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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

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09 October 2024

CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 169-2024

TO : ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
ALL DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS
ALL DIRECTORS AND DIVISION CHIEFS
ALL DISTRICT AND SUB-PORT COLLECTORS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : PHILIPPINE FIREWORKS ASSOCIATION (PFA) – REQUEST
FOR ASSISTANCE IN ERADICATING THE RAMPANT
SMUGGLING OF IMPORTED SUBSTANDARD FIREWORKS IN
THE PHILIPPINES

This has reference to the letter dated 26 September 2024 from Director Neil P. Catajay, Bureau of Philippine Standards (BPS), referring the PFA's request for assistance in eradicating the rampant smuggling of imported substandard fireworks in the Philippines.

The PFA emphasized their concerns on the proliferation of imported and substandard fireworks in the country which may have been smuggled by economic saboteurs. It was also noted that a number of the aforementioned products are bearing the Philippine Standard (PS) Mark Logo.

BPS only grants the PS Certification Mark License to local manufacturers consistent with Republic Act No. 7183 entitled: "An Act Regulating the Sale, Manufacture, Distribution and Use of Firecrackers and Other Pyrotechnic Device." Section 6 of the said law clearly states that the **importation of finished firecrackers and fireworks shall be prohibited.**

Moreover, the authority to use the PS Mark Logo is only granted to the local manufacturer of fireworks once their factory has successfully complied with the requirements of Philippine National Standards (PNS) ISO 9001, PNS 1220-2:2019, and other administrative or regulatory requirements under the BPS Mandatory Product Certification Scheme.

For records purposes, please disseminate throughout your respective offices and submit the necessary confirmation within fifteen (15) days from receipt hereof.

For your information and reference.

BIENVENIDO Y. RUBIO
Commissioner



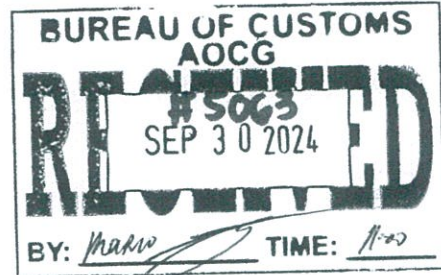
OCT 16 2024





26 September 2024

COMMISSIONER BIENVENIDO Y. RUBIO
Bureau of Customs
G/F OCOM Building, 16th Street
South Harbor, Port Area, Manila
Email: boc.ocom@customs.gov.ph
boc.cares@customs.gov.ph



Dear Commissioner Rubio:

This is in reference to the letter of Mr. Jovenson Ong, the President of the Philippine Fireworks Association (PFA), to the Department of Trade and Industry regarding their request for assistance in eradicating the rampant smuggling of **imported substandard fireworks** in the Philippines.

Please be informed that the PFA had emphasized their concerns on the proliferation of imported and substandard fireworks in the country which may have been smuggled by economic saboteurs. It was also noted that a number of the aforementioned products are bearing the Philippine Standard (PS) Mark logo.

Kindly note that for fireworks, the BPS only grants the Philippine Standard (PS) Certification Mark License to **local manufacturers** consistent with the Republic Act No. 7183 entitled "An Act Regulating the Sale, Manufacture, Distribution and Use of Firecrackers and Other Pyrotechnic Device". Section 6 of the said law clearly states that **the importation of finished firecrackers and fireworks shall be prohibited.**

Moreover, the authority to use the PS Mark logo is only granted to the local manufacturer of fireworks once their factory has successfully complied with the requirements of the PNS ISO 9001, PNS 1220-2:2019, and other administrative or regulatory requirements under the BPS Mandatory Product Certification Scheme.

In view of the foregoing, may we request your assistance to remind all BOC examiners on the prohibitions for all importation of finished firecrackers and fireworks.

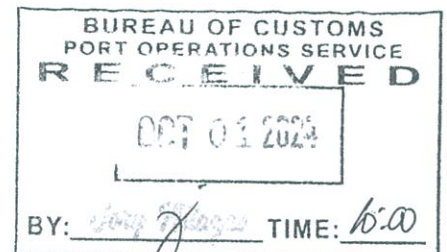
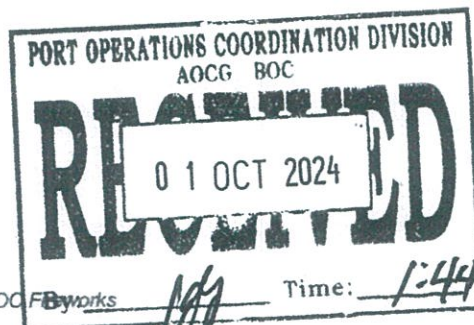
The BPS, through the Standards Conformity Division, will be coordinating with your office on this matter. For further clarifications, your office may directly coordinate with them at telephone numbers 7791-3128/-3130/-3131, mobile numbers 09175036258 and 09175046922, or email at bps@dti.gov.ph.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

NEIL P. CATAJAY
Director

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BUREAU OF PHILIPPINE STANDARDS

- Membership:
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
 - International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
 - World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)
 - National Enquiry Point (NEP)
 - National Notification Authority (NNA)

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