



Australian Government

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service



Cargo Management eBulletin No: 10-2005 (November)

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✦ **Current issues concerning AQIS Cargo Management and the Cargo and Seaports Industries**

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✦ **Integrated Cargo System - AQIS Support**

AQIS is continuing to provide additional support to Industry following the cutover to the Customs Integrated Cargo System (ICS) on 12 October 2005.

A number of AQIS offices have extended their front counter opening hours to give brokers and importers greater flexibility in addressing the quarantine issues associated with imported consignments. This has included weekend opening at the Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth and Adelaide offices. Demand for AQIS services during these periods is being continually monitored, and updates to extended hours are being provided regularly to clients through Notices to Industry. [Click here to access further information on extended opening hours.](#)

The AQIS CMR help desk will continue to be available to answer inquiries about cargo of AQIS interest that is reported to the ICS. The AQIS Help Desk can be contacted on **1800 170 548** (free call), or via email at CMR@aqis.gov.au. AQIS client support staff are available from Monday to Friday 07:30 to 17:00 Eastern Daylight Saving Time, with limited support on weekends.

Importers and brokers are reminded that the AQIS CMR help desk can not assist with:

- Inquiries relating to third party software providers. These should be referred to the provider.
- General ICS reporting requirements. These inquiries should be directed to the Customs Information and Support Centre on 1300 363 263.
- Non-ICS related AQIS inquiries, such as questions about AQIS import requirements, permit conditions or business operating arrangements. These should be referred to the AQIS office in your local region.

General information on AQIS requirements under CMR can be obtained from the AQIS website (follow the links to the CMR page): [AQIS CMR Webpage](#).

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✦ **Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme Extended to Thailand**

The Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (AFAS) will shortly be extended to Thailand. It will become the third country to operate under the system, which has been in place in Indonesia since June 2004, and Malaysia since October 2005. The inclusion of Thailand in the AFAS system is the result of collaboration between AQIS and the Thai Department of Agriculture (DoA).

AQIS expects to receive and publish a list of Acceptable Thai Treatment Providers before the end of November 2005. Once published, there will be a phase in period where AQIS will begin accepting fumigation certificates from Thai AFAS accredited fumigators. During this period, AQIS will continue accepting all valid Thai treatment certificates (providing the facility is not listed on AQIS's Offshore Treatment Providers List as 'Under Investigation', 'Unacceptable' or 'Suspended'). Once this period is finished, certificates from Thai methyl bromide fumigation companies will only be accepted by AQIS if they are valid and are from facilities on the AQIS list of Acceptable Thai Treatment Providers (i.e. the list of AFAS Registered Thai Treatment Providers produced by the DoA).

Industry can periodically check the AFAS web site at www.aqis.gov.au/AFAS for updates on the implementation of AFAS for Thailand. AQIS will publish the list of Acceptable Thai Treatment Providers on this site and at <http://www.aqis.gov.au/afastp> as soon as it is available. In the interim, industry may contact Thai methyl bromide treatment providers to confirm that their company will be included on the DoA list. [Click here for further information about AFAS in Thailand.](#)

AQIS is also working in collaboration with other countries to facilitate the accreditation of their fumigation treatment providers under AFAS. AQIS anticipates implementing AFAS for India in early 2006, and is working with quarantine agencies in the Philippines and China to progress the implementation of AFAS later in 2006. For further information on AFAS, please contact AFAS@aqis.gov.au.

✦ Acceptable and Unacceptable Offshore Treatment Providers

AQIS is reminding importers to make sure that treatment certificates accompanying imported goods are from acceptable treatment providers. Whenever a consignment has undergone an offshore treatment, brokers should check the current status of the treatment provider on the electronic version of the [Offshore Treatment Providers List](#).

The List is updated by AQIS on a regular basis. If a certificate has come from a provider that is listed as 'Under Investigation', 'Unacceptable' or 'Suspended', then it will not be accepted.

Brokers are also reminded that there is no certification allowance for goods in transit. For example, a treatment provider that was 'Acceptable' at the time a treatment was performed, may have moved to being 'Under Investigation', 'Unacceptable' or 'Suspended' by the time the related quarantine entry was lodged. Brokers are therefore encouraged to lodge entries as soon as possible. This helps to avoid problems associated with list updates, and reduces the chance that an entry is assessed against an outdated treatment provider list.

Similar provisions apply for certificates from treatment providers that have been reinstated as 'Acceptable'. Where an offshore treatment provider is reinstated, AQIS will only accept treatment certificates issued on or after the date of reinstatement. AQIS will not accept any treatment certificates issued prior to the date of reinstatement. Information about the reinstatement date for recently reinstated providers is also provided on the Offshore Treatment Providers List.

Should you have any enquiries regarding the above information, please contact AQIS Import Clearance at treat.inspect@aqis.gov.au, or by phone on 02 6272 3400.

✦ Summary of documents and alerts released by AQIS Cargo Management in September 2005

Reference Number	Document (Clicking on the links below will take you to the relevant page of the AQIS website)	Overview
1	Public Quarantine Alert (PQA) 0428	Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (AFAS) Malaysia
2	Compliance Agreement Notice 2005/20	Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (AFAS) Malaysia
3	Notice to Industry 12, 2005-06	Changes to the acceptance of methyl bromide fumigation treatment certificates from Malaysian treatment providers
4	Notice to Industry 13, 2005-06	AQIS CMR Help Desk – Scope of Services During ICS (Imports) Transition
5	Compliance Agreement Notice 2005/21	Continuation of AEP Under ICS
6	Imported Food Notice (IFN) 08/05	Changes to customs threshold and the implications for Imported Foods.
7	IFN 09/05	Amendment to the list of approved fish processing establishments - Department of Fisheries, Thailand.
8	Notice to Industry 14, 2005-06	Clarification of Acceptance Dates for Offshore Treatment Certificates
9	Notice to Industry 15, 2005-06	Machinery and Military National Co-ordination Centre post implementation review questionnaire
10	Compliance Agreement Notice 2005/22	Quarantine Approved Premises – Class One Sea and Air Freight Depots Scheme – Extension of the On-Line Re-Accreditation Training Package
11	Notice to Industry 16, 2005-06	AQIS will be Processing Entries at Major Ports on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 October 2005 8: 30am until Noon (Local Time)
12	Notice to Industry 17, 2005-06	Extended Opening Hours for Entry Processing at AQIS Offices in Major Ports
13	Notice to Industry 18, 2005-06	Extended Opening Hours for Entry Processing at AQIS Offices in Major Ports

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

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