



**SUMMARY OF CERTIFICATION OF
MANUFACTURERS BY THE JAMAICA CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT
(AUTHORISED ECONOMIC OPERATOR PROGRAM)**

Registration & Approval of Manufacturing Companies

The Jamaica Customs Department implemented the first phase of the Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) Program in October 2009 to enhance client relations, trade facilitation and compliance with tax laws. The first phase of the program involved the certification and approval of importers and customs brokers.

We are now embarking on the second phase of the program which involves our manufacturers and exporters. To commence this phase we will be requiring all manufacturers to register with the Jamaica Customs Department annually so that we can maintain a Manufacturers' Database to categorise manufacturers and identify new participants. This phase will also entail obtaining details about local exporters and fine-tuning the Exportation process especially for products from local manufacturers going into the European Market (EU) market.

The first segment of this second phase will involve the registration and approval of manufacturing entities that import raw materials and finished products.

The registration process is scheduled to begin on **May 3, 2010** and will continue through to **May 28, 2010**. The registration **questionnaire and materials data safety sheet** will be available for completion on the Customs website <http://www.jacustoms.gov.jm/>.

After the registration process is completed, an approval process will be conducted to verify the accuracy of the information you have provided to the Department and to determine if these entities are manufacturers or not. This process will take place during the period **May 31 – October 1, 2010** and will be done on an appointment basis.

As of **October 4, 2010** only manufacturers who are registered and approved will be able to utilise free code, waivers upon importation.

We are working diligently to certify all parties pertinent to the importation and exportation process to build a comprehensive Authorised Economic Operator Program and create a world class Customs Department.