

# 'Customs in control!' by Waalhaven Douane Service

**To avoid fines and duty payments afterwards, it is essential that customs formalities are always handled correctly. This is an expertise in which Waalhaven Douane Service (WDS) excels. WDS' skilled staff smoothly makes the customs formalities of customers fully manageable.**

The head office of WDS is located at the heart of Rotterdam's Waalhaven area, right next to quays lined with stacked containers. The customs broker is obviously very familiar with the international transport sector. And regardless of whether import, export or transit flows are involved, customs formalities are always a necessary step in the logistics process, requiring expertise which WDS can provide. Especially starting companies or companies which are not familiar with customs activities can benefit from this knowledge. But the fast and reliable customs services and advices of the independent customs broker are also valuable to experienced logistics service providers and importers and



exporters. For example, large importers and exporters can directly link their computer systems to the system of WDS in a convenient and efficient manner for automatic interaction between WDS, the terminals and Customs. "The communication between companies and Customs runs constantly through WDS," says general manager Alwin Koolen. "We handle all occurring, customs-related activities and quickly and expertly relay the

orders of our customers to Customs language, in full conformity with the latest legal stipulations. We strive for direct lines of communication and fast response times and think along about customised solutions. Furthermore, we can offer various additional logistics services as well, through our sister companies within the Waalhaven group."

## AEO-recognition and Extended Gate

WDS is a subsidiary of the logistics service provider Waalhaven Group; the fully-fledged and neutral customs broker is independently AEO-customs/security certified. WDS has offices in Rotterdam, Antwerp and Born as well as an agency in Hamburg. The company employs 19 qualified and continuously trained specialists, to ensure they are always fully up-to-date with European customs developments such as Centralised Clearance. WDS puts service and quality first at competitive tariffs. "That means we critically verify all the orders of our customers. Is the country of origin and customs value of the cargo correct, have the right harmonized customs codes been provided? We actually prefer assessing this data, in advance, during an intake interview to prevent disappointment, f.e. in terms of additional duty payments, afterwards. Furthermore, we think along to solve bottlenecks. Linking our computer systems allows us to communicate swiftly and clearly." In addition to the AEO-certification, WDS has expanded its licenses with the status of 'Extended Gate', valid for all deep-sea terminals in Rotterdam: ECT, APMT, Euromax and of course all Waalhaven Group terminals. From here, containers can be moved without documents to the Barge Terminal in Born, resulting in welcome time savings and cost benefits for customers. While they are still waiting for the paperwork, the container can already be transported. "In this way, we make customs manageable for every customer - fast and tailor-made!"

WAAHAVEN douane service



WDS ANTWERPEN

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