

MED FRIGO is now AEO (Authorizes Economic Operator)



MED FRIGO completed all the necessary tasks and actions and acquired the **AEO** (Authorized Economic Operator) certification (AEOF) for Customs Simplifications and Security & Protection, on 29/4/2019.

What is AEO

The AEO concept is based on the Customs-to-Business partnership introduced by the World Customs Organization (WCO). Traders who

voluntarily meet a wide range of criteria work in close cooperation with customs authorities to assure the common objective of supply chain security and are entitled to enjoy benefits throughout the EU.

The EU established its AEO concept based on the internationally recognized standards, creating a legal basis for it in 2008 through the 'security amendments' to the "Community Customs Code" (CCC) ([Regulation \(EC\) 648/2005](#)) and its implementing provisions.

The programme, which aims to enhance international supply chain security and to facilitate legitimate trade, is open to all supply chain actors. It covers economic operators authorized for customs simplification (AEOC), security and safety (AEOS) or a combination of the two.

On the basis of Article 39 of the Union Customs Code (UCC), the AEO status can be granted to any economic operator meeting the following common criteria:

Conditions and criteria	AEOC	AEOS
Compliance with customs legislation and taxation rules and absence of criminal offences related to the economic activity.	X	X
Appropriate record keeping.	X	X
Financial solvency.	X	X
Proven practical standards of competence or professional qualifications.	X	
Appropriate security and safety measures.		X

The AEO status granted by one Member State is recognised by the customs authorities in all Member States (Article 38 (4) UCC).

AEO Benefits

AEO benefits are an integral part of the EU legislation governing the AEO status. The AEO benefits, dependant on the type of the authorization, are summarized in the table below:

Benefit	AEOC	AEOS
Easier admittance to customs simplifications	X	
Fewer physical and document-based controls <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • related to security & safety • related to other customs legislation 	X	X
Prior notification in case of selection for physical control (related to safety and security)		X
Prior notification in case of selection for customs control (related to other customs legislation)	X	
Priority treatment if selected for control	X	X
Possibility to request a specific place for customs controls	X	X
Indirect benefits (Recognition as a secure and safe business partner, Improved relations with Customs and other government authorities; Reduced theft and losses; Fewer delayed shipments; Improved planning; Improved customer service; Improved customer loyalty; Lower inspection costs of suppliers and increased co-operation etc)	X	X
Mutual Recognition with third countries		X