

## HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR

HM CUSTOMS Custom House Waterport



PRESS RELEASE

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## HM Customs Seize 800,000 cigarettes

Officers of HM Customs have made a seizure of 800,000 cigarettes, which were smuggled into Gibraltar via the Commercial Gate at the Land Frontier yesterday afternoon.

A commercial vehicle that had declared a consignment of sanitary ware at the East Gate commercial entrance was kept under surveillance by undercover officers.

The vehicle was stopped in the area of the East-side reclamation where a preliminary search revealed a total of 800,000 cigarettes in plain cardboard boxes.

Two men have been arrested and charged with fraudulent evasion of import duty. The retail value of the goods seized is in the region of  $\pounds75,000$ . The amount of import duty evaded is  $\pounds52,000$ .

HM Customs are continuing with their enquiries and further arrests have not been ruled out.