

Customs Modernisation

Dear Trader/Agent

CLOSURE OF SUNDRY CUSTOMS ACCOUNTS

Over the past year, SARS has been introducing a new account management system at all Customs offices. As part of this new system, Customs clients are now allocated their own Financial Account Number (or FAN), against which their declarations and payments are recorded. In addition to ensuring better financial management and a more secure way of operating, this allows traders to access their account via SARS eFiling, request statements of account, request refunds, and obtain transactional listings.

However, there were certain clients who did not receive FANs as they had not yet followed a FICA authentication process, which is a prerequisite for being allocated a FAN. A temporary Sundry Account (8120000008) was then created for those clients for them to continue to do business with SARS, until such time as they had gone into a Customs office and authenticated their banking details.

With most clients now having received a FAN, the dispensation granted to allow traders to utilise the sundry account will be withdrawn with effect from 31 October 2013. All declarations made by clients that do not have their own FAN, will be rejected after 31 October 2013. Clients that do not yet have a FAN are therefore urged to follow a FICA authentication process at your nearest Customs office as soon as possible in order to ensure timely approval. Once your banking details have been updated and authenticated, a FAN will be allocated to you automatically.

The following clients will be impacted:

- Deferment Registrants that are operating at Ports of Entry where they do not have a deferment facility and do not have a national Cash Account
- Non-Deferment Registrants that do not have a national Cash Account

In order to ascertain if you are impacted:

- Contact your nearest Customs Branch to determine your FICA status
- Take note of the first 10 digits of your Payment Reference Number (or PRN) issued by SARS. This represents the FAN against which the declaration was processed / payment is to be made. If this number is "8120000008", then you are impacted.

For more details on the banking authentication requirements, you can contact one of the following officials:

- Angie Van der Mescht on 011 862 5839
- Bashani Naidoo on 011 862 6008
- Katlego Setlhalogile on 011 862 5285
- Helen Shange on 011 862 6180

Sincerely



BEYERS THERON
EXECUTIVE: CUSTOMS MODERNISATION STRATEGY AND DESIGN