



TAPA APAC INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM

TIS Quarterly Report (Q1 2025)

Driving Supply Chain Resilience Against Cargo Crime



TRANSPORTED ASSET PROTECTION ASSOCIATION ASIA PACIFIC

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Foreword

The Transported Asset Protection Association Asia Pacific (TAPA APAC) Intelligence System (TIS) Quarterly Report aims to provide insights on the evolving trends and challenges surrounding cargo crime, offering stakeholders a perspective on the state of supply chain security in Asia Pacific using the verified and authenticated TIS data collected for the first quarter of 2025.

TAPA is the leading global association that unites supply chain industry leaders and organizations with the common aim of upholding the highest standards of supply chain resilience and sustainability. In Asia Pacific, TAPA APAC helps manufacturers/shippers and logistics service providers to minimize cargo theft losses and increase the resilience of their supply chains through its Standards certification, training and membership programmes.

TIS is a tool which enhances the security and resilience of members' supply chains by providing insights into recorded incidents and cargo crimes globally, as well as information on facilities and trucking operators which meet the TAPA Standards Certifications.

The TIS database of cargo crime are gathered by TAPA members' first-hand reporting, professional intelligence consultancy, insurers, Law Enforcement Agencies, and open media sources. TAPA TIS dedicated team scrutinize and verify all information to confirm its legitimacy, assuring that only valid and substantiated incidents are acted upon, thereby upholding the highest standards of security and reliability of all TIS information.

This report has been prepared by the TAPA APAC TIS team to the best of knowledge and interpretation based on the verified Q1 2025 TIS data. The contents of this report are made available for informational purposes only. Neither TAPA APAC nor its advisors shall be liable for losses that arise in any way due to the reliance on the contents contained in this report.

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CARGO CRIME MONITOR 2025 (Q1)

ASIA PACIFIC

TOP CARGO THEFT IN Q1
BY COUNTRY

	No. of Incidents
India	103
Malaysia	15
Pakistan	12
Thailand	10
Philippines	9
Hong Kong, China	6
Indonesia	6
Singapore	6
Vietnam	4
Australia	3
Korea	2
Bangladesh	1
China	1
Japan	1
Macau	1

Total Recorded Incidents
of Q1

180

15 APAC countries reported
Incidents in Q1



Q1 APAC
Incident Count
180

Cases Stating a
Value
108

TOTAL LOSS IN Q1 (APAC)

\$54,370,155

*Total loss are summed from incidents that stated and reported a value

LIQUOR MANUFACTURING FACILITY ROBBED

Odisha, India

Armed persons that stole cash from a liquor manufacturing facility at gunpoint has been apprehended by local authorities.



Q4 2024 vs Q1 2025
Incident Count

↑ 60.7%

CUSTOMS LOCKS WAREHOUSE WITH USD 20M OF
COUNTERFEIT GOODS

Malabon, Philippines

The Bureau of Customs (BOC) discovered and locked a warehouse containing counterfeit shoes, bags, cosmetics, and various merchandise.



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Q4 2024 vs Q1 2025
Reported Counterfeit
Cases

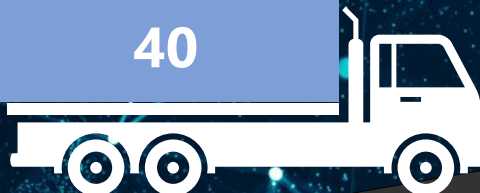
↑ 29.8%

Combined Facility
Related Incidents

103

Combined Transportation
Related Incidents

40



Q1 STATISTICS FULL BREAKDOWN

IN DESCENDING ORDER

180 TOTAL REPORTED CASES

Incident Category

• Counterfeit	87	(48.3%)
• Theft from Facility	34	(18.9%)
• Theft of Vehicle	15	(8.3%)
• Robbery	13	(7.2%)
• Theft from Vehicle	10	(5.6%)
• Hijacking	8	(4.4%)
• Theft	5	(2.8%)
• Clandestine	2	(1.1%)
• Unknown	2	(1.1%)
• Fraud	1	(0.6%)
• Theft from Container	1	(0.6%)
• Theft of Container	1	(0.6%)
• Truck Theft	1	(0.6%)

Modus Operandi

• Deception Other	87	(48.3%)
• Intrusion	42	(23.3%)
• Violent/Threat w Violence	16	(8.9%)
• Internal	15	(8.3%)
• Unknown	11	(6.1%)
• Cybercrime	3	(1.7%)
• Forced Stop	3	(1.7%)
• Deceptive Pick Up	1	(0.6%)
• Deceptive Stop	1	(0.6%)
• Theft from Moving Vehicle	1	(0.6%)

Location Types

• Origin Facility	60	(33.3%)
• Destination Facility	30	(16.7%)
• Retail Store	26	(14.4%)
• En Route	25	(13.9%)
• Unknown	11	(6.1%)
• Unclassified Parking	10	(5.6%)
• Authorized 3rd Party Facility	7	(3.9%)
• Secured Parking	5	(2.8%)
• Aviation Transportation Facility	2	(1.1%)
• Railway Operation Facility	2	(1.1%)
• Maritime Transportation Facility	1	(0.6%)
• Road Transportation Facility	1	(0.6%)

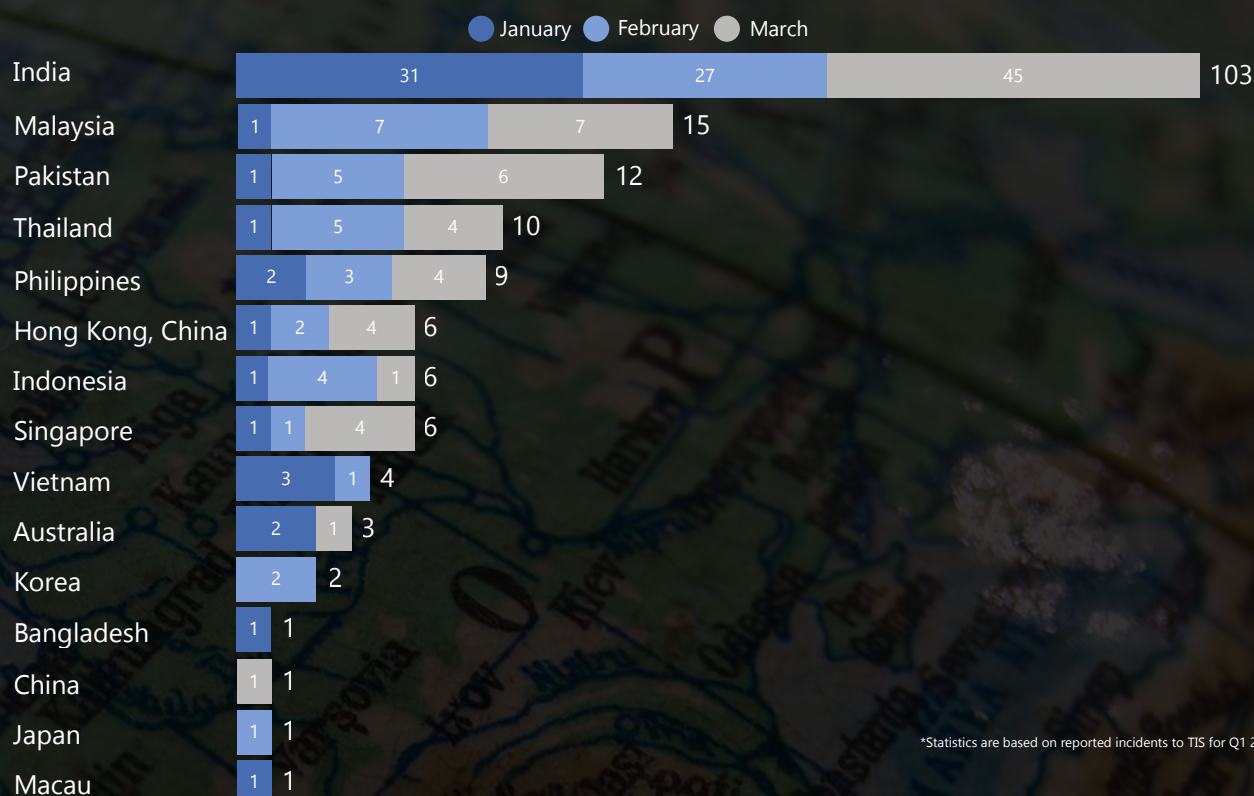
Product Category

• Food & Drink	38	(21.1%)
• Clothing & Footwear	16	(8.9%)
• Tools/Building Materials	15	(8.3%)
• Cosmetics & Hygiene	13	(7.2%)
• Tobacco	11	(6.1%)
• Pharmaceuticals	10	(5.6%)
• Fuel Theft	9	(5.0%)
• Agricultural Materials	8	(4.4%)
• Metal	8	(4.4%)
• Miscellaneous	8	(4.4%)
• Unspecified	8	(4.4%)
• Phones	7	(3.9%)
• Auto Parts	6	(3.3%)
• Jewellery/Precious Metals	6	(3.3%)
• No Load	5	(2.8%)
• Cash	4	(2.2%)
• Misc Electronics	4	(2.2%)
• Computers/Laptops	2	(1.1%)
• Furniture/Household Appliances	1	(0.6%)
• Tyres	1	(0.6%)

*Statistics are based on reported incidents to TIS
Actual number of incidents in APAC may be higher

Country Incident Reports of Q1 2025

Cargo Crime Reported by Country from January - March 2025



TIS received incident reports from 15 countries across the Asia Pacific region in Q1 2025, totaling 180 cases. India reported the highest number with 103 cases, followed by Malaysia with 15 cases and Pakistan with 12 cases. The highest number of incidents was recorded in March, showing a spike compared to previous months.

India's consistent lead is attributed to its active case reporting, while the steady reports from Malaysia, Pakistan, and Thailand provide insights into other emerging high-risk areas. This data shows the importance of cargo crime reporting to strengthen stakeholders' risk management and security strategies.

Combating Cargo Crime Through Standards & Incident Reporting

The reported data from various countries proves the importance of proactive tools and protocols, such as TAPA's industry-leading standards combined with the TAPA APAC Intelligence System platform, in strengthening supply chain operations and securing assets.

Combining the use of these standards with TIS to understand cargo crime patterns and trends allows for comprehensive risk assessment and strategic planning. This enables companies to counter emerging cargo crime trends in the APAC region.

Theft From Facility Case

Massive Engine Theft Uncovered at Andhra Pradesh Plant

📍 India

📅 March 2025

💰 USD \$1,045,585

Andhra Pradesh police have arrested nine individuals connected to the theft of approximately 900 automotive engines from a manufacturing plant in Sri Sathya Sai district. According to the report, most of the arrested individuals hail from Tamil Nadu, with two foreign nationals among them, both of whom are former employees of the automotive manufacturer.

The theft, amounting to nearly ₹9 crores (USD 1,045,585) in value, was uncovered during a year-end internal audit conducted in March. Each stolen engine weighs around 150 kilograms, bringing the total stolen weight to an estimated 135,000 kilograms. The company filed an official complaint with the local police on March 19, leading to a month-long investigation that culminated in the recent arrests.

Authorities revealed that the stolen engines were smuggled and sold across multiple Indian cities, including Meerut, Delhi, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, and Madurai. Investigations indicate the thefts occurred gradually over the past five years, suggesting a well-organized operation. Currently, over 30 individuals are believed to be linked to the racket, and concerns remain about several suspects who are still untraceable.

"This is extremely dangerous. These vehicles could potentially be used in criminal activities or fall into the hands of anti-social elements, posing a serious threat to national security," a senior police officer stated. Reports suggest that the stolen engines were reassembled with locally sourced parts to build functioning vehicles, further complicating the investigation.

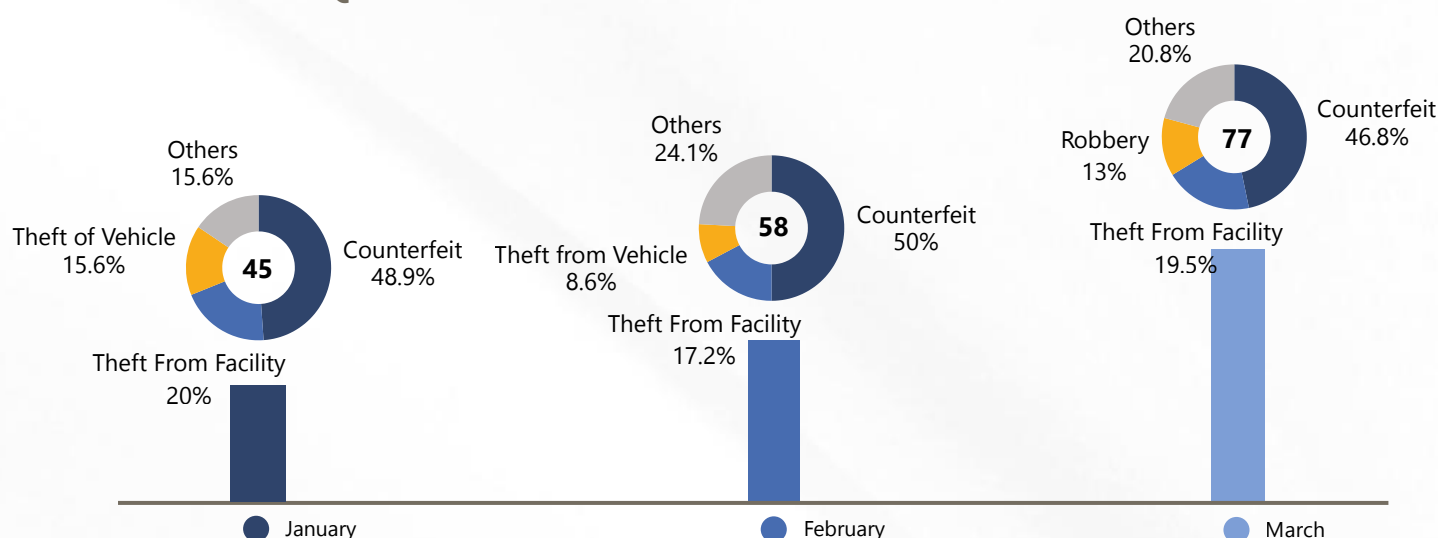
Police are now focused on identifying the masterminds behind the operation, tracking down the vehicles constructed using the stolen engines, and gathering information about their end users. Investigators are also examining whether internal audit protocols were neglected or if records were deliberately manipulated to hide the thefts.

Initial findings suggest the engines may have been rerouted during internal movements within the facility, pointing strongly towards an insider job. Three specialized police teams have been formed to investigate the case, and past and present employees of the company are being questioned. Authorities are scrutinizing CCTV footage, logistics records, and employee movement logs to piece together how such a massive theft went undetected for years.

Incident Count of Q1 2025

Cargo Crime Incidents from January - March 2025

Q1 2025 APAC Incident Count & Total Loss Count



*Statistics are based on TIS incidents with stated loss values for Q1 2025

In Q1 2025, the APAC region experienced a rise in cargo crime incidents and associated losses from January to March. January recorded 45 incidents, this increased in February to 58 incidents. The most notable surge occurred in March, which saw 77 reported incidents and a significant spike in losses. This upward trend is due to the increase in targeting of high value goods while counterfeit goods are increasing alongside the trend.

Theft from Facility Remaining Prominent

Theft from facilities increased, with a combined total of over 34 (18.9%) for all incidents reported to TIS in Q1 2025 involved facility break-ins, a figure that has more than doubled since Q4 2024. Criminal groups are increasingly targeting a diverse range of goods, with food products, electronic devices, and tools & building materials being the most targeted commodities due to the increasing value of these goods.



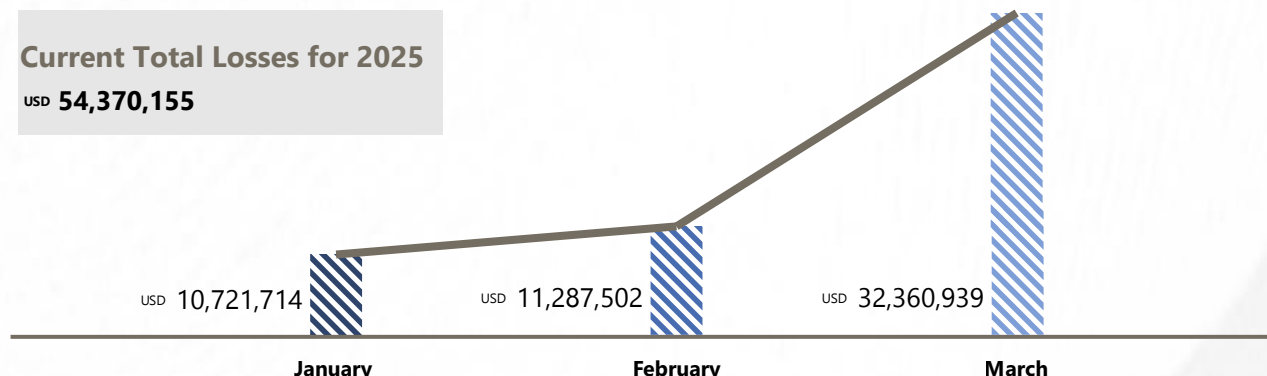
Modus Operandi - Intrusion Cases Increased Significantly in Q1



Intrusion incidents also saw an increase with 42 (23.3%) cases of all reported incidents. A major increase compared to Q4 2024. These breaches can be categorized into three main areas: facility-related intrusions, en route attacks, and parking locations. This trend provides insights on the tactics of criminals who now blend traditional facility break-ins with opportunistic strikes on vehicles in transit or parked in inadequately secured locations.

Total Losses of Q1 2025

Cargo Crime Losses from January - March 2025



In Q1 2025, total cargo-crime losses began with USD 10.7 million in January and rose slightly in February before rising significantly in March, a 186% month-on-month jump that accounted for nearly 60% of the quarter's losses. This spike in March is due to several high-value thefts alongside significant counterfeit-product seizures.

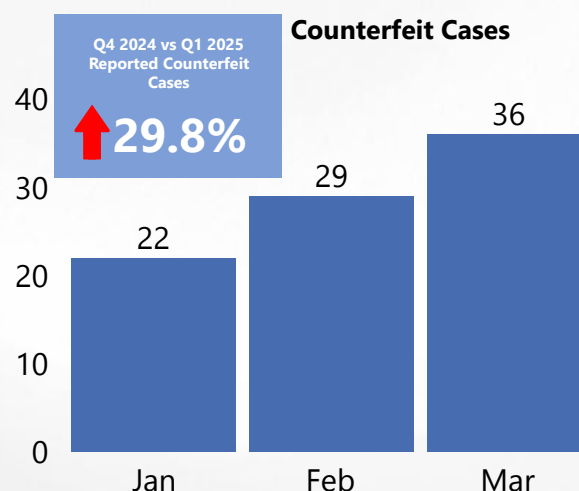
To mitigate such volatility, stakeholders should leverage TIS's historical data to pinpoint risk patterns to uncover criminal tactics and exposed routes, and increase the cadence of intelligence sharing among carriers, warehouse operators, and law enforcement. This enables more accurate analysis and the development of actionable insights to anticipate and counter these criminal groups that are constantly changing their tactics.

[READ TIS Q1 2024 REPORT HERE>](#)

Counterfeit Cases Continue to Surge

Incidents related to counterfeit products climbed steadily through Q1 2025, beginning with 22 reported cases in January, rising 31% in February, and then jumping another 24% in March.

Overall, the first quarter with a combined total of 87 incidents marked a 29.8% increase in counterfeit reports compared with Q4 2024's 67 incidents, signaling that counterfeiters are increasing their efforts to introduce fake goods into the supply chain through the use of multiple channels.



To counter this trend, companies and brands should deploy track-and-trace technologies, increase random inspections at high-risk nodes, and leverage TIS's historical data to identify emerging counterfeit hotspots. Regularly updating product-authentication protocols and fostering intelligence sharing among manufacturers, carriers, customs authorities, and law enforcement will be critical for detecting and intercepting counterfeit shipments before they pose financial and reputational damage.

[READ Q1's MAJOR COUNTERFEIT CASE>](#)

Insights from The TIS Working Group

Combatting the Surge: Strengthening Supply Chains Against Cargo Crime in 2025

Early 2025 saw cargo theft and related freight fraud climb to millions of dollars annually, threatening small carriers and the integrity of national supply chains. Criminals are deploying new methods of tactics like double brokering, identity hijacking of carrier credentials, load interception, and cyber-enabled scams.

A congressional hearing convened key stakeholders to explore root causes and advance solutions such as stricter broker vetting, relief funding for victimized carriers, enhanced data sharing, and expanded enforcement powers.

Billions of Losses Annually

Cargo theft encompasses theft of goods in transit by truck, rail car, or intermodal container and now includes complex fraud schemes that cost shippers, carriers, and consumers alike.

- A Senate subcommittee described the U.S. annual loss at anywhere from USD 15 billion to USD 35 billion, marking a peak not seen since at least 2020.
- Industry analysts estimate freight-fraud tactics alone add roughly USD 1 billion in losses each year.
- Platforms tracking cargo incidents reported substantial year-over-year increases in fraud and theft cases throughout 2024.

Impact of Losses

Independent and family-owned trucking firms often lack the deep financial reserves needed to absorb large losses from freight fraud. Industry surveys report average per-incident costs exceeding USD 400,000, with some carriers facing losses well over USD 1 million, meaning a single theft or scam can drive an owner-operator out of business. At the same time, third-party logistics platforms and law enforcement have observed a rise in credential-based fraud, in which criminals misuse numbers or fabricate broker identities to masquerade as legitimate carriers, diverting both goods and payments before disappearing, a tactic that has become one of the most pervasive and damaging forms of freight fraud today.

Core Challenges

Double brokering has become a pervasive challenge in the logistics sector, with fraudsters posing as brokers to accept loads from shippers via load boards and then reassigning them to unauthorized carriers, leaving genuine carriers to deliver goods without ever receiving payment. Credential and identity hijacking further depreciates trust in freight platforms, as criminals misuse numbers or fabricate broker registrations to submit fraudulent load requests, depleting platform credibility. These tactics also compromise safety and operations such as when carriers are forced to absorb large financial hits may defer critical maintenance or exit service altogether, reducing the number of experienced drivers on highways.

Proposed Solutions by the TIS Working Group

Hot-Spot Mapping & Patrols

- Use data analytics and platforms like the TAPA APAC Intelligence System to identify theft hot-spots and deploy patrols.

Secure Parking Infrastructure

- Designate and publicize secure truck parking areas, fenced, well-lit and CCTV monitored 24/7 as part of every carrier's Journey Risk Assessment.
- Route Planning Integration: Require carriers to factor secure-parking availability into route planning, prioritizing low-risk routes and vetted stopovers.

Technology & Response Enhancements

- Equip drivers with real-time panic-buttons linked to dispatch centers & nearest patrol units and assign trained armed or unarmed escorts on high-risk routes identified by reports and TIS, particularly for high-value or sensitive shipments, to deter organized and opportunistic attacks.

High-Value Cargo Prioritization & Market Oversight

- Priority Protocols: Flag electronics, high value metals, and other easily resold goods for enhanced in-transit monitoring and rapid-response support.

Embedding TAPA Standards

- Mandatory Baseline Compliance: Contracted facilities and carriers must meet TAPA Trucking Security Requirements (TSR) and TAPA Facility Security Requirements (FSR) as a service-level minimum.
- Support LSPs by offering a phased adoption plan toward TAPA certification, providing flexibility to begin with self-certification.

Grouping Threats & Streamlining Controls

- Classify risks (casual pilferage, organized rings, cyber hijack, terrorism) by probability and impact to focus each corrective action where it yields the greatest loss reduction.

Strengthening Critical-Infrastructure

- Extend TAPA's Cyber Security Standards into broader critical-infrastructure protection.

Rethinking Pilferage, Cyber Terrorism & Theft

- Recognize that modern attacks blend physical theft, insider collusion, and cyber means; update vetting, network monitoring, and both on-site and remote surveillance accordingly.

By integrating robust measures, secure infrastructure, standardized carrier processes, cutting-edge technology, and TAPA global Security Standards, the supply chain can adapt to and outpace the constantly changing threats of pilferage, fraud, cyber-terrorism, and cargo theft.

Thank You to the TIS Working Group Members for Their Collaboration on This Article

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Counterfeit Case

Customs Locks Warehouse with USD 20M of Counterfeit Goods

📍 Philippines

📅 March 2025

💰 USD \$20,951,183

The Bureau of Customs (BOC) has uncovered a warehouse in Malabon City containing an estimated P1.2 billion (USD 20,951,183) worth of illicit vapes and counterfeit merchandise.

In a statement released, the BOC reported that during the operation, agents from the Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service (CIIS) seized a wide range of products, including disposable vape brands that lacked Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) stickers. Other confiscated items included well-known brands of counterfeit footwear, wireless earphones & headsets, and counterfeit luxury bags.

Aside from these, authorities also found appliances, garments, cosmetics, and various household goods stored in the facility.

The warehouse owners have been given 15 days to present proof of legitimate acquisition and proper tax and duty payments. Failure to do so could lead to charges under the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act and the Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines.

The BOC Commissioner warned the public about the health and safety risks of counterfeit goods, especially fake cosmetics that have not undergone proper testing. Meanwhile, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted the broader dangers linked to counterfeit trade, pointing out its ties to money laundering, forced labor, and organized crime.

The warehouse has been locked and sealed pending a full inventory by customs authorities.

Combat Cargo Crime

TAPA Trucking Security Requirements (TSR)

TAPA Facility Security Requirements (FSR)

TAPA APAC Intelligence System (TIS)



Combined Resiliency

- Reduce risk of road Cargo theft
- Reduce risk of facility theft
- Enhanced security measures
- Route assessment
- Route assistance from TIS
- Find support from TSR & FSR sites across the region
- Incident alerts
- Modus Operandi trend insights

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For certification inquiries, please email to certification@tapa-apac.org



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