



UGANDA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

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ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVES TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RELEASE UNDER SEAL PROCESS UNDER THE UNBS (IMPORT INSPECTION AND CLEARANCE) REGULATIONS, 2015.

These administrative measures are issued under section 3(e) and 3 (f) of the UNBS Act, Cap 327 of laws of Uganda] and pursuant to the UNBS (Import Inspection and Clearance) Regulations 2015.

INTRODUCTION:

Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) has an obligation to protect public health and safety and to ensure that consumers get quality products that match value for their money. This is achieved through formulation and implementation of standards for both locally manufactured and imported products for the Ugandan market.

During the UNBS Imports inspection and clearance process some consignments are queried and the interventions may take some time as a result of the need to undertake laboratory testing etc, resulting in holding the consignments at a customs controlled area/bond hence accumulation of demurrage charges. Complaints and concerns from various stakeholders have been raised

hence the release under seal provision was incorporated under section 13 of the UNBS (Imports Inspection and Clearance) Regulations, 2015.

In this regard, UNBS is issuing the following administrative measures that shall be adhered to by all stakeholders:

1. The Importer whose goods are destined for a customs bonded warehouse or owner's premises and has paid all the relevant fees including the release under seal fee; PVoC surcharge (if applicable) and Test fees (if applicable), shall request for a release under seal through the UNBS online E-portal Release Under Seal module.
2. The store proposed to UNBS for storage will be inspected by the Bureau and must be securable, sealable and the goods must not be removed until the query is resolved.
3. An inspector may release goods under seal where the importer has cleared with the

requirements of Uganda Revenue Authority but the Bureau has subjected the goods to inspection, sampling, testing and evaluation.

4. The release under seal is subject to payment of an administrative fee of US\$50 in UGX equivalent in addition to inspection and testing fees.
5. A cash bond worth 15% of the CIF value of the goods shall be presented before the release under seal is authorized.
6. The cash bond shall be executed when the goods do not meet the requirements of the standard so as to cater for their destruction or re-exportation.
7. The cash bond shall be returned to the importer once an Imports Clearance Certificate is issued.

Dated: 24th February 2017

Dr. Ben Manyindo
Executive Director

Uganda National Bureau of Standards