



THE TRADE BOARD LIMITED

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PRESS RELEASE

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Trade Board Goes Online with Export Licences and CARICOM Certificates of Origin

Kingston, Jamaica: The Trade Board Limited announces electronic applications for export licences, starting Monday, April 6, 2020, amidst the effects of the COVID-19 disease. Customers can submit these applications via www.tradeboard.gov.jm/tb/Forms/exportform.pdf. Also, applications for CARICOM certificates of origin can now be uploaded to <https://www.tradeboard.gov.jm/TradeAgreements/adminlogin.php>. These measures will remain in force until further notice.

Douglas Webster, Trade Administrator/CEO advised that “this measure is a temporary one that is intended to safeguard staff and customers. We reviewed our operational procedures which led to the creation of this temporary, downloadable, online application form for export licences.” Also, Webster noted that “this move does *not* negate the impending launch of the Jamaica Single Window for Trade (JSWIFT). However, TBL has implemented this interim online application as a means of reducing the physical interactions within the office space and to provide an easier alternative for exporters. I must commend the staff, particularly those in the ICT Unit, for their tireless efforts in making this a reality.”

Director of Export Certification, Joan Butler added that “this move will be welcomed by the export community.” Butler asserted that “an electronic application is a benchmark for modern trade facilitation which fosters the ease with which business is conducted in Jamaica.” Furthermore, Butler stated that “the launch of an electronic application brings into focus the resiliency and tenacity of Jamaicans who are known to produce, even

under pressure.” Butler reinforced that “the export community eagerly anticipates the launch of JSWIFT which will provide greater connectivity across agencies.”

Other Measures Implemented

The Trade Board Limited has also implemented the following strategies to serve its customers remotely.

- 1. Only online applications for motor vehicle import licences and amendments will be accepted, until further notice. Please visit: <https://tbis.fsl.org.jm>**
- 2. CARICOM certification documents for export will be accepted via a drop-box in the customer area and processed within two (2) days.**
- 3. Manual scrap metal and firearm applications will be accepted, but customers will not be allowed beyond the designated customer service area.**
- 4. Effective April 1 - 8, 2020, adjusted operational hours for customers are Mondays to Fridays from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.**

Customers are encouraged to direct inquiries to info@tradeboard.gov.jm, or through direct messaging on social media via Instagram – <https://www.instagram.com/thetradeboardlimited> and messaging on Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/thetradeboard>.

Also, TBL is taking this opportunity to encourage all to remain calm and follow the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Wellness in practising good hand hygiene and social distancing as the Government of Jamaica intensifies its measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the island. If you require medical assistance, please contact 888-ONE-LOVE (663-5683) or 888-754-7792 or 876-542-5998.

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