



Notice to Industry

23/2005-06

AQIS Import Clearance Fees – Fee Amendments Due to Customs Threshold Change - Effective from Monday 14 November 2005

The purpose of this notice is to advise industry of revised fee rates for air cargo import declaration (ID) and sea cargo ID services provided by the AQIS Import Clearance Program. The fees rates to become effective from Monday 14 November 2005 are as follows:

FEE	CURRENT CHARGE	NEW CHARGE EFFECTIVE MONDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2005
ID air	\$6.50	\$14.00
ID sea	\$6.50	\$7.00

Reason for fee changes

On the 12th October 2005 the Australian Customs Service (Customs) changed the ID threshold for air and sea cargo from \$250 to \$1000. As a direct result of this threshold change, AQIS will receive fewer IDs and will be required to process some 600,000 additional Self Assessed Clearances (SACs).

As the AQIS Import Clearance Program operates under 100% cost recovery, the fee increase is necessary to maintain AQIS's revenue base at its current levels and to provide for additional resources to process the increase in SACs. The ID air and sea fees have been changed to ensure revenue received from inspection services remains in line with the cost of providing the service. The ID air fee has increased more than the ID sea fee; this is due to the change in the Customs threshold having a greater impact on the provision of air cargo clearance by AQIS staff.

The above fee structure has been in place for sometime and is in line with charging mechanisms applied by Customs. The fees will be subject to a review before the end of the 2005-06 financial year.

Consultation

The revised fees have been prepared in close consultation with the AQIS/Industry Cargo Consultative Committee (AICCC), and are based on the forecast of continuing growth in imports for the 2005-2006, 2006-2007 and 2007-08 financial years, as indicated by the AQIS cost-recovery model.

Further advice

An updated version of the AQIS Fees and Charging Guidelines for the Import Clearance Program will be available from Friday 11 November on the AQIS Website: www.aqis.gov.au/charging. The amendments are on pages 6 - 8.

For further assistance in relation to the new fees, please contact your local AQIS regional office listed below, or the Secretariat of the AICCC, Mr Hart Krtschil, on telephone (02) 9700 7522, or email aiccc@aiccc.com:

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