



Australian Government  
 Department of Transport and Regional Services  
 Office of Transport Security

# Transport Security

## AIR CARGO OPERATORS, HANDLERS AND CARRIERS: EXISTING REGULATED AGENTS

If you are currently a regulated agent under the *Air Navigation Act 1920* and handle international air cargo, or international and domestic air cargo, you will need to be covered by an approved transport security program by 10 March 2005 when the new *Aviation Transport Security Act 2004* and its accompanying regulations come into force. Depending on your type of operation, you may need to make modifications to your current security program.

### Changes to aviation security legislation – and how they impact you

Regulations under the *Aviation Transport Security Act 2004* will make provision for existing regulated agents' security programs currently approved under the *Air Navigation Act 1920* to be transitioned for up to two years from 10 March 2005. Once this occurs, you will be referred to as a transitioned regulated agent.

<b>If you handle or make arrangements for international air cargo only:</b>	. . . you will need to confirm this with the Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS) by <b>24 February 2005</b>
<b>If you handle or make arrangements for international and domestic air cargo:</b>	. . . you must complete a <i>Domestic Cargo Security Measures</i> document and confirm to DOTARS by <b>24 February 2005</b> that this documentation has been written and implemented

### **Domestic Cargo Security Measures document – what is it, why you need it and how it may affect you and your transitioned security program**

- Domestic air cargo security will be regulated for the first time following the implementation of the *Aviation Transport Security Act 2004* on 10 March 2005. This will extend the current regulated agent scheme to include the movement of cargo on domestic services.
- Transitioned regulated agents who also operate domestically will be required to develop and implement a *Domestic Cargo Security Measures* document.
- This document is to ensure you are able to continue to handle or make arrangements for domestic air cargo after 10 March 2005. It must outline the security measures and procedures that will be implemented by you to achieve defined security outcomes.

The Office of Transport Security (OTS) has prepared guidance material to assist you in the development of this document and an accompanying standard confirmation letter for you to use.

**The relationship of the *Domestic Cargo Security Measures* document to your existing documentation and legal requirements is overleaf.**

## **Responsibilities for air cargo handlers, operators and carriers – after 10 March 2005**

- **After 10 March 2005** - Anyone who handles or makes arrangements for air cargo without being covered by an approved transport security program will be breaking the law and may be fined.
- **Between 10 March 2005 and 10 March 2006** - If you are a transitioned regulated agent, you will need to prepare and submit a new transport security program. Your new transport security program will need to be developed in accordance with guidelines that are being prepared by Office of Transport Security in consultation with the air cargo industry.

DOTARS has prepared guidance material to assist you to put these programs in place. If you don't already have a copy of this material, it can be downloaded from our website ([www.dotars.gov.au](http://www.dotars.gov.au) – follow the Office of Transport Security links), or you can telephone **1300 307 288** (available 24 hours) for a copy.

## **Requirements for transport security program holders**

To submit a transport security program you will need to complete the following steps:

- Conduct a security risk assessment of your business – guidance material is available to help you complete a risk assessment to the standards required by the legislation.
- Develop a draft transport security program – further guidance material is available to help you develop a full complement of measures and procedures aimed at achieving specified security outcomes. These measures must be consistent with the findings of your risk assessment.
- Submit your draft transport security program to the Office of Transport Security for assessment and approval – an assessment officer will talk to you about any changes that may be required to produce a final program that meets the standards of the *Aviation Transport Security Act 2004*.
- To meet audit requirements, you will be required to implement your transport security program and conduct internal audits and reviews of your program on a regular basis. The Office of Transport Security will also conduct audits of transport security program holders and their sites to ensure their program complies with the conditions of the *Aviation Transport Security Act 2004*.

**You need to submit a draft Transport Security Program to the Office of Transport Security by 10 March 2006.**

## **For further information**

For further guidance regarding your responsibilities, the requirements of a transport security program and your options, please contact:

The Office of Transport Security

The Department of Transport and Regional Services

PO Box 594

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Website: [www.dotars.gov.au](http://www.dotars.gov.au) (and follow the Office of Transport Security links)

Telephone: 1300 307 288 (available 24 hours)

Email enquiries to: [air.cargo@dotars.gov.au](mailto:air.cargo@dotars.gov.au)