

Brazil is advancing in the pursuit of economic growth and preparing to meet the commitments made in the agreement on the facilitation of trade, the World Trade Organization initiative which seeks transparency in the relationship between governments and operators of foreign trade by reducing bureaucracy for importers and exporters. In this sense, the Federal Revenue of Brazil has contributed to achieving these objectives with initiatives that aim to benefit companies and the business environment.



Among the initiatives, three stand out:

1) Single Portal for Foreign Trade (Portal Único do Comércio Exterior)

The portal is a single-window system which has been developed in order to make the procedures for import, export and customs transit more efficient and harmonized. It integrates all public and private players involved in foreign trade and better manages all the data used for imports and exports. This allows companies to submit information only once to federal agencies, thereby reducing the bureaucracy and, mainly, the costs for traders. The Single Portal for Foreign Trade also enhances transparency by enabling companies to follow the progress and details of their operations online.

Another benefit of the portal is to make the release and clearance of goods and cargo more responsive through inspections by different government agencies at the same time, bringing on average a 40% reduction on the clearance time.



Additionally, the portal will provide a greater predictability in application and clarification of the rules; as well as enabling a more efficient employment of resources for companies and government agencies.

2) AEO - Authorized Economic Operator (Operador Econômico Autorizado)

The Brazilian AEO program is the certification of supply chain operators that represent low risk in their operations, both in terms of physical security of the cargo as in the performance of fulfilling tax and customs requirements.

The program is regulated by RFB Act nº 1.598/2015 and its application is voluntary. By 2019, it aims to have 50% of all export and import declarations registered by AEO certified companies.

The benefits for the certified companies are: greater agility, cost reduction and lower risk in the trade operations. They can also count on priority in customs clearance; permission to send the import declaration prior to the arrival of goods and, furthermore, decreases in the rate of physical and documentary monitoring import and export operations. Additionally, they can enjoy the benefits of other international customs administrations, which are signatory of mutual recognition agreements.



3) Recof-Sped

Recof-Sped is a special customs procedure for industrial warehouses under the digital bookkeeping system

and allows import or local acquisition of goods, with the conditional relief from import taxes as long as they are manufactured (assembly, processing, transformation, packing and repacking) into products, parts or pieces destined for export.

To enjoy the Recof-Sped's benefits, the industrial warehouse must export products from manufacturing processes with a minimum annual value equivalent to 80% of the total value of goods imported under the special customs procedures, and not less than US\$ 5,000,000.00. Additionally, it must manufacture at least 80% of the imported goods under the special customs procedure annually, and regularly submit the Digital Tax Bookkeeping (EFD) to tax authorities.

For further information, please check the Federal Revenue of Brazil's website at: www.rfb.gov.br



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