



**SINGAPORE
CUSTOMS**

MEDIA RELEASE

Immediate

18 August 2026

OVER 81,000 CARTONS OF COUNTERFEIT CIGARETTES SEIZED DURING INSPECTION

Singapore, 18 August 2026 – During an inspection, Singapore Customs (“Customs”) uncovered 81,750 cartons of counterfeit cigarettes at a warehouse unit within the Changi Free Trade Zone.

2 On 9 June 2026, Customs officers checked a consignment declared as cigarettes under a transshipment permit destined for Mexico. They found cigarettes of assorted brands in cardboard boxes, and wrapped in black and green packaging. Suspecting that these cigarettes were counterfeit, the officers contacted the respective trademark proprietors. The proprietors confirmed the cigarettes were counterfeit after their inspection.

3 Customs seized the counterfeit cigarettes, which would be disposed of after the trademark proprietors have completed infringement actions.

4 “Singapore Customs does not condone the use of our Free Trade Zones for illicit activities. We will continue to work actively with local partner agencies and international counterparts to stamp out such illicit activities.” said a Singapore Customs spokesperson.

5 Counterfeit and illicit tobacco undermine fair trade and pose risks to consumers. Singapore Customs remains committed to enforcing strict compliance with customs regulations and safeguarding Singapore's trade ecosystem. Members of public with information on smuggling activities or duty or Goods and Services Tax (GST) evasion can report it to Customs at <https://go.gov.sg/reportcustomsoffence>.

Annex A: Photographs

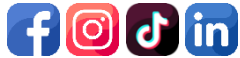
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About Singapore Customs

Singapore Customs protects revenue and facilitates trade for Singapore's economic growth while continuously striving to be a world-leading customs authority. As a partner of the Ministry of Finance, we ensure compliance with customs and tax regulations, safeguard the nation's financial interests, and combat illicit trade activities. We also enable seamless trade by simplifying customs processes, building global trade connectivity, and maintaining Singapore's position as a trusted global trading hub. Guided by our values of integrity, commitment, courage, responsiveness and teamwork, we strive for excellence with a professional and innovative team. Together, we ensure revenue and enable trade, fostering a thriving Singapore economy.

To find out more, visit our website at www.customs.gov.sg

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Annex A



The counterfeit cigarettes found wrapped in black and green packaging