



Notice to Industry

11/2008-09

**TRANSHIPMENT OF SHIP STORES
CONTAINING FOOD ITEMS THAT WOULD NOT NORMALLY
BE PERMITTED ENTRY INTO AUSTRALIA**

The purpose of this notice is to advise that AQIS has further reviewed the quarantine management requirements for transshipments of ship stores. The review follows the advice issued in [Industry Notice 21/2007-08](#) and has further considered security of transhipped goods while in Australia as well as existing arrangements for managing the quarantine risk. Within that context, AQIS acknowledges that transhipped goods pose a lower quarantine risk than goods that are imported for consumption, distribution or sale within Australia.

What's changed?

AQIS will now permit the transshipment of cruise ship stores containing food items that would not normally be granted an Import Permit if they were to be consumed, distributed or sold in Australia. Future Import Permit conditions will therefore no longer contain commodity restrictions. However consignments must still comply with the following requirements:

- may only be imported as FCL/X (sea) or ULD (air);
- must remain seals intact; and
- may only be deconsolidated at the wharf at the time of export onto the nominated cruise vessel.

Attachment 1 lists the Import Permit conditions.

These Import Permits may now be applied by using [ePermits](#).

Further Information:

Full details of these requirements are available in AQIS's Import Conditions ([ICON](#)) database case for [Ship stores containing goods subject to Import Permit – for transshipment](#).

Should you require more information about this Notice or the above ICON case, please contact the [Biologicals Program](#), AQIS Canberra on (02) 6272 4578.

Attachment 1: Import Permit Conditions

1. All consignments must be accompanied by a valid Import Permit, or by a means to allow the identification of the Import Permit (such as quoting the Import Permit number).
2. Each consignment must be accompanied by a declaration from the importer/owner (or their agent) stating that the consignment will not be for consumption, distribution or sale in Australia.
3. Each consignment must be imported as a Full Container Load (FCL/X) or Unit Loading Device (ULD), and must be free of Quarantine Risk Material prior to arrival in Australia. This includes, but is not limited to, snails, live insects, soil, mud, clay, animal faeces, animal material and plant material such as seeds, straw, twigs, leaves, roots, bark and other debris.
4. A manual Quarantine Entry must be lodged for each consignment: The importer/owner (or their agent) must notify the local AQIS regional office prior to the consignment arriving in Australia. Notification must include:
 - a) Consignment arrival port and estimated date of arrival;
 - b) Vessel/Aircraft identification number;
 - c) An invoice listing the contents of each FCL/X or ULD;
 - d) Packing/cleanliness declarations as required by the AQIS publication 'Cargo Containers: Quarantine aspects and procedures' (www.aqis.gov.au/cargoqap);
 - e) All other documentation required by this Import Permit (i.e. a copy of this Import Permit and an Importer's Declaration);
 - f) The location of the Customs 77G Bond Store within the metropolitan area of the port of arrival, where the consignment is to be stored; alternatively the consignment must remain on wharf (sea cargo) or at the Cargo Terminal Operator (CTO) premises (air cargo);
 - g) The estimated date the consignment is scheduled to be transferred from the Customs 77G Bond Store or wharf/CTO to the vessel.
5. Consignments must remain at the wharf/CTO or be directed seals intact to a nominated Customs 77G Bond Store within the Port Precinct, where they may be subject to AQIS surveillance inspections. Deconsolidation or part movement of goods will not be permitted.

6. Any proposed variation to the movement, storage, etc must have prior approval from AQIS. Any unplanned variations (including theft, fire or damage) must be reported to AQIS immediately.
7. The consignment must be exported from the greater port in which it originally arrived, e.g. consignments may be imported into Port Botany container terminal and exported from Port Jackson terminal as these ports are within the metropolitan area of Sydney and part of the greater port of Sydney.
8. Consignments must be directed “seals intact” to the vessel at its berth for loading of the goods onto the vessel at the terminal.
9. AQIS will verify that each FCL/ULD has arrived seals intact at the vessel terminal. AQIS may also supervise the deconsolidation and loading of the goods onto the vessel. AQIS service fees will apply.
10. Importers/owners (and their agents) must be aware that penalties exist for contravening the *Quarantine Act 1908*, including the contravention of Import Permit conditions. Breaches may result in the revocation of the Import Permit.