



MAURITIUS REVENUE AUTHORITY

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT

COMMUNIQUE

Intellectual Property Rights - Ex-officio Powers of the MRA

1. The ex-officio powers, as provided in The Finance Act 2015, have come into effect as from 01st July 2015.
2. This provision allows MRA Customs to suspend, on its own initiative, clearance of goods where it has reason to believe that the right of the owner or authorized user of a patent, industrial design, collective mark or mark or copyright has been or is likely to be infringed.
3. Owners or authorized users will be notified of the suspension and called upon to apply for protection within three working days of the date of suspension, failing which the goods will be released.
4. Upon approval of the application, the Director-General shall within 7 days serve notice in writing to the applicant, importer, exporter or his agent of the suspension of the clearance of the goods.
5. The owner or authorized user will have another ten days from the date of approval to initiate legal action against the importer, failing which the goods will be delivered to the importer.

For any additional information or clarification, you may contact the **IPR Unit** of the MRA Customs, Custom House, Mer Rouge, Port Louis, Tel: 202 0500, Fax: 216 4361.

Mauritius Revenue Authority

28th July 2015

Tel: 202 0500 Fax: 216 4361 Website: www.mra.mu Email: customs@mra.mu