



**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
CUSTOMS (PREV) UTTAR PRADEH & UTTARAKHAND, HALL NO.3,
5TH FLOOR, KENDRIYA BHAWAN, SECTOR-H, ALIGANJ, LUCKNOW**

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 07 /2017
DATED : 29/ 09/2017

**Subject:- Electronic sealing for containers by exporter under self-sealing procedure-
regarding.**

Attention of the Exporters, CHAs and Members of the Trade is invited to Circular No. 26/2017-Customs dated 01.07.2017 and 36/2017-Customs dated 28.08.2017 issued vide F.No. 450/08/2015-Cus.IV issued by Director (Customs), CBEC, New Delhi, prescribing guidelines for implementing electronic sealing for containers by exporters under self-sealing procedure.

2. Board has under the aforesaid Circulars laid down simplified procedure for stuffing and sealing of export goods in containers, whereby, it has been decided to do away with the sealing of containers with export goods by CBEC officials. Instead, self-sealing procedure shall be adopted for stuffing of containers at a factory or warehouse or any other place where container stuffing is to be carried out. The exporter should be registered under the GST and should be filing GSTR-1 and GSTR-2. Where exporter is not a GST registrant, he shall bring the export goods to a Container Freight Station/ Inland Container Depot for stuffing and sealing of container. However, in certain situations, an exporter may follow the self-sealing procedure even if he is not required to be registered under GST Laws. Such an exception is available to the Status Holder recognized by DGFT under a valid status holder certificate issued in this regard.

3. In accordance with procedure as enumerated in Circular No. 26/2017-Customs dated 01.07.2017, any exporter desirous of availing the self sealing procedure under the new guidelines, needs to approach the jurisdictional Customs Commissionerate, for seeking permission for self sealing of containers. It has been further clarified under Circular No/ 36/2017-Customs dated 28.08.2017 that:-

(a).The exporters who were availing sealing at their factory premises under the system of supervised factory stuffing, will be automatically entitled for self-sealing procedure. All exporter AEOs will also be eligible for self-sealing. It is clarified that all those exporters who are already operating under the self-sealing procedure need not approach the jurisdictional Customs authorities for the self-sealing permission.

(b).The permission to self-seal the export goods from a particular premise, under the revised procedure, once granted shall be valid unless withdrawn by the jurisdictional

Principal Commissioner or Commissioner of Customs if non-compliance to law, rules and regulations is noticed. In case the exporter makes a request for a change in the approved premise (s), then the procedure prescribed in circular 26/2017-Cus shall be followed, and a fresh permission granted before commencement of self-sealing at the new premises.

4. As per the new procedure envisaged under the aforesaid Circulars, the exporter shall seal the container with the tamper proof electronic-seal of standard specification. The electronic seal should have a unique number which should be declared in the Shipping Bill. Before sealing the container, the exporter shall feed the data such as name of the exporter, IEC code, GSTIN number, description of the goods, tax invoice number, name of the authorized signatory (for affixing the e-seal) and Shipping Bill number in the electronic seal. Thereafter, container shall be sealed with the same electronic seal before leaving the premises. In this regard, the Board vide Circular No. 36/2017-Cus dated 28.08.2017 has approved the following procedure which shall be adhered to by exporters opting for self-sealing.

(a). Under the new procedure, the exporter will be obligated to declare the physical serial number of the e-seal at the time of filing the online integrated shipping bill or in the case of manual shipping bill before the container is dispatched for the designated port/ICD/LCS.

(b). Exporters shall directly procure RFID seals from vendors, conforming to the standard specification mentioned in para 5 below. Since the procedure seeks to enhance integrity of transportation of goods, the exporters will be required to obtain seals directly. They shall provide details such as IEC etc., at the time of purchase for identification as well as for using the standard web application necessary to support an RFID self-sealing ecosystem.

5. **Standard Specification of the Seal:**

(a). The electronic seal referred above and in Para 9 (vii) of the Circular No. 26/2017-Customs dated 01.07.2017 shall be an "RFID tamper proof one-time-bolt seal", each bearing a unique serial number. The exporters shall be responsible for procuring the seals at their own cost for use in self-sealing.

(b). Each seal shall be a one-time-bolt-seal 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.

(c). The RFID seal shall conform to ISO 17712:2013 (H) and ISO/IEC 18000-6 Class 1 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.

(d). 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 (H) namely,

clauses 4, 5 and 6. Before commencement of sales, the vendor shall submit self-certified copies of the above certifications to the Risk Management Division (RMD) and all the ICDs/ Ports where he intends to operate along with the unique series of the seals proposed to be offered for sale.

6. **Application, Record Keeping and Data Retrieval System**

(a). It is clarified that the information sought from the exporter in para 9 (vii) of the circular 26/2017- Customs shall now be read as:

IEC (Importer Exporter Code)
Shipping Bill Number
Shipping Bill Date
e-seal number
Date of sealing
Time of sealing
Destination Customs Station for export
Container Number
Trailer- Truck Number

It is further clarified that the information need not be mounted "in the electronic seal" but tagged to the seal using a 'web / mobile application' to be provided by the vendor of the RFID seals. Data once uploaded by the exporter should not be capable of being overwritten or edited.

(b). All vendors will be required to transmit information in para (a) above to RMD and the respective destination ports / ICDs of export declared by the exporter. The arrangements for transmission of data may be worked out in consultation with the RMD and nodal Customs officer at each ICD / Port.

(c) All vendors shall be required to make arrangements for reading / scanning of RFID one- time-Bolt seals at the Customs ports/ ICDs at their own cost, whether through handheld readers or fixed readers.

(d) The integrity of the RFID seal would be verified by the Customs officer at the port /ICD by using the reader-scanners which are connected to Data Retrieval System of the vendor.

(e) The transaction history of the self-sealing should be visible to the exporters for their reference.

(f) The vendor shall also undertake to integrate the information stored on the data retrieval server with ICEGATE at his own cost on a date and manner to be specified by the Directorate General of Systems, New Delhi.

7. The exporter intending to clear export goods on self-clearance (without employing a Customs Broker) shall file the Shipping Bill under digital signature.

