



INLAND REVENUE
AUTHORITY
OF SINGAPORE

IRAS e-Tax Guide

GST: Import GST Deferment Scheme (Eleventh Edition)

Published by
Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore

Published on 30 Jan 2026

First edition on 31 Mar 2014
Second edition on 10 Dec 2014
Third edition on 18 Sep 2015
Fourth edition on 18 Dec 2015
Fifth edition on 15 Jul 2017
Sixth edition on 12 Nov 2020
Seventh edition on 11 Nov 2021
Eighth edition on 1 Jan 2023
Ninth edition on 1 Jan 2024
Tenth edition on 1 Nov 2024

Disclaimers: IRAS shall not be responsible or held accountable in any way for any damage, loss or expense whatsoever, arising directly or indirectly from any inaccuracy or incompleteness in the Contents of this e-Tax Guide, or errors or omissions in the transmission of the Contents. IRAS shall not be responsible or held accountable in any way for any decision made or action taken by you or any third party in reliance upon the Contents in this e-Tax Guide. Except where specific contents carry legal force, this information aims to provide a better general understanding of taxpayers' tax obligations and is not intended to comprehensively address all possible tax issues that may arise. While every effort has been made to ensure that this information is consistent with existing law and practice, should there be any changes, IRAS reserves the right to vary its position accordingly.

© Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying and recording without the written permission of the copyright holder, application for which should be addressed to the publisher. Such written permission must also be obtained before any part of this publication is stored in a retrieval system of any nature.

Table of Contents

1	Aim.....	1
2	At a glance	1
3	Overview of Import GST Deferment Scheme (IGDS)	1
4	Qualifying conditions.....	2
5	Responsibilities of an IGDS Business.....	4
6	Operational Procedures.....	5
7	Application for IGDS	6
8	Renewal of IGDS.....	8
9	Revocation of IGDS	8
10	Contact Information	9
11	Updates and Amendments	10
	Appendix A – Comptroller’s requirements on internal controls, accounting and compliance records	12
	Appendix B – Conditions and record-keeping requirements of a GST agent acting on behalf of overseas principals [i.e. section 33(2) or 33A agent]	14
	Appendix C – Guarantee.....	16
	Appendix D – GST Reporting Requirements - IGDS	17
	Appendix E – Relevant TradeNet permit applications for IGDS shipments	21
	Appendix F – Suggested Measures in Authorising Declaring Agents to Clear Goods Under Your IGDS Status.....	22

1 Aim

- 1.1 This e-Tax Guide explains how the Import GST Deferment Scheme (IGDS) works and sets out the qualifying conditions of IGDS as well as the responsibilities of an IGDS business.
- 1.2 You should read this guide if you, as a GST-registered business are interested in applying for the scheme to ease your import GST cash flow.

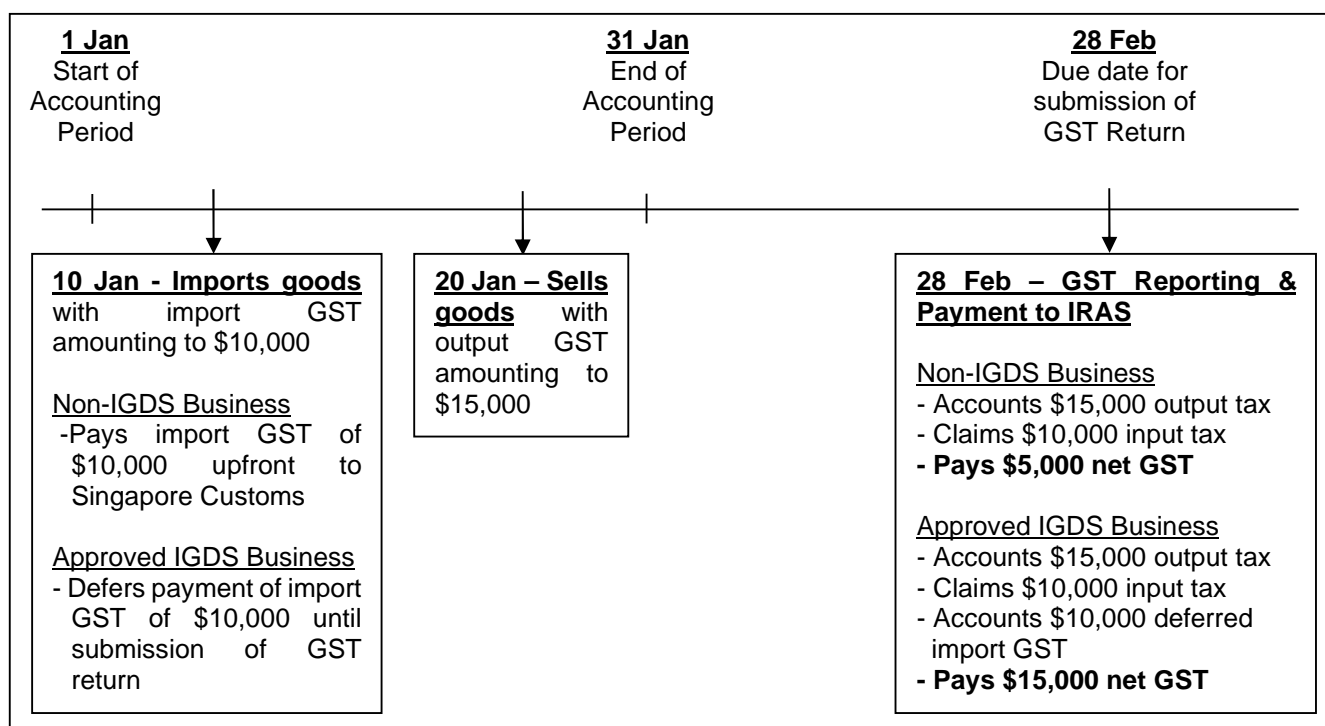
2 At a Glance

- 2.1 Goods and Services Tax (GST) is charged on nearly all supplies of goods and services in Singapore and upon importation of most goods into Singapore. Singapore Customs (SC) collects GST at the point of importation.
- 2.2 All imported goods are subject to GST unless relief is provided under the GST (Imports Relief) Order, the goods are exempt investment precious metals or if the importer is under an import GST suspension scheme such as the Major Exporter Scheme (MES).
- 2.3 If you are registered for GST, you may recover the import GST paid on imported goods as input tax when you submit the GST return for the prescribed accounting period in which the import GST is paid. This is provided that the goods are imported for your business of making taxable supplies and you hold an import permit, showing you as the importer.
- 2.4 To ease the import GST cash flow for GST-registered businesses arising from the time lapse between the payment and claiming of import GST, IGDS was announced by the Minister for Finance in Budget 2010. The scheme came into effect on 1st October 2010. The relevant legislation pertaining to IGDS can be found under Regulation 45D of the Goods and Services Tax (General) Regulations.

3 Overview of Import GST Deferment Scheme (IGDS)

- 3.1 IGDS allows an approved business to defer the payment of import GST until the submission of the GST return for the prescribed accounting period. This scheme is not applicable to customs or excise duties, which remain payable upfront at the point of importation.

- 3.2 As an approved IGDS business, you are required to account for the deferred import GST in the GST return for the period in which the import GST is payable. If the goods are imported for your business of making taxable supplies, you are entitled to claim the import GST as your input tax in the same period.
- 3.3 IGDS will apply to both dutiable and non-dutiable overseas goods under the following circumstances:
- Direct imports into Singapore; and
 - Imports released from Zero-GST (ZG)/ Licensed warehouses for local consumption.
- 3.4 The following diagram illustrates how IGDS works.



4 Qualifying Conditions

For the avoidance of doubt, the conditions and/or requirements in paragraphs 4.1 to 4.2 have the force of law.

- 4.1 In order to qualify for IGDS, you must satisfy the following conditions:
- Your business must be GST-registered for at least 3 years.

For businesses that are GST-registered for less than 3 years, the Comptroller of GST may approve the application subject to paragraph 4.2 of this guide.

- (b) Your business must be active and financially solvent.

Being 'financially solvent' means your business must not be under bankruptcy, liquidation, receivership or judicial management.

- (c) You have been importing or will be importing goods for your business purposes.
- (d) Your GST return is filed on a monthly basis¹.
- (e) You maintain an interbank GIRO account with IRAS for GST payments.
- (f) You have good internal controls and proper accounting records.

For more details on the Comptroller's requirements on the above condition, please refer to Appendix A.

- (g) You have good compliance records with Singapore Customs.

You must not have any major violation of Singapore Customs' regulations and requirements.

- (h) You have good compliance records with IRAS.

You must have a good history of payment for GST and other taxes, and submission and completion of GST returns. At the point of application, you must not have overdue GST and other taxes, and overdue GST returns.

- (i) You complete a self-review under Assisted Self-Help Kit (ASK²) and submit the certified ASK declaration form "ASK: Declaration Form on Completing Annual Review & Voluntary Disclosure of Errors (Section 3 of ASK).

The ASK declaration form must be certified by either your own in-house or externally engaged tax professional who has been accredited with the Singapore Chartered Tax Professionals Limited ("SCTP") as an

¹ Your filing frequency will not be automatically reversed to quarterly filing frequency when you are no longer under the IGDS scheme. If you no longer wish to remain under monthly filing frequency, you have to write in to change back to quarterly filing frequency.

² ASK is a self-assessment package to manage your compliance. More information can be obtained from www.iras.gov.sg > Taxes > Goods and Services Tax (GST) > Getting It Right > Voluntary Compliance Initiatives.

Accredited Tax Practitioner (GST) or Accredited Tax Advisor (GST). For more *information on accreditation*, please visit www.sctp.org.sg

If you have successfully applied to participate in GST Assisted Compliance Assurance Programme (ACAP³), the certified ASK declaration form will not be required unless you subsequently withdraw your ACAP participation or fail to obtain ACAP status. In this respect, you must immediately undertake to perform ASK and submit the duly completed and certified ASK declaration form within 6 months from the date of withdrawal or notification of your unsuccessful ACAP status.

Similarly, if you already have a valid ACAP status, the certified ASK declaration form is not required if you perform a Post ACAP Review (PAR) and submit the “PAR Declaration” form (GST F28) or apply for ACAP renewal (GST F29). However, if you are not renewing your ACAP status and you are under MES, you must perform a second PAR and submit the “Certified PAR Declaration” form (GST F28A)⁴.

- (j) You must be able to comply with other conditions that the Comptroller of GST may impose from time to time.
- 4.2 Apart from the above conditions, a guarantee may be required by the Comptroller of GST. Please refer to Appendix C for more details.
 - 4.3 Notwithstanding the above, the Comptroller of GST may reject an application in order to protect revenue.
 - 4.4 Please note that as an approved IGDS business, you must fulfil the qualifying conditions. The Comptroller may revoke your IGDS status at any time or impose a security (or increase the amount if already imposed) if any of the qualifying conditions is not met. In the event of any material change in the nature of your business such that you no longer meet the qualifying conditions, you must inform the Comptroller of GST immediately.

5 Responsibilities of an IGDS Business

For the avoidance of doubt, the conditions and/or requirements in paragraphs 5.1 to 5.3 have the force of law.

³ GST ACAP is a compliance initiative suitable for businesses that have a robust GST Control Framework to manage their GST risks. More information can be obtained from www.iras.gov.sg > Taxes > Goods and Services Tax (GST) > Getting It Right > Voluntary Compliance Initiatives.

⁴ The second PAR must be performed or certified by an Accredited Tax Practitioner or Advisor (GST) of SCTP. For more information, please refer to the e-Tax Guides “[GST: Assisted Compliance Assurance Programme \(ACAP\)](#)” and “[GST: Renewal of Assisted Compliance Assurance Programme \(ACAP\) Status](#)”.

5.1 As an IGDS business, you must have good, reliable records of your accounts and import details. This is necessary for you to accurately and promptly declare the value of goods imported using your IGDS status and account for the deferred import GST payable in the respective GST returns. The detailed GST reporting requirements are highlighted in Appendix D.

5.2 Approved Purposes of IGDS status

5.3 Once you have been granted IGDS status, you can use your IGDS status to:

- (a) import your own goods in the course or furtherance of your business;
- (b) import goods belonging to an overseas principal for supply (either in Singapore or for export) in the capacity of a section 33(2) agent⁵;
- (c) import goods belonging to an overseas principal which will later be re-exported (e.g. back to the overseas principal) in the capacity of a section 33A agent⁶; and

One of the conditions of section 33(2) and 33A agents is that the overseas principal is either not GST-registered or is GST-registered under the overseas vendor registration (OVR) pay-only regime. For more information on this, please refer to the e-Tax Guide "[GST: Guide on Imports](#)".

With effect from 1 Jan 2015

- (d) re-import goods which you have previously sent abroad for value-added activities, belonging to your local customers or GST-registered overseas customers who is not GST-registered under the overseas vendor registration (OVR) pay-only regime, under section 33B. Please refer to the e-Tax Guide "[GST: Claiming of GST on re-import of value-added goods](#)" for information on the eligibility conditions and requirements.

5.4 You should not under any circumstances, import goods that are not for the purpose of your business or on behalf of any other persons. Otherwise, you may be considered to have abused your IGDS status, following which your IGDS

⁵ Prior to 1 Jan 2012, the same goods imported must be the same goods with no change in its form and nature upon their subsequent supply. With effect from 1 Jan 2012, you are allowed to act as a section 33(2) agent even where there is a change in nature and form of the goods. However, you must be able to track the goods and ensure that all goods imported in the capacity of a section 33(2) agent are supplied.

⁶ Section 33A of the GST Act allows repayment of GST paid on importation to an overseas person through a claim of input tax by a local agent who imports the goods, subject to certain requirements. For an agent who is approved as an IGDS business, Regulation 45D of the GST (General) Regulations allows him to defer payment of import GST until the submission of claim in his GST return if the same requirements are satisfied.

status may be revoked and relevant penalties may be imposed as defined under paragraph 9 of this guide.

- 5.5 Your IGDS status is not transferable. If you transfer your business as a going concern to another taxable person, the transferee (new owner) is not allowed to use your IGDS status to import his goods. The transferee should apply for IGDS in his own name.
- 5.6 When you de-register from GST, you are required to account for deemed output tax on the imported goods (including those imported under IGDS) that form part of your assets and stocks if the value of taxable assets and stocks on hand as at the effective date of de-registration is more than S\$10,000.

6 Operational Procedures

- 6.1 As an approved IGDS business, you are able to clear the goods from Singapore Customs (SC) at importation or from ZG /licensed warehouses with the relevant permits⁷ if you activate your Customs Account with SC and subscribe for TradeNet. For more information, please refer to SC website at www.customs.gov.sg and <https://www.tradenet.gov.sg/>.
- 6.2 However, if you do not subscribe for TradeNet and/or if you choose to engage freight forwarding companies to assist you, you are required to appoint the relevant authorised declaring agent (e.g. freight forwarder) to clear the goods from SC on your behalf. You can appoint the declaring agent and make subsequent changes through the online service “Apply for Declaring Agents” at mytax.iras.gov.sg⁸.
- 6.3 At any one time, an IGDS business can have a maximum of 20 authorised declaring agents. It is your responsibility to keep and maintain the list of your authorised declaring agents. As you are accountable for all permits declared by your authorised declaring agents, you are advised to exercise due care and impose relevant controls after appointing the declaring agents for this purpose. Please refer to Appendix G for the suggested measures.
- 6.4 If your imports were handled by the Air Express Companies (i.e. TNT Express Worldwide (S) Pte Ltd⁹, Federal Express (S) Pte Ltd, United Parcel Service

⁷ Please refer to Appendix F for the relevant TradeNet permit applications to be submitted for IGDS shipments.

⁸ Please ensure that you have been authorised by your organisation as the preparer or the approver under GST Tax Matters to access this e-service in myTax Portal. If not, you will need to get your CorpPass administrator to log in to CorpPass to authorise you. For more information on how this can be done, please refer to www.iras.gov.sg > Taxes > Goods & Services Tax (GST) > Filing GST > Overview of GST e-Filing Process.

⁹ TNT Express Worldwide (S) Pte Ltd has been amalgamated with Federal Express (S) Pte Ltd with effect from 1 Oct 2021.

Singapore Pte Ltd and DHL Express (Singapore) Pte Ltd), you should request these companies to provide you with an **Inward Summary report** stating the details of imports belonging to you on a periodic basis. Alternatively, these companies may issue subsidiary import certificates to you. You may use the Inward Summary report / subsidiary import certificate to declare your imports in your GST returns.

7 Application for IGDS

7.1 Any GST-registered business who wishes to obtain the IGDS status must apply to the Comptroller of GST for approval. Once IGDS is granted to you, any other prior approved GST schemes relating solely to imports (e.g. MES) will be terminated. Please ensure that you satisfy all the qualifying conditions for the scheme.

7.2 Application process for IGDS

(a) To apply for the IGDS status, you are required to submit the following documents:

(i) A duly completed and signed Application Form GST F22¹⁰.

You are required to review Section 1 and 2 of Assisted Self-Help Kit (ASK) in order to complete the application form.

(ii) A certified ASK declaration form "ASK: Declaration Form on Completing Annual Review & Voluntary Disclosure of Errors" (Section 3 of ASK) unless you have committed to participate in ACAP as stated in paragraph 4.

You are to maintain the working templates in Section 3 of the ASK to support that the "ASK: Declaration Form on Completing Annual Review & Voluntary Disclosure of Errors" is accurately completed. We may request for the working templates when evaluating your application.

(b) If you make both taxable and exempt supplies¹¹, you cannot claim your input tax in full. You have to declare in your application that you will perform due diligence in apportioning your input tax. You can only claim

¹⁰ Accessible from www.iras.gov.sg > Quick links > Forms > GST > GST schemes.

¹¹ Exempt supplies refer to the provision of financial services, sale/lease of residential properties and the supply of investment precious metals provided for under paragraph 1A of Part I of the Fourth Schedule to the GST Act. For more information, please refer to the GST e-Tax Guide "[GST : Partial Exemption and Input Tax Recovery](#)" which is downloadable from www.iras.gov.sg > Quick links > e-Tax Guides.

input tax on the deferred import GST payable that is attributable to your making of taxable supplies.

- 7.3 You will be informed of the outcome of your application within one month from the date of submission of your application. This is provided that your application form is fully completed with the relevant supporting documents.
- 7.4 If your application is successful, your IGDS status will be valid for a period of 3 years, as may be notified by the Comptroller of GST in writing.

8 Renewal of IGDS

- 8.1 You must continue to satisfy the qualifying conditions for IGDS in order for your IGDS status to be renewed. If you do not meet the qualifying conditions, you will not be invited to renew your IGDS status and you will be informed accordingly.
- 8.2 Closer to the expiry date of your IGDS status, IRAS will send you an IGDS renewal letter to invite you to apply to renew your IGDS status.
- 8.3 You would be required to perform a self-review under ASK prior to the renewal and submit a duly completed "ASK: Declaration Form on Completing Annual Review & Voluntary Disclosure of Errors" (Section 3 of ASK) unless you have committed to participate in ACAP as stated in paragraph 4.

You are to maintain the working templates in Section 3 of the ASK to support that the "ASK: Declaration Form on Completing Annual Review & Voluntary Disclosure of Errors" is accurately completed. We may request for the working templates when evaluating your application.

- 8.4 Once your application for renewal of IGDS is approved, your IGDS status will be extended for another five years or any other period that the Comptroller may grant.

9 Revocation of IGDS

- 9.1 Your IGDS may be revoked at any time if you breach any of the qualifying conditions. In the circumstances, you must make immediate arrangements with Singapore Customs for the payment of import GST on your subsequent importations.
- 9.2 Penalties for non-compliance
 - (a) Any late submission of GST return or late payment in accounting for the deferred import GST will attract a late payment penalty of 5% on the amount of deferred import GST.
 - (b) If any IGDS business imports goods that are not for the purpose of its business or if imports are made under IGDS on behalf of any other persons other than those permissible situations as listed in paragraph 5.3, this would constitute an offence, which may lead to penalties and criminal prosecution. This is in addition to having to re-pay the amount of GST that has been deferred in an unauthorised manner. However, there are exceptions for goods imported in the capacity of a section 33A agent. Please refer to the e-Tax guide "[GST: Guide on Imports](#)" for more details.

10 Contact Information

10.1 For enquiries on this e-Tax Guide, please contact us via:

- myTax Mail at mytax.iras.gov.sg, if you are GST registered, or
- www.iras.gov.sg > Contact Us > Goods & Services Tax (GST) > General GST enquiries, if you are not GST registered.

You may also chat with us using live chat from 8am to 5pm on weekdays, via www.iras.gov.sg > Contact Us > Goods & Services Tax (GST) > Chat With Us.

11 Updates and Amendments

	Date of amendment	Amendments made
1	10 Dec 2014	Amended paragraph 5.3 (c) and inserted paragraph 5.3(d)
2	18 Sep 2015	Amended paragraph 6 Amended 7.2a (ii) and 8.4 on ACAP
3	18 Dec 2015	Amended paragraph 7.2(a) and 8.4
4	15 Jul 2017	Amended paragraph 6.2 to reflect that appointment and changes to declaring agents are to be done online via e-service “Applying Declaring Agents” Amended paragraph 8.1 and 8.5 to reflect the new IGDS renewal validity period (up to 5 years from the current 3 years)
5	22 Oct 2019	(i) Amended paragraph 5.3 to reflect changes arising from the overseas vendor registration regime (ii) Various editorial changes
6	12 Nov 2020	Amended Singapore Institute of Accredited Tax Professionals (SIATP) to Singapore Chartered Tax Professionals Limited to (SCTP)
7	11 Nov 2021	Amended paragraph 6.4 and inserted footnote 6 on TNT Express Worldwide (S) Pte Ltd on the amalgamation
8	01 Jan 2023	(i) Amended the term “letter of guarantee” to “guarantee” and included information about digital guarantees (ii) Amended Appendix D to reflect the change of GST rate to 8% with effect from 1 Jan 2023 and renumbered the boxes in the IGDS section of the GST return

9	1 Jan 2024	Amended appendix D to reflect the change of GST rate to 9% with effect from 1 Jan 2024
10	1 Nov 2024	Amended Appendix C to update information for obtaining a digital guarantee
11	30 Jan 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Amended paragraph 4 to clarify on ASK and ACAP requirements(ii) Editorial changes on ASK in paragraphs 7.2(a)(ii) and 8.1

Appendix A – Comptroller’s Requirements on Internal Controls, Accounting and Compliance Records

For the avoidance of doubt, the conditions and/or requirements in Appendix A have the force of law.

Good internal controls and proper accounting records:

- (a) There must be proper and documented procedures on the identification and capturing of accounting information from your inventory and financial records into your GST accounting/reporting system;
- (b) There must be sufficient original documents and proper records of the value of imports (including goods removed from ZG warehouse), exports and total supplies as follows:

Inward handling/ Receipt of goods

- Goods Received Notes (GRN) – to document the date/quantity/description of goods received
- Duly acknowledged Delivery Orders (DOs) – to support the GRN
- Copies of import permits, transshipment permits etc
- Copies of shipping documents such as air waybill or bill of lading
- Copies of commercial invoices accompanying the goods, if available
- Copies of insurance documents accompanying the goods, if available
- Copies of correspondences from your overseas principals
- Any other similar documents to document the date, movement, quantity and description of the goods received into its warehouse

The identity of the overseas principal(s)/supplier(s) as well as the value and description of the goods must be readily identifiable/verifiable.

Storage/ Custody of goods

- The relevant warehouse records/reports showing clearly the person(s) handing over and person(s) receiving the goods at each stage of their storage into the warehouse
- The warehouse storage records/ reports showing the warehouse location where the goods are stored

Outward handling/ Removal of goods

- Purchase Orders (POs) issued by your customer(s)
- Delivery Orders (DOs) issued by you
- Copies of export permits, transshipment permits, etc.
- Copies of shipping documents such as air waybill or bill of lading
- Copies of commercial invoices accompanying the goods, if available
- Copies of insurance documents accompanying the goods, if available

- Written instructions from your customer(s) to deliver the goods locally or to export the goods
- Any other similar documents to document the date, movement, quantity and description of the goods removed from your warehouse

The identity of the overseas or local customer(s) as well as the value and description of the goods must be readily identifiable/ verifiable.

Stock-taking / Inventory audit of goods

- You must maintain sufficient evidence to indicate that a full and comprehensive internal and/ or external stock-take / inventory audit has been performed.

Discrepancy reporting of goods

- You must maintain reconciliation reports pertaining to discrepancies of the goods at the point of their:
 - Receipt into the warehouse (if any);
 - Removal from the warehouse (if any); and
 - After a stock-take / inventory audit is conducted

Invoicing for the goods supplied

- If you invoice your customer for the goods, you must maintain the following documents as evidence of the supply of the goods:
 - Tax invoices issued for all local supplies of goods
 - Invoices issued for all sales which are exported (i.e. the supporting export documents must be maintained as proof of exports of goods)
 - Evidence of payment received from the customer (if any)

You must produce all such records upon request by IRAS.

If you are an agent acting on behalf of overseas principals under Section 33(2) of the GST Act, you must keep separate records of the goods owned by the overseas principal as detailed in Appendix B.

Appendix B – Conditions and Record-Keeping Requirements of a GST Agent Acting on Behalf of Overseas Principals [i.e. section 33(2) or S33A agent]

For the avoidance of doubt, the conditions and/or requirements in Appendix B have the force of law.

Any correspondence or letter from each overseas principal, authorising the business as its local agent.

(a) Stock records for each overseas principal containing the following details:

(i) Inward handling/ Receipt of goods

- Date of import / goods removed from ZG warehouse / receipt
- Total import value / value of goods removed from ZG warehouse / value of goods received
- Description of goods
- Quantity of goods

The stock records must be supported by copies of Goods Received Notes ('GRN'), Delivery Orders ('DOs'), Customs permits, shipping documents, commercial invoices, insurance documents, correspondences with overseas principals/ suppliers and any other relevant documents.

(ii) Outward handling/ Removal of goods

- Date of export/re-export/sale
- Purpose of removals (local sale, export, re-export etc.)
- Description of goods
- Total value of goods exported/re-exported/sold
- Quantity of goods exported/re-exported/sold

The stock records must be supported by the relevant documents such as Purchase Orders ('POs'), Delivery Orders ('DOs'), Customs permits, shipping documents, commercial invoices, insurance documents, written instructions from and correspondences with overseas principals or their customers, tax invoice (if invoicing is done by the GST agent), evidence of payment received from the purchaser (if payment is made to the GST agent) as well as any other relevant documents.

(iii) Storage/Custody of goods

- Names of persons handing over and/or taking over the goods at each stage of their storage into the warehouse
- Storage locations of the goods in the warehouse

(iv) Stock-taking/Inventory audit of goods

- Records of full and comprehensive internal and/or external stock-take / inventory audit
- (v) Discrepancy reporting
- Reconciliation reports pertaining to discrepancies of the goods (if any) at the point of their:
- Receipt into the warehouse;
 - Removal from the warehouse; and
 - After a stock-take/ inventory audit is conducted

The GST agent must maintain proper stock reports and stock reconciliation reports for each of the overseas customers such that stock balance in the warehouse can be reconciled to the goods imported and the goods supplied.

- (b) Records of the overseas principal(s) for whom the GST agent is acting, as if the GST agent is the taxable person and complies with Section 46 of the GST Act.

Appendix C – Guarantee

A digital guarantee (or eGuarantee) may be required for the granting or renewing of IGDS status. We will notify you on the amount and validity period of the eGuarantee if required.

eGuarantees can be purchased from a number of [financial institutions](#). Please visit [eGuarantee@Gov](#) for more information on eGuarantees.

Appendix D – GST Reporting Requirements for IGDS

(a) Goods with import GST deferred with Singapore Customs

You will declare the value of goods imported under IGDS and the deferred import GST payable in the IGDS Section of your GST returns in the accounting period corresponding to the date of approval¹² of the permit. For example, a permit showing 17 January 2023 as the date of permit approval is to be declared in your GST return for the period covering from 1 January 2023 to 31 January 2023.

Please note that the value of imports reported in your GST return must be duly supported by valid permits and relevant supporting documents (e.g. commercial invoices and appropriate shipping documents such as bill of lading / airway bill).

(b) Importation of goods eligible for Input Tax Claims

Based on the conditions for claiming input tax, if you are entitled to claim the input tax incurred, you will also declare the value of imports under IGDS, in Box 5 “Total Value of Taxable Purchases” of your GST returns for the relevant accounting periods and the input tax credit to be made in Box 7 “Input tax and refunds claimed” in the GST returns in respect of such imports.

(c) Errors made in declarations of permits

Permits with value under-declared:

If you have under-declared the value of the goods in your permit, you are allowed to take up a supplementary IGDS permit to cover the difference in value provided that the original permit has not been used for clearance of goods and is for direct imports of goods into Singapore cleared via a Customs checkpoint manned by ICA (e.g. released from the Free Trade Zone, Woodland/Tuas checkpoint). The original and supplementary payment permits would then be used together for the clearance of the goods.

You are to report the supplementary permit as per (a) and (b) of Appendix D and in the accounting period corresponding to the permit approval date of the supplementary permit.

However, if the permit has been used or unused but expired or for imports of goods into Singapore cleared through an unmanned place where there is no ICA presence (i.e. This would include the release of goods from ZG/licensed warehouses for local consumption), you are to make good the difference in import GST immediately to Singapore Customs by taking a short payment permit. You are not to use your IGDS status for such cases. If you satisfy the input tax claim conditions, you can claim the import GST incurred in the short payment permit. You are to report the short payment

¹² The approval date can be taken as the start date of the validity period stated in the permit.

permit as per (b) of Appendix D and in the accounting period corresponding to the date of the short payment permit.

Permit with value over-declared:

Within Amendment Period

If you have over-declared the value of the goods in your permit, you are allowed to amend/cancel the permit with Singapore Customs provided that the permit has not been used and is still valid for clearance of goods within 14 calendar days from the original permit's approval date. Any amendments made to the permits should be reported in the month when the amendments have been made:

- (i) Amendment made in a **different month** from the original permit approval date:

You are to report the difference arising from the amended permit in the following accounting period.

<u>25 Jan 2024</u>	<u>31 Jan 2024</u>	<u>4 Feb 2024</u>	<u>28 Feb 2024</u>	<u>31 Mar 2024</u>
Original IGDS permit - Over-declare value of import	End of Jan Accounting Period	Amend IGDS permit value downwards	Due date for submission of Jan GST Return - Account based on IGDS permit declared on 25 Jan	Due date for submission of Feb GST Return - Account for the difference in value of permit dated 4 Feb

Example 1:

Company ABC over-declared its value of goods in the IGDS permit dated 25 January 2024 as \$100,000 and the deferred import GST is assessed as \$8,000. Subsequently on 4 February 2024, Company ABC amended the value of the goods in the IGDS permit to \$80,000 and the deferred import GST was revised to \$7,200.

In the GST return ending 31 January 2024, Company ABC would have made a declaration based on the original value of the goods (i.e. goods imported under IGDS as \$100,000 and deferred import GST as \$9,000). As the amendment was made in the month of February, Company ABC is required to declare the difference in value arising from the amendment (i.e. value of goods is -\$20,000 (\$80,000 - \$100,000) and deferred import GST is -\$1,800 (\$7,200 - \$9,000)) in the GST return ending 28 February 2024.

- (ii) Amendment made in the **same month** as the original permit approval date:

Example 2:

Company ABC over-declared its value of goods in the IGDS permit dated 25 January 2024 as \$100,000 and the deferred import GST is assessed as \$8,000. Subsequently on 30 January 2024, Company ABC amended the value of the goods in the IGDS permit to \$80,000 and the deferred import GST was revised to \$7,200.

As the amendment was made in January, Company ABC would have to make a declaration based on the final amended values (i.e. goods imported under IGDS as \$80,000 and deferred import GST as \$7,200) in the GST return ending 31 January 2024.

If Company ABC has submitted the GST return without taking into consideration the amended permit, Company ABC has to file a GST F7 to amend the values.

Beyond Amendment Period

In a situation where amendment of value is not allowed (e.g. beyond 14 days from permit approval date or permit was utilised) to be made, you are required to account the values for the IGDS section in boxes 19 and 21 of your GST return in accordance to the values stated in the IGDS permit. For Box 5 “Total Value of Taxable Purchases” and Box 7 “Input tax and refunds claimed” of your GST F5 return, you are to declare the correct value of the imported goods before GST (and not the over-declared import permit value) and the actual GST paid based on the permit respectively.

Example 3:

Company ABC over-declared its value of goods in the IGDS permit dated 25 January 2024 as \$100,000 (instead of \$80,000) and the deferred import GST is assessed as \$9,000. As Company ABC realised the error on 15 February 2024 and was unable to amend the permit with Singapore Customs, Company ABC is to make the following declaration in its GST F5 return for the period ending 31 January 2024 as follows:

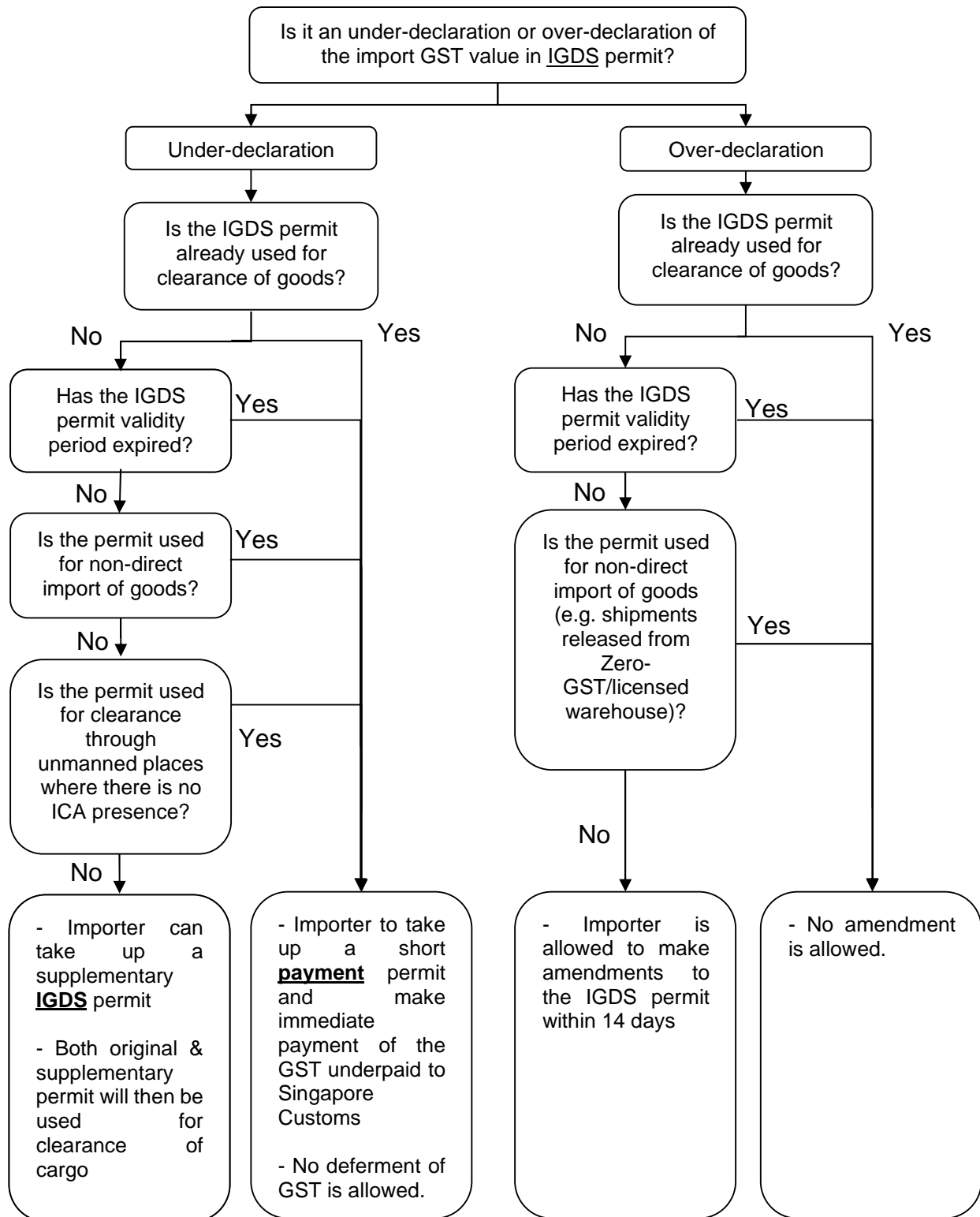
Box 5 “Total Value of Taxable Purchases” = \$80,000 (correct value)

Box 7 “Input tax and refunds claimed” = \$9,000

Box 19 “Deferred import GST payable” = \$9,000

Box 21 “Total value of goods imported under this scheme” = \$100,000 (permit value)

Overview for rectifying error declarations for IGDS permits:



Appendix E – Relevant TradeNet permit applications for IGDS shipments

Approved IGDS businesses that are submitting their own TradeNet permit applications and appointed IGDS declaring agents are advised to take note of the following types of permit applications for IGDS shipments:

Customs Permits with GST under deferment

- a) For the import of non-dutiable goods with GST under deferment:
 - i. Message Type = IN-Non Payment (INP)
 - ii. Declaration Type = APS (Approved Premises/Schemes)
 - iii. Place of Receipt Code = IGDS
- b) For the import of dutiable goods with duty payable and GST under deferment:
 - i. Message Type = IN-Payment (IPT)
 - ii. Declaration Type = DUT (Duty)
 - iii. Place of Receipt Code = IGDS
- c) For the import of dutiable goods with duty exempted and GST under deferment:
 - i. Message Type = IN-Non Payment (INP)
 - ii. Declaration Type = GTR (GST relief and/or duty exemption)
 - iii. Place of Receipt Code = relevant exemption codes e.g. TOBSP

For permits with values under-declared

- a) For valid permits which have not been produced for clearance at manned checkpoints (FTZs, LHQ, THQ, etc), to submit the following supplementary permit to account for the value under declared:
 - i. Message Type = IN-Non Payment (INP)
 - ii. Declaration Type = APS (Approved Premises/Schemes)
 - iii. Place of Receipt Code = SPIGDS
- b) For permits which have been produced for clearance or have expired, you are required to pay for the GST short paid to Singapore Customs by submitting the following application:
 - iv. Message Type = IN-Payment (IPT)
 - v. Declaration Type = GST (GST)
 - vi. Place of Receipt Code = SPNOSTK

For permits with values over-declared

- a) In general, amendments are allowed for valid IGDS permits which have not been produced for clearance. For IGDS duty payment permits, amendments to values are allowed within 14 days from the date of approval of the original permits, provided that these amendments do not affect the duty amounts payable.
- b) For all other cases of permits with values over-declared, any differences in values are to be accounted to IRAS in the GST returns.

Appendix F – Suggested Measures in Authorising Declaring Agents to Clear Goods Under Your IGDS Status

Review all such import permits taken up to ensure that you are the rightful importer. Internal procedures should be put in place to ensure that this review process is implemented by the employees.

This can be done by:

- (a) Obtaining from your authorised declaring agents a complete listing of import permits and verify against your suppliers' invoices to ensure that the imports declared by the agents are yours; or
- (b) Generating a permit listing from TradeNet on a regular basis, if you are a registered user, to ensure that there is no unauthorised usage of your IGDS status by matching the imports listed against your suppliers' invoices and your authorised declaring agents' listing.