Australian Customs Notice 1996 06

**SEA CARGO AUTOMATION: ELECTRONIC TRANSHIPMENT RELEASES FOR TRANSHIPMENT CARGO**

The Australian Customs Service has agreed to implement interim electronic automated procedures for the screening and underbond movement of transhipment cargo reported on the Sea Cargo Automation (SCA) system.

Under the interim proposal commencing 30 March 1996, the SCA system will generate and release electronically reported transhipment cargo at a discharge port via a new information message code 299. The underbond movement of transhipment cargo to another port (for export purposes) will be possible within the current electronic procedures applying to sea cargo movements.

It should be noted that the interim proposals **ONLY** apply to transhipment sea cargo reported and processed electronically. Paper transhipment entries will not be required if electronic SCA records are available.

**Exemption from Export Entry:**

To gain export entry exemption when transhipment cargo is reported on an export manifest, it will be necessary for carriers to clearly demonstrate to Customs that the cargo was originally reported on the SCA system and granted a release via SCA information message code 299.

Non-electronic export manifests providers must attach a hard copy (printout) of the SCA information message code 299 (obtained from the users system) as evidence of transhipment status to paper manifests submitted to the Customs.

Participants supplying electronic export manifests are not required to supply a hard copy of the message code 299 to the Customs export clearing clerk. A copy of SCA code 299 must be retained for audit purposes.

Regardless of whether a paper or electronic outwards manifest is reported to Customs, the "EX3" exemption code should be quoted as the authority to deal with transhipment cargo in respect to EXIT formalities.

Reconciliation of transhipment approvals to ensure that transhipment cargo has been exported, will be subject to Customs compliance and audit arrangements.

Transhipment sea cargo that is not reported electronically **will** not be covered by these interim arrangements. Such transhipments will be subject to normal Customs arrangements including the completion of a paper transhipment entry.

Full automation of transhipment and export requirements is being considered in conjunction with the current evaluation of export procedures and the EXIT system.

Further information relating to these arrangements can be obtained from Anthony Cole on (06) 275-6616 or facsimile (06) 275-5828.

(R. J. Mitchell) National Manager Cargo Facilitation CANBERRA ACT

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