

# Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) in the UAE

## Become a trusted trader and secure customs benefits

## Introduction

The UAE Authorised Economic Operator (UAEO) programme provides traders with the opportunity to partner with the Customs Authorities. Both mainland and free zone established businesses who obtain the UAEO certificate can realise significant customs benefits, operational efficiencies, enhanced supply chain management and recognition as a trustworthy trading partner both with Customs Authorities and businesses. The UAEO programme is open to importers, exporters, customs brokers, freight forwarders and any other agents involved in the international supply chain.

The AEO programme is a globally recognised concept as defined by the World Customs Organisation (WCO) SAFE Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade. In addition, the UAEO programme is also mutually recognised by other countries, e.g. Saudi Arabia, South Korea, China and Indonesia, with more countries to join in the near future, e.g. India.

The UAE has 100+ certified AEO holders

61% of customs transactions were through AEO for H1 2020\*

AEO reduces operational cost by 36% and speeds up customs clearance by 53%\*

\*Source: Dubai Customs

## Benefits of Obtaining UAEO certification

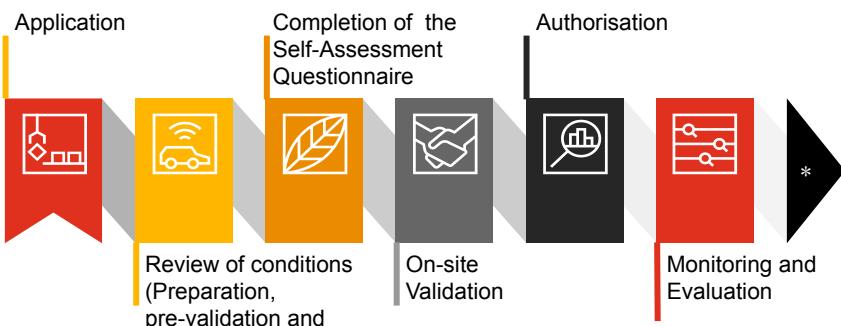
### Direct benefits

- Fewer physical and document-based controls
- Prioritisation of consignments and faster clearance by Customs
- Lower risk source = less physical controls
- Reduction or exemption from customs audits
- Controls carried out at place of preference
- Mutual recognition of AEO outside country of certification

### Indirect benefits

- Cash flow benefits, best practices and risk mitigation
- Decreased supply chain disruptions
- Reputational and marketing benefits as a trusted trader
- Improved customer confidence
- Improved relations with customs and other government authorities

## Authorisation Process



\*This can also be conducted prior to initiating the application process

## How PwC Can Help You

Provide tailored information about the UAEO benefits and implications

Assist during the validation and audit process

Support during the application process

Assist in process changes as necessary (including remediation) to obtain UAEO status

Help during the preparation and completion of the self-assessment questionnaire

Support in the management and maintenance of the UAEO certificate

## To learn more, please see our contact information below:

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