond officer and licensee. This will enable discharge of the requirement of acknowledgement enjoined under the aforesaid Regulations (5) and Regulation 10 of the respective Regulations.
(l) For the purpose of risk management, if there is any inordinate delay in the due arrival of goods, the bond officer may be alerted by the Customs station or vice versa.

(m) Where any procedure requires that goods removed from a warehouse shall move under physical escort by customs (e.g. prescribed by circular 32/2016 regarding Duty Free Shops), the use of RFID OTL shall not apply.

5. The Principal Commissioner of Customs /Commissioner of Customs is duly empowered to permit movement of goods without affixation of RFID OTLs, where the nature of goods or their manner of transport so warrant (e.g. Liquid Bulk Cargo transported through Pipe Lines and Over Dimensional Cargo).


7. Difficulties if any should be brought to the notice of the Additional Commissioner (Bond) Air Cargo Export, New Delhi

This issues with the approval of the Commissioner, Air Cargo Export, NCH, New Delhi

Yours faithfully

(S.K Mishra)
Additional Commissioner
Air Cargo Export
Copy to :-

1. The Chief Commissioner of Customs (DZ), NCH, New Delhi-110037.
2. The Chief commissioner Customs (Preventive), NCH, New Delhi-110037
3. The Principal Commissioner of Customs, ICD Tughlakabad (Import & Export)/ACC (Import)/ ICD PPG/Airport & General / Audit, New Delhi. Import/Export Commissionerate are required to ensure action as prescribed in the Circular at the time of OOC for warehoused goods/arrival of goods for export.
4. PA to Commissioner of Customs Air Cargo Export NCH, New Delhi-10037
5. All Additional Commissioner of Customs Air Cargo Export Commissionerate, New Delhi.
6. The Deputy/Assistant Commissioner Bond/Export Shed/CRIU/SIIB/FPO/Refund/Recovery/Disposal/Legal/Review/ Drawback/ Audit/ NCT/ Admin/ Adjudication for information and necessary action.
7. All Superintendents, Bond Section Air Cargo Complex, NCH, New Delhi.
8. The Deputy Commissioner, EDI with the request to upload the above public notice on official website.
10. Federation of India Export Organization, Niryat Bhawan, Rao Tula Ram Marg Opposite Army Hospital, R&R, New Delhi-110010

Deputy Commissioner (Technical)
ACC Export