

ASEAN Single Window: How businesses can benefit

Under the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA), an exporter based in an ASEAN Member State (AMS) must submit a Certificate of Origin (ATIGA CO Form D) in hard copy to the importing AMS' customs authority in order to claim preferential tariff treatment that allows their buyers to pay lower or no customs duty.

What is the ASEAN Single Window?

The ASEAN Single Window (ASW) facilitates customs clearance for the seamless movement of goods. It improves intra-ASEAN connectivity by connecting the National Single Window (NSW) of each AMS together. The ASW provides a secure IT Gateway that allows Form Ds to be transmitted from one NSW to another NSW electronically.

Exporters based in ASEAN countries will no longer need to submit a hardcopy Form D to the importing ASEAN country's customs authority. An electronic ATIGA CO Form D (e-ATIGA Form D) can now be generated and transmitted to the importing ASEAN country's customs authority electronically through the ASW Gateway. The importing customs authority will verify the authenticity of the e-ATIGA Form D and grant the preferential tariff treatment.

In what ways could the ASW potentially benefit businesses?

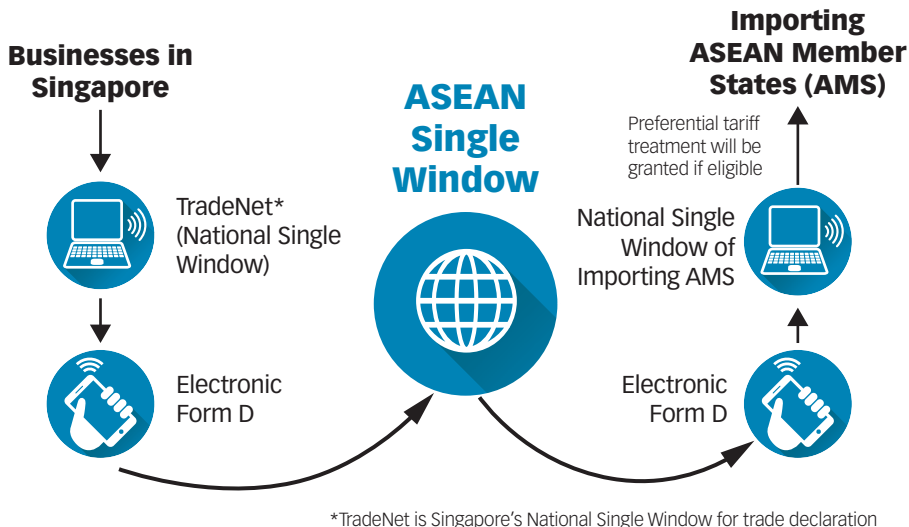
- Reduces reliance on paper documents: Enjoy preferential tariff treatments granted at point of import, with only one electronic submission of information required.
- More efficient and predictable supply chain management: The secure IT gateway provides a common source of data that eases costs and helps to improve national track-trace capabilities.
- Lower transaction costs along with faster cargo clearances and shipment releases help increase businesses' competitiveness.

Before ASW

- A physical copy of ATIGA Certificate of Origin (ATIGA CO Form D) had to be submitted to the importing AMS' customs authority.
- Delivering Form D and waiting for verification could take time for clearance.
- Requiring hardcopies of Form D increased risk of misplacement or damage.

After ASW

- An electronic ATIGA CO Form D (e-ATIGA Form D) can be transmitted through the business' NSW to the importing AMS' customs authority.
- There will be less doubt on the authenticity of the e-ATIGA Form D as it is transmitted from one NSW to another.
- After verification, a preferential tariff treatment will be granted to the business at point of import.



*TradeNet is Singapore's National Single Window for trade declaration

How can Singapore-based companies make use of the ASW?

Since Jan 1, 2018, the ASW has gone "live" in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Singapore-based businesses can transmit Form D under ATIGA electronically via the ASW when exporting to these countries. Brunei, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and the Philippines are working towards joining the ASW.

For more information about the ASW, please visit www.asw.asean.org