



Brisbane Neutron Scanner Facility Ramp-up Plan

January 2006

Customs air cargo staff are currently undergoing training and familiarisation in the operation of the scanner and supporting infrastructure. The training is being undertaken using purpose loaded Unit Load Devices (ULDs).

As previously advised, an incremental ramp-up of operations, starting with performance testing, will be adopted. This approach will allow for the early identification and resolution of technical or procedural issues before progressing to the next phase or further increasing throughput. This approach will minimise the compounding of any identified issues and reduces the impact on Customs and industry processes while the issues are resolved.

In addition to the evaluation, Customs will be continually assessing the technology and processes throughout the trial. Industry feedback and input throughout the trial is expected in order for the most efficient processes to be implemented.

The first phase of the ramp-up period will focus on performance testing on imported cargo. The performance testing phase has been divided into increments. Phase 1.1 is basic performance testing on less-time critical cargo and purpose-loaded ULDs; Phase 1.2 is performance testing on real time air cargo, outside peak flight arrival times. Phase 1.3 further increases throughput and introduces operations on weekends and during the morning peak flight arrival time.

Testing commencing with less-time critical cargo will begin in mid February 2006. Testing with real time cargo will commence later in the month when the throughput of cargo and the hours of operation at the facility will be gradually increased. The scanner's performance will be tested on the full range of commodities imported in air cargo into Brisbane Airport. Business processes will be refined where necessary to ensure optimal processes are implemented for the remainder of the field trial. Operations will be extended in early March to include flights from the morning peak arrival period.

The second phase of the ramp-up period is a continuation of gradually increasing throughput and hours of operation. Revised procedures and processes identified during Phase 1 will be implemented. The second phase will commence in later March with the introduction of weekend operations. Throughput will be gradually increased until operational capacity is achieved.

Neutron Scanner Field Trial – Overview of Ramp-Up

January 2006

Phase	Commences	Opening Hours
1.1 Basic performance testing and training <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Includes testing on less time critical cargo late January	Mid February	As required to process less time critical cargo and undertake training
1.2 Real-time performance testing (off-peak) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Involves testing a limited number of flights per day.- Number of flights selected for scanning will increase incrementally each week unless technology or process issues need to be resolved.	Late February	Approximately 9:30 – 19:00 Monday to Friday
1.3 Real-time performance testing (including peak) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Number of flights selected for scanning will increase incrementally each week unless technology or process issues need to be resolved.	Early March	Approximately 6:00 – 19:00 Monday to Friday
2. Ramp-up <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Extension of operating hours on both weekdays and weekend operations commence.- Number of flights selected for scanning will increase incrementally each week unless technology or process issues need to be resolved.	Late March	05:00 – 23:00 7 days a week