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Customs Litigation

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Customs Client



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Dear Customs client

UPDATE ON NEW CUSTOMS LEGISLATION

We are aware that many of our Customs clients are eagerly awaiting news on the implementation of the two new Customs Acts printed in the Government Gazette in July 2014.

Extensive work has been taking place around drafting the Rules to the new Customs Control Act, 2014, and Customs Duty Act, 2014, with several batches of rules published for comment over the past year. We are currently finalising all comments received on both Acts and an amended version of the consolidated Rules will be published for comment before the end of 2015. It is important to note that these amendments are not substantial and have been discussed in previous rules workshops with Customs stakeholders.

SARS has hosted four workshops for key stakeholders in which we addressed the Rules. All comments from Customs stakeholders on the Acts were considered and many of the suggested changes were accepted. This positive collaboration is continuing and the rest of 2015 will be used for finalising the Rules so that trade has adequate time to comment and give input.

We are currently also setting a date for the next Rules workshop which we hope to have within the next few weeks to discuss comments on the Duty Act rules.

Work has already begun on specific projects, such as Registration and Licensing, Goods Reporting and Declaration Processing, which will be implemented once the new Acts go live.

The first phase of implementation, which will deal with Registration and Licensing, is expected to go live in 2016. Customs stakeholders will be given adequate time to begin the re-registration process before the new Acts go live and you will be informed timeously of the date. We also intend to engage with service providers and other affected stakeholders at the earliest opportunity.

We will soon be launching a dedicated web page on the SARS website for updates on the new Customs legislation (keep an eye on the SARS home page) and will continue to engage with public and private stakeholders throughout the process.

Thank you for your support.

Kind Regards


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