



Australian Government

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service



Cargo Management eBulletin

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Providing information to the Cargo and Shipping industries on the latest AQIS developments

✦ Introduction of the New Permanent Immunisation Treatment Certificate for Timber to be Postponed

AQIS wishes to advise industry that it has postponed the introduction of the new permanent immunisation treatment certificate for timber treated to the requirements of Australian Standard 1604 Hazard Class H2 (or greater) or overseas equivalent. It was originally proposed that this new treatment certificate would be accepted from 1 December 2007 (see [Notice to Industry 15/2007](#) for details).

This delay has been made in response to comments received on the proposed changes to permanent preservative treatments for timber, invited in [Industry Notice 11/2007-08](#). The existing permanent immunisation treatment certificate (for AQIS approved permanent preservative treatments listed in the Cargo Containers Booklet ([Cargo Containers – Quarantine Aspects and Procedures](#))) will still be accepted until at least May 2008.

A modified version of the new permanent immunisation treatment certificate will be available in the first quarter of 2008. For further information regarding the above, please contact AQIS Treatments and Inspections on telephone, 02 6272 3390 or by email, treat.inspect@aqis.gov.au

✦ ICE Inspections – Supervised Unpacking of containers

As you are aware from past e-bulletins the Import Clearance Effectiveness (ICE) activities are integral to AQIS's management of its effectiveness. The data collected from these inspections are used to verify the effectiveness of Import Clearance risk profiling mechanisms and documentary assessment procedures.

Previously AQIS requirements were that containers subject to ICE surveillance inspections were required to be held 'seals intact' until an AQIS officer was present. To provide industry with greater flexibility in complying with the safe handling and unpack of containers, containers may now be opened for venting in preparation for ICE surveillance inspections. However, it is stressed, that containers must not be unpacked until an AQIS officer is present to conduct a full unpack inspection. As with the unpacking of any imported container, if live infestation is found at the time of opening, the container must be closed immediately and the client contact AQIS.

This change became effective on 13 December 2007 (see [Notice to Industry 17/2007](#)). All other procedures relating to ICE inspections have not changed. ICE surveillance inspections can still be carried

out at a premise nominated by industry and there is no charge for inspections unless items of quarantine concern are detected, which require further action

Industry is reminded that once items of quarantine concern are detected, future shipments will be targeted and directed to a Quarantine Approved Premise for unpacking and inspection and the AQIS inspection activities will incur costs on a fee-for-service basis.

AQIS looks forward to working with industry on this important activity and further improving the integrity of our Quarantine processes. If you would like to provide feedback or obtain information on Import Clearance Effectiveness activities, please call Mardi Albert on (02) 6272 5377 or email: pimailbox@aqis.gov.au

To obtain further information on how this initiative will affect your operations in particular, please contact the relevant ICE section within your local AQIS Regional Office:

NSW: Ph: (02) 8334 7663 **SA:** Ph: (08) 8201 6059
VIC: Ph: (03) 8387 0103 **TAS:** Ph: (03) 6233 8229
QLD: Ph: (07) 3246 8620 **FNQ:** Ph: (07) 4789 7888
WA: Ph: (08) 9334 1515 **NT:** Ph: (02) 8920 7044

✦ **Wine Barrels and Associated Wooden Wine Making Products**

AQIS would like to remind industry that "Wine barrels and associated wooden wine making products" no longer includes oak balls, oak chips and oak cubes. If you would like the current import conditions relating to these products please refer to the ICON information for 'Sawdust products' (see [ICON - AQIS](#)).

Further information is also available from the Timber National Co Ordination Centre on (03) 8318 6929 or email timber.imports@aqis.gov.au

✦ **AICCC Meeting**

The latest meeting of the AICCC was held at the AQIS Regional Office – Sydney on **12 December 2007**. The major issue covered in detail was the progress of the Entry Management Project including the outcome of the project's National Co-ordination Centre trial. AQIS representatives provided a report to AICCC members on the Import Clearance program and Seaports program year to date and projected 2007-2008 financial results. These reports also included an update on the Import Clearance program and Seaports program review of current fees. In addition, reports on the performance of the Import Clearance Effectiveness (ICE) program, a progress report on the GAS review and an update on the current status of the ICON project were presented. Finally reports from other committees such as the Quarantine and Exports Advisory Council (QEAC) were presented.

In consultation with the AICCC -Working Group on Revenue Collection and Cost Recovery Arrangements, the Import Clearance program is proposing to implement four amended fee rates in early 2008 (whilst the remainder of the agreed fee amendments are subject to further detailed reviews and considerations and are expected to be implemented by mid 2008. The fee rates to be amended are as follows:

Fee	Service	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
	<i>Cargo Risk Management Air</i>		
1.	Import Declaration - Air	\$ 14.00	\$ 8.00
2.	Self Assessed Clearance (Upgrade)	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00
	<i>Treatments and Inspections</i>		
3.	Timber	\$ 1.70	\$ 2.20
4.	<i>Permits</i>		
	Manual Lodgement	\$ 100.00	\$ 130.00
	E-Lodgement	\$ 16.00	\$ 75.00
	E-Permit	\$ 16.00	\$ 75.00
	Category 1	\$ 17.00	\$ 40.00
	Category 2	\$ 60.00	\$ 80.00
	Category 3	\$ 120.00	\$ 140.00
	Category 4	\$ 180.00	\$ 200.00
	Category 5	\$ 240.00	\$ 260.00
	Fee For Service	\$ 15.00	\$ 35.50

The AICCC Secretariat and Import Clearance program will continue to provide information through a number of forums to ensure all sectors of the industry are kept up-to-date with the latest fee amendment review.

✦ **Summary of documents and alerts released by AQIS Cargo Management in December 2007**

Reference Number	Document	Overview
1	PQA0538	Introduction of the new Permanent Immunisation Treatment Certificate for Timber to be postponed
2	PQA0541	Changes to the "Wine Barrels and Associated Wooden Wine Making Products" case
3	PQA0528	AQIS Import Clearance Notices 14 – 19/2007-08 published on the AQIS website
4	PQA0537	Plant Quarantine Programme Fax and Phone problems
5	PQA0447	Burnt Pine Longicorn season 07/08 commencement
6	PQA0534	Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak in Cyprus
7	PQA0532	Public Alert for Importers advising of Cooked Prawn conditions as of 1 November 2007
8	11/2007	Test applied to random surveillance category foods
9	Notice to Industry 12	Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak in Cyprus
10	Notice to Industry 13	Consolidation of Remaining Treatment Finalisation Activities to the Entry Management National Coordination Centre (EM NCC)
11	Notice to Industry 14	Inclusion of empty Giant African Snail (GAS) containers in the empty container scheme
12	Notice to Industry 15	Introduction of the New Permanent Immunisation Treatment Certificate for Timber to be postponed
13	Notice to Industry 16	Phone outages for Canberra and the NSW Regional Office
14	Notice to Industry 17	ICE Inspections – Supervised Unpacks
15	Notice to Industry 18	AQIS Systems Outages
16	Notice to Industry 19	Christmas / New Year Operating Hours

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

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✦ **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY** ✦