

GOVERNMENT OF SAINT LUCIA

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, MANUFACTURING, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, COOPERATIVES AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Communications on this subject Should be addressed to:

THE PERMANENT SECRETARY

Heraldine Rock Building Waterfront Castries Saint Lucia

PRESS RELEASE

Castries June 22nd., 2022; The Ministry of Commerce, Manufacturing, Business Development, Cooperatives and Consumer Affairs takes this opportunity to remind all importers and brokers that it is mandatory, as per Section 4 (1) and (2) of the External Trade Act Cap 13.11of the Revised Laws of St. Lucia, to apply for an import licence prior to the importation of any restricted good listed in Statutory Instrument 67 of 2019. The application must be submitted to the Ministry of Commerce for approval through the ASYCUDA World platform. Upon approval, the goods will be examined and the licence verified by the Customs and Excise Department before their release.

In order to apply for an import licence, the importer must obtain a Tax Account Number (TAN) from the Inland Revenue Department and a Customs Code from the Customs and Excise Department. The Statutory Instrument can be accessed on the National Printing Corporation website (slugovprintery.com) or the Ministry's website (commerce.govt.lc)

The Ministry wishes to further remind importers and brokers that an import licence grants the applicant permission to import and not permission to clear their goods and any person who imports goods in contravention of the External Trade Act commits an offense and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine or to imprisonment. Further, the goods may be detained or seized, liable to forfeiture by the Customs and Excise Department.

Should you require any further information or clarification, please contact the Import Monitoring Unit at the Ministry of Commerce, Manufacturing, Business Development, Cooperatives and Consumer Affairs at 468-4228 or 468-4250.

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