

SINGAPORE CUSTOMS 新加坡关税局 KASTAM SINGAPURA கிங்கப்பூர் சங்கத்துறை

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

26 January 2022

## Singapore Customs arrests two men and seizes 500 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes

Singapore Customs arrested two male Singaporeans, aged 41 and 60, and seized 500 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes.

## Case information

Singapore Customs conducted an operation at an industrial building in the vicinity of Eunos Avenue 3 on 23 January 2022. Officers kept watch of an industrial unit in the building that was suspected to be used for storing duty-unpaid cigarettes. After two men were seen entering the unit, officers declared office and raided the unit. They found a total of 500 cartons of duty-unpaid cigarettes, packed in canvas bags, stored inside the unit.

The total duty and Goods and Services tax (GST) evaded amounted to \$68,320 and \$5,110 respectively. The two men were charged in court on 25 January 2022.

Buying, selling, conveying, delivering, storing, keeping, possessing or dealing with duty-unpaid goods are serious offences under the Customs Act and the GST Act. Offenders can be fined up to 40 times the amount of duty and GST evaded and/or jailed for up to six years.

Members of public with information on smuggling activities or evasion of customs duty or GST can call the Singapore Customs hotline on 1800-2330000 or email <u>customs\_intelligence@customs.gov.sg</u> to report these illegal activities.

Singapore Customs 26 January 2022

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## ANNEX



Canvas bags containing duty-unpaid cigarettes were found in the industrial unit.



Duty-unpaid cigarettes inside a canvas bag.