



MINISTRY OF FINANCE :: DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS**  
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**PUBLIC NOTICE No. 04 / 2011**

The following Circular issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, Central Board of Excise and Customs, New Delhi are enclosed herewith for guidance of the Officers / Imports / Exporters / Clearing Agents and Trading Public.

Sl.No.	Circular No. / Date / File No.	Subject
01	Circular No.37/2011-Customs dated 23.08.2011 (F.No.450/179/2009-Cus.IV (Pt))	Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programme for implementation.

(Issued from file C.No.VIII/48/11/2008 - Cus.Pol. Vol.II)

Date : 7-09-2011  
Place : Custom House, Tuticorin.

  
( N.J.KUMARESH )  
ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER

Encl: As above.

To  
As per Mailing List I & II

Copy submitted to : The Chief Commissioner of Customs (Preventive) Chennai.

**Circular No.37/2011-Customs**

F.No.450/179/2009-Cus.IV(Pt)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Finance  
Department of Revenue  
Central Board of Excise & Customs

227-B, North Block,  
New Delhi-110001.  
23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2011.

To

All Chief Commissioners of Customs / Customs (Prev.).  
All Chief Commissioners of Customs & Central Excise.  
All Commissioners of Customs / Customs (Prev.).  
All Commissioners of Customs & Central Excise.  
All Director Generals under CBEC.

**Subject: Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programme for implementation.**

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Sir / Madam,

In view of growing concern amongst Customs administrations about the threat posed through misuse of channels of import and export, there is a need to ensure security in global supply chain in international movement of goods. Keeping this in view, CBEC has finalized the 'Authorized Economic Operators' (AEO) programme for implementation to secure supply chain of imported and export goods. This programme has been developed pursuant to guidelines of WCO adopted in SAFE FoS (Framework of Standard) in 2005. Many Customs administrations have already instituted AEO programmes or similar programmes which share a common objective of ensuring security in global supply chain from the point of origin i.e. the point of export to import in the receiving country, keeping in view national requirements of respective administrations. The detailed guidelines on implementation of the AEO programme are appended as '**Annexure**' to this Circular.

2. One of the salient features of the AEO programme is that any economic operator such as importer, exporter, logistics provider, Customs House Agent can apply for authorization subject to the criteria that the applicant is:

(i) able to establish a record of compliance in respect of Customs and other legal provisions.

(ii) able to demonstrate satisfactory systems of managing commercial and, where appropriate, transport records.

(iii) financially solvent.

(iv) able to demonstrate satisfactory systems in respect of security and safety standards.

3. The AEO programme shall be implemented by the Directorate General of Inspection (DGICCE) and Additional Director General, DGICCE (HQ), New Delhi will be the AEO Programme Manager. The AEO Programme Manager shall be assisted by a team of officers viz. the AEO Programme Team.

4. The authorization shall normally be granted within 90 days of receipt of application if the same is found to be acceptable and not deficient in any material particulars. The programme also provides for circumstances under which the authorization may be considered for revocation or suspension.

5. The AEO Programme envisages various benefits to different categories of economic

