



1 Meeting Agenda

Meeting Number: 03/03
Meeting Name: Trade Facilitation Forum
Date: Friday 13 June 2003
Time: 11:00am
Location: Training Room, NSW Office of AFIF, Suite 403, Level 3, The Office Tower, Eastgardens Shopping Centre, corner of Wentworth Avenue & Bunnerong Road, PAGEWOOD

2 Invitees/Attendees

Y - in attendance, N - absent, S – substitute, A - apology

	<u>Name</u>		<u>Name</u>
	<u>Customs</u>		<u>CBFCA</u>
A	David Collins (Regional Director)	Y	Beatrice Kemp (President CBFCA NSW Branch)
Y	Gayle Brown (Regional Manager)	Y	John Skevington
Y	Jennifer Reimitz (Director Compliance Assurance)	Y	Michael Hudson
Y	Dick Dacron (Director Cargo & Trade)	Y	Tony Futouros
Y	Mal Graham (Co-ordinator of CMR)		
Y	Doug Greaves (Director Cargo Assurance)		<u>AFIF</u>
Y	Kim Simmat (Senior Customs Officer Compliance Assurance Team 5)	Y	Brian Lovell (CEO AFIF)
		Y	Stuart McFarlane
	<u>CAPEC</u>	Y	Paul Angel
A	Chris Charlton		

3 Agenda

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
1	Minutes from the previous meeting	
2	Matters arising from the previous meeting	
3	Review of Trade Facilitation Forum Terms of Reference	Customs
4	IEQ Results	Customs
5	CMR update	Customs
6	Container Examination Facility update	Customs
	(a) Potential storage on containers selected for x-ray or examination	AFIF
7	General Business	
8	Next Meeting	

4 Minutes

Meeting commenced 11:15am.

ITEM 1 – Minutes from the previous meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 April 2003 were confirmed.



ITEM 2 – Matters arising from the previous meeting

Hold status on green-line cargo

Mal Graham provided an update to the hold status on green-line cargo. A broadcast message was placed on COMPILE in April, explaining what action needs to be taken. At the same time, Customs undertook a review of profiling to reduce the level of these holds occurring.

Visitation program

Dick Dacron provided an update to the Customs visitation program, the client agencies have been selected and a meeting will be scheduled in the near future to discuss the objectives of the program. At the present time, 15 organisations have signed up, and at least 50 Customs staff have expressed an interest in participating in the program.

Prior to the commencement of the program, a statement of objectives and Terms of Reference will be developed and agreed to by CBFCA and AFIF.

Gayle Brown thanked both CBFCA and AFIF members for their commitment to this program.

ITEM 3 – Review of the Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference have been amended to include the Confederation of Asia Pacific Express Carriers (CAPEC).

The amended Terms of Reference were formally endorsed.

ITEM 4 – IEQ results

Kim Simmat reported on IEQ statistics for April and May 2003, the error rate for April was 8.97% whereas in May the error rate fell to 7.26%.

Tariff errors still remain the largest errors reported at 55%. Of the 55% Tariff errors, 31.82% of these errors related to classification. Tariff errors are followed by Valuation errors at 17% and Owner and Supplier code errors at 16%.

Entries in May were at their lowest since January, with only 213 entries processed for the month. There were many environmental factors which could have contributed to the fall.

Andrew Hosking was invited by the CBFCA to provide an information session on IEQ and cargo reporting statistics at a recent Compliance Forum. A similar presentation was made to CAPEC shortly thereafter.

Gayle Brown noted that Customs is monitoring compliance on an ongoing basis and currently there is a focus on deliveries without authority. Customs may distribute correspondence in relation to this matter in the near future. Should this occur a copy will be provided to CBFCA, AFIF and CAPEC.

Dick Dacron reported that the number of inquires through the Customs Information & Support Centre (CI&SC) regarding COS codes has increased considerably over the last two months, April had 2000 inquires while in May there was 3000. Dick Dacron suggested that clients correspond with the CI&SC by using email as it provided a record of correspondence.

ITEM 5 – CMR update

Mal Graham provided the following CMR update:

Timetable

- R1 testing commenced on 12 June
- June 2003 - Exports testing by software developers.



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- ❑ 18 August 2003 - Client Registration for the Export Release commences (refer Note 1 below)
 - ❑ October 2003 - Import Cargo Reporting - testing commences (R3A)
 - ❑ 17 November 2003 - Export Transition commences
 - ❑ 1 December 2003 - Full Cut Over to Export component of ICS
 - ❑ March 2004 - Import Client Registration commences.

As a result of industry concerns Customs has recently decided to register ABN clients in the ICS where ABNs have been quoted two or more times on export entries lodged in the 12 months to July 2003. *(Note that in regard to the Import Release a similar approach will be taken with import declaration clients where ABNs are quoted two or more times over a yet to be confirmed 12 month period. Also, suppliers quoted on import entries two or more times over a yet to be confirmed 12 month period will be input into the ICS by Customs.)*

Paul Angel asked whether ABN export client information would be input by Customs in ICS by 18 August 2003. The question has been referred to Central Office.

In response to industry concerns Customs is now considering bringing forward the start date for Import Declaration testing.

Accredited Client Program review (ACN 2003/18) - meetings have recently been held which included consideration of service providers under the program.

Version 3.0 of the Software Developers Guide was released to industry last Friday. It contains further Exports Release information as well as some messages relating to Import Cargo Reporting. This new version also contains an overview of the Export Release messaging. Work continues on the development on EDI messages for use with Import Declarations.

New FACT Sheets available in next two weeks on :-

- Export Penalties
- Import Cargo Reporting
- Software Products & Services.

E-learning tutorials available on disc for dissemination:-

- What is the ICS?
- Obtaining a Digital Certificate
- Making the connection to Customs
- Features of the ICS.

Customs Interactive Simulation for Exports is now available on CD (industry can contact the Customs 1800 022 267 for copies).

Customs CMR 1800 number is now available from 8.30am to 8pm EST to provide coverage during business hours for clients from the west.

Details of the cost of Digital Certificates were provided as a handout at the meeting in response to a request made at the previous meeting.

Centralisation of Customs Functions

Mal Graham advised that the Drawback function would be centralised in Melbourne effective from 1 July 2003. An ACN should be disseminated shortly to explain the changes. It was suggested that a list of contact officers be provided to assist with inquires.

It was suggested that some form of acknowledgement of receipt of Drawback applications should be introduced.



Paul Angel raised the issue of the inconsistency of Drawback procedures in different states. Jennifer Reimitz asked Paul Angel to provide specific examples out of session.

Customs would still provide a facility, by where Drawback claims can be lodged at either Link Road or Pitt Street, date stamped and sent to Victoria.

Mention was also made that the Licensing function relating to s77G Depots and s79 Warehouses has already been centralised in Central Office.

John Skevington asked if Valuation Advices had now been centralised in Victoria. Mal Graham to provide an update at the next meeting

ITEM 5 – Container Examination Facility update

Dick Dacron advised that the Sydney Container Examination Facility (CEF) is currently aiming to x-ray 100 containers per day.

The most significant finds since the CEF commenced operations in Sydney in January have been:

- 25 million cigarettes
- 11 tonnes of tobacco
- 24.5kg of heroin
- 223kg of ice.

Brian Lovell raised the issue of potential storage costs on containers selected for x-ray or examination. Gayle Brown advised that AFIF and CBFCA should raise this issue at the Customs National Consultative Committee (CNCC).

ITEM 6 – General Business

No General Business raised.

ITEM 7 – Next Meeting

A proposed date for the next meeting was Tuesday 19 August 2003 at 11:00 am. Customs representatives to provide a venue for the next meeting. Parties agreed to this proposal.

Gayle Brown thanked AFIF for hosting the Trade Facilitation Forum meeting.

Meeting concluded 1:20pm

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 19 August 2003
11:00 am venue to be advised at a later date**