Australian Customs Notice 1999 86

**CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (ACIS IMPLEMENTATION) ACT 1999**

*The Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS Implementation) Act 1999* received Royal Assent on 3 November 1999 and is numbered Act No. 141 of 1999. This Act amends the *Customs Tariff Act 1995* ("the Tariff"). An operative date of 30 December 1999 has been proclaimed. Some of the new provisions contained in this Act have immediate effect, while others will come into operation between now and 1 January 2005.

The changes which have immediate effect will:

amend current item 53 in Part III of Schedule 4 of the Tariff by inserting a new finishing date of 31 December 1999 and by deleting the word 'replacement' from the description of goods that are excluded from the phase- down provisions of this item.

insert new item 53A to operate from 1 January 2000 until 30 June 2000. This item has similar provisions to item 53 but will additionally exclude passenger motor vehicles and original assembly components for these vehicles from the phase-down provisions of this item.

delete the word 'replacement', wherever occurring, from the description of goods in tariff items where the term 'replacement components' is used.

The remainder of the provisions enacted in this Act:

implement post-1 January 2005 passenger motor vehicle phase-downs. The criteria for and size of the reductions were previously notified in ACN 97/72. Other details relevant to the phase-out of the developing country tariff margin for DCS countries and Canada contained in that ACN are still applicable.

create new item 53B to operate from 1 July 2000 until 31 December 2004. This item has similar provisions to item 53A. As tariffs for a range of textile articles and footwear goods will reduce to 15% on 1 July 2000, the tariff items for these goods have been added to the list excluded from the phase-down provisions of this item. create new item 53C to operate from 1 January 2005. This item has similar provisions to item 53B. However, as the post-1 January 2005 phase-down of rates of duty for passenger motor vehicles and textiles, clothing and footwear will be operative from this date, the reference to 'a general rate of duty of 15%' has been amended to refer to 'a general rate of duty of 10%'. A similar list of excluded tariff items to that contained in item 53B is appended to this item.

create new item 41E under which the new concessional tariff provisions of the Automotive Competitiveness and Investment Scheme (ACIS) will operate. This scheme will not commence until 1 January 2001, and item 41E can only be used once credits have been issued under that scheme.

Tariff reprint pages for these changes will be issued in the new year with the exception of those for the amendments to items 53, 53A and 53B in Schedule 4. These reprint pages are Schedule 4/25 (R.5) and 4/26A (Original) and were despatched in the week commencing 13 December.

Any queries on ACIS should, in the first instance, be directed to the AusIndustry Hotline on 132 846. Tariff queries should be directed to [Ray Banvill](mailto:ray.banvill@customs.gov.au) on (02) 6275 6516.

Debbie Bates National Manager Tariff for Chief Executive Officer December 1999