



**CUSTOMS CHRONICLES**  
**JAMAICA'S AUTHORISED ECONOMIC OPERATOR (AEO) PROGRAMME: MAKING AN**  
**IMPACT IN GLOBAL TRADE**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2022**



Jamaica's Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) Programme has significantly contributed to cross-border trade and Jamaica's economy, in keeping with the mandates of the Jamaica Customs Agency (JCA) and international partnerships.

The AEO Programme continues to be of significant benefit to traders. In 2014, the JCA relaunched and implemented the AEO Programme to encourage and develop working partnerships with local and international trade entities and serve them in a more effective and customer-oriented manner.

With the programme giving way to faster processing, productivity has been positively impacted due to increased operations. Also, operators are able to remain competitive within their respective markets and in some cases, gain an edge over others.

Mr. Brian Henry, Chief Operating Officer of Camcorp Industrial Limited, a company which is also part of the AEO Programme, gave insight into the benefits the programme offers.

"It also adds to our legitimacy, overseas vendors tend to view your company differently when they must complete forms regarding inspection of containers etc., before shipping to us, this proves to them that we have standards by which we operate and gives us that trusted partner tag," he said.

Similar sentiments were shared by Logistics Manager, Mr. Richard Morris, of Caribbean Producers Jamaica Limited, who stated that as an AEO member, CPJ is regarded as a trustworthy entity by their vendors and business partners which give further merit to the business. Mr. Morris also highlighted how the programme has resulted in CPJ's heightened company security to align with the supply chain security requirement of the AEO Programme.

"The programme has aided the company in developing and to further improve security measures such as increased implementation of Closed Circuit TV (CCTV), restricted access to sensitive areas, increase checking of the premises, etc." he shared.

The JCA works assiduously to ensure the programme is always advancing for the benefit of all stakeholders. Thirty-four of the one hundred and thirty-two importers have started to export under the programme, experiencing faster processing, reduced delays in the supply chain and merit as an AEO operator by other operators, locally and internationally.

The AEO Programme was implemented on the premise that legitimate trade can be undertaken in a secure, safe, and speedy manner, within the ambit of the Customs law and other national and international regulatory framework. The programme allows traders to have their shipments delivered to them without going through mandatory Customs inspections all the time. For exporters, being part of the AEO Programme, globally, it affords their entities more credit or merit, within the markets in which they are exporting.

The JCA ensures our mandates – trade facilitation, revenue collection and border protection are executed efficiently and effectively, in keeping with the advancement of Jamaica's society and economy.

In keeping with its thrust to further educate its target audiences, the Jamaica Customs Agency placed emphasis on the AEO Programme, in its 'Triple C' Online Series: "Click, Connect and Converse with Customs," held under the theme: "Jamaica's Authorised Economic Operator Programme: Facilitating a Safer and More Effective Supply Chain...Locally and Globally," on June 30, 2022. The forum looked at the benefits of the programme, its requirements, obligations of exporters and importers, among other areas.

Through the AEO Programme and other initiatives, the JCA will continue to ensure legitimate trade is facilitated, Jamaica's borders and citizens are protected, and the revenue due is collected.

Generated by: The Public Relations Unit, JCA

**-END-**