



### Heading :

The following report may be of interest to :

### Summary :



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### Change of periods for storing goods in a Free Zone

Importers, Free Zone users and operators

On 25 August 2016, the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) released an Order of the Head of the NCPO no. 51/2559 re: the administration for goods stored in a Customs Free Zone and IEAT Free Zone and for goods that can be used as arms for disaster prevention and mitigation which took effect on the same day. This new NCPO Order specifies new times for the storage of cars and other goods in the Customs Free Zone and the IEAT Free Zone (collectively 'the Free Zone'), as highlighted:

1. **Before** 25 August 2016, new cars under HS code 8702 and 8703 that were kept in the Free Zone for more than two years needed to be removed from the Free Zone within 23 November 2016. For new cars that have been kept in the Free Zone for less than two years, they can remain in the Free Zone, but for not more than two years in total from the first storage date.
2. Goods other than new cars mentioned above that were stored in the Free Zone **before** 25 August 2016 can remain in the Free Zone for another two years from 25 August 2016.
3. Any goods kept in the Free Zone **after** 25 August 2016 can be stored for another two years from the first storage date.
4. If goods are transferred from one Free Zone to another, the storage date shall be continuous and counted from the first storage date in the first Free Zone.

Important: this Order does not apply to machinery, equipment, tools, instruments and parts thereof, which are used for industry and commerce in the Free Zone. If companies fail to comply with this Order, upon the conditions in this Order, the goods will be sold or destroyed under Customs laws, or they could lose their Free Zone duty privileges and duty and taxes will be collected. We recommend that companies should start monitoring their storage times of goods in the Free Zone in order to meet the requirements of the new Order.

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