## 13 June, 2014

## CASA Circular No.57 - Report BL numbers in different formats to SLC & SLPA

|  |                                       | esd අത്തെ<br>ങ്ങളു இல.<br>My No. |
|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| වෙතු මන්දිරය, අංක 40, කෙලින් විදිය, කොළඹ 11.<br>කෝය මුබහෝ, මුන. 40, වාලාගේ ක්වී, கොලාව 11.<br>Customs House, No. 40, Main Street, Colombo 11.<br>වෙබ් අඩවිය<br>බොට යුණාර }<br>www.customs.gov.lk | <u>ිම්ම</u><br>ශී් ලංකා රේගුව         | මවේ අංකය<br>உழது இல.<br>Your No. |
|  | இலங்கைச் சுங்கம்<br>Sri Lanka Customs | දිනය<br>නියනි<br>Date            |

Dear Sir,

## Report BL numbers in different formats to Sri Lanka Customs and the SLPA

Sri Lanka Customs has successfully implemented the electronic cargo release with the SLPA and this process requires exact match of B/L numbers in SLPA System and that of Customs. Slight change of a character or case would result in mismatch rendering the transmitted message useless. Needless to say, such mismatches has caused severe difficulties to the trade.

Therefore, please instruct all your members to adhere to the following standards.

As per international standards the Bill of Lading number has a fixed length of 17 alphanumeric characters. Therefore, please instruct all the shipping lines and the freight forwarders to limit the length of the BL to 17, while reporting the same B/L no for any given consignment to both SLPA and Customs, i.e.

- 1. The exact BL number consisting of 17 alphanumeric characters should be declared on the hard copy of the BL/DO.
- 2. The exact BL number consisting of 17 alphanumeric characters should be declared in the electronic manifest sent to Customs.
- 3. The exact BL number consisting of 17 alphanumeric characters should be declared to the navis system of SLPA.

Thank you,
Yours sincerely
G.H.G.A.Lankadeya
Deputy Director of Customs (ICT)

For Director General of Customs

Cc: Mr. A.D.T. Gunasekara (Director - Technical)/SLPA