



Australian Government

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service



Cargo Management eBulletin

No: 10-2006 (November/December)

To print eBulletin or to view online, [click here](#)

Providing information to the Cargo and Shipping industries on the latest AQIS developments

◆ **New Payment Function for AQIS Services Related to Full Declaration Format and Short Format Self Assessed Clearances**

AQIS clients are now able to make payments for AQIS services on Full Declaration Format Self Assessed Clearance declarations (Full Dec Format SACs) and Short Form SACs from within the Customs Integrated Cargo System (ICS).

The changes mean industry will now be able to make payments for AQIS services that may be required in relation to imported goods entered on SACs. Such services include entry processing and/or any fees associated with subsequent inspection or treatments.

Full Import Declarations (FIDs) are lodged where the value of the goods being imported is above the import entry threshold (currently AUD\$1000), while SACs are lodged where the value of the goods imported is at or below the entry threshold. Full Dec Format SACs contain essentially the same information as FIDs, while Short Form SACs only have basic information, such as goods description.

Brokers are already able to make payments within the ICS on FIDs. The changes mean industry will now be able to make the same types of payments on Full Dec Format and Short Form SACs. **Click here for further information on how to make Full Dec Format and Short Form SAC payments.** Industry members should make sure that AQIS has received a SAC declaration before making a payment. In addition, for Short Form SACs, the SAC declaration must have been upgraded to AIMS before a payment can be accepted in the ICS.

◆ **Automatic Entry Processing (AEP) for Commodities Now Available**

AQIS clients will be able to reduce the number of visits required to the AQIS front counter, following the release of the Automatic Entry Processing (AEP) for Commodities scheme. A number of commodities are covered by the scheme, including New Tyres, Fin Fish (from New Zealand only), Dairy Products (from New Zealand only), New and Used Non-passenger Vehicles, Manufactured Wooden Articles, New and Used Machinery and Vehicle Parts, Plywood and Veneer Products, and Used Passenger Vehicles.

AEP for Commodities builds on existing broker accreditation schemes. The use of the AEP for Commodities scheme, together with the existing non-commodity schemes, allows brokers to:

- Assess non-commodity documentation,
- Assess commodity documentation, and
- Select the appropriate AQIS processing type, so that the consignment can be directed without AQIS involvement.

To be able to use the AEP for Commodities scheme, businesses must currently be operating under a compliance agreement for the existing broker accreditation schemes. The business must also register for the AEP Commodity Scheme - relevant forms and schedules can be found under the AEP for Commodities heading on the AQIS website at www.aqis.gov.au/iccomplianceagreements. Brokers processing entries under the AEP for Commodities scheme also require accreditation, and must have completed the AEP for Commodities training package. The training is delivered on-line through the Customs Brokers and Forwarders Council of Australia (CBFCA) website at a cost of \$88 including GST.

For further information regarding AEP for Commodities and the registration process, please contact AQIS on telephone, 02 6272 4893 or via email at brokeraccred@aqis.gov.au.

✦ Onshore Fumigation Strategy Takes Shape

Through the Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (AFAS) AQIS has assisted a number of major exporting countries to better manage and regulate their methyl bromide fumigation treatment providers. AQIS is now introducing the Onshore Fumigation Strategy, which will apply similar management and accreditation systems to methyl bromide fumigators in Australia.

The Onshore Fumigation Strategy will replace the existing co-regulatory arrangements and will apply to imported goods directed for methyl bromide fumigation by AQIS, as well as for export commodities where AQIS certification is required. The relevant standard applied will be the AQIS Methyl Bromide Fumigation Standard, which is identical to that used by countries operating under the AFAS system.

Once the Onshore Fumigation Strategy has been introduced, Australian methyl bromide fumigators will be required to show they can meet the fumigation standard before gaining accreditation. The Strategy will also include an ongoing audit system, which will ensure that fumigation businesses continue to operate in accordance with the requirements of the standard.

Preparations to support the implementation of the strategy are continuing, with revised onshore fumigation arrangements expected to be in place by the end of June 2007. AQIS will keep fumigators and industry informed of further developments in the lead up to the implementation of the new arrangements. For further information regarding the Onshore Fumigation Strategy, contact AQIS via email at onshorefumigation@aqis.gov.au.

✦ Updated Guidelines for Cruise Vessel Agents / Operators Released

AQIS has released an updated information package for cruise vessel agents and operators to provide information on AQIS inspections and requirements for vessels, crew and passengers.

The revised "Guidelines for Cruise Vessel Agents / Operators" explains AQIS requirements for the clearance of passenger vessels arriving at Australian ports. These guidelines cover a range of procedures including:

- pre-arrival requirements,
- passenger and crew clearances,
- non proclaimed port approvals,
- Quarantine Infringement Notices (QINs),
- management of waste, stores and animals, and
- AQIS surveillance and charging.

The Guidelines should assist AQIS to provide a more efficient and effective quarantine clearance process to operators and agents, with the minimum disruption to a vessel's crew and passengers. **Click here to access a copy of the revised Guidelines.** Should you have further queries, please contact the local AQIS office in your state (contact details are provided in the Guidelines).

✦ **AQIS Operations Over Christmas / New Year Period**

AQIS is reminding Industry clients about the reduced availability of AQIS services over the upcoming Christmas / New Year period.

In addition, AQIS is encouraging cruise vessel agents and operators to notify AQIS as far in advance as possible about services that may be required over this period. This additional notification time would allow AQIS to plan well ahead and deliver the services required in a timely manner.

For further information regarding AQIS's opening hours and services over the holiday period, **please refer to the Notice to Industry on AQIS's website.**

✦ **Summary of December 2006 AICCC Meeting**

The most recent meeting of the AQIS/Industry Cargo Consultative Committee was held on 6 December 2006 in Sydney. A full report will appear in the next eBulletin. Briefly, the major topic discussed at the meeting was AQIS IT developments. Other issues discussed in detail included:

- the AICCC Strategic Plan,
 - cargo risk management and the Import Clearance Effectiveness (ICE) project,
 - the review of issues associated with Giant African Snails (GAS),
 - ongoing work in the Industry Partnerships area, and
 - the impact of harmonised tariff changes on brokers.
-

✦ **Season's Greetings**

As this is the last eBulletin for 2006, AQIS and the AICCC would like to wish you, your colleagues and your families all the best for the festive season and a safe and happy new year. Both AQIS and the AICCC have enjoyed working with industry members throughout 2006 and look forward to a prosperous 2007.

✦ Summary of documents and alerts released by AQIS Cargo Management in October/November 2006

Reference Number	Document	Overview
1	<u>Notice to Industry 11, 2006-07</u>	New AQIS Payment Option for Self Assessed Clearance (Full Declaration Format) Declarations (Full Dec Format SACs) Available From 31 October 2006
2	<u>Notice to Industry 12, 2006-07</u>	Commencement of the Automatic Entry Processing (AEP) for Commodities scheme
3	<u>Notice to Industry 13, 2006-07</u>	Onshore Fumigation Strategy
4	<u>Notice to Industry 14, 2006-07</u>	New AQIS Payment Option for Self Assessed Clearance (Short Form) Declarations
5	<u>Seaports Advice to Agents 11/06</u>	Advice to Agents - Cruise Vessel Requirements
6	<u>Public Quarantine Alert (PQA) 0495</u>	US Citrus 2006/07
7	<u>PQA 0496</u>	Notice to importers of whole and split lentils for human consumption
8	<u>PQA 0497</u>	Notice to AQIS staff and Seed/Plant Importing Industry: Revised hosts of Guava Rust
9	<u>PQA 0460</u>	Timber and timber mouldings - <i>Myrtaceae</i> spp. - guava rust reported countries
10	<u>PQA 0498</u>	Changes to the Quarantine Proclamation 1998, October 2006
11	<u>PQA 0021</u>	Manufacturer's declarations - format requirements
12	<u>PQA 0500</u>	Treatment changes to NZ avocado imports
13	<u>PQA 0447</u>	Burnt Pine Longicorn season 06/07 commencement
14	<u>PQA 0501</u>	Changed Import Permit Conditions for Fresh Taro

✦ Contact cargobulletin@aqis.gov.au if you have any queries, suggestions or requests for further information

The Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry seeks to publish its work to the highest professional standards. The Commonwealth does not warrant the accuracy or currency of the information which comes from third parties. Readers should rely on their own skill and judgement in applying any information to particular issues or circumstances. To the maximum extent permitted by law, the Commonwealth disclaims all liability for any loss, damage, expenses and costs incurred by any person arising out of using or relying on any part of the information provided in this eBulletin.

✦ DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY ✦