

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE
CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DIVISION**

NOTICE TO IMPORTERS NO. 16 OF 2020

**SUBJECT: OPERATIONAL HOURS FOR THE CLEARANCE OF CARGO
AT TRANSIT SHEDS WITH EFFECT FROM 15/06/2020**

Reference is made to Notice to Importers No. 10 of 2020, Operational hours for the Clearance of Cargo at Transit Sheds.

Importers are reminded that due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and in keeping with Public Health Protocols and Restrictions instituted, necessary changes were effected as to the Operations at Transit Sheds. As a result of the Government's decision to re-open the Public Service, the Transit Sheds are to revert to the previous operational hours that existed prior to the above referenced Notice. This shall take effect from **Monday 15th June, 2020**.

It should be noted that **the hours of operations at ABL and Swissport Transit Sheds shall be governed in the same manner as all other Transit Sheds**. The Areas designated for the processing of Express Consignments shall operate in a manner consistent with the operational hours as those of the Baggage Room at the Piarco International Airport. However, due to the critical staff shortage being experienced at the Division, the Areas designated for the processing of Express Consignments shall operate as follows until further notice:-

Monday to Sunday (including Public Holidays) - 6am to 10pm.

The following Operations shall also be in effect:

1. The owner/occupier of a Transit Shed shall ensure that no more than fifty (50) members of the public with non-commercial consignments are present at any given time by implementing an appointment system.
2. Appointments shall be made based on the date of the unstuffing/unloading/receipt of cargo and the waybill number.
3. The Owner/Occupier of the Transit Shed shall notify only fifty (50) members of the public with non-commercial consignments on any given day, of the date of their appointment to clear their consignments.
4. The Owner/Occupier of the Transit Shed shall ensure that only members of the public with appointments at 3 above are processed for examination and delivery of their consignment.

Importers are also reminded that the Public Health Protocols implemented at the start of the Pandemic are still in full effect. As such the wearing of masks, sanitization of hands and areas as well as the mandate of social distancing must be strictly observed.

Importers are to be guided accordingly.

M. Mathews



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Comptroller of Customs & Excise
Custom House, Port of Spain

Ref. No: C&E 11/1/1

Dated: 12 /06/2020