AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS NOTICE NO. 2004/18

**Amendments to the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956***

**Import of Paintball Markers**

The following amendments to the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956* (the Regulations) were notified in Gazette No. S133 of 30 April 2004.

Regulation 4F and Schedule 6 of the Regulations restrict the importation of paintball markers.

The purpose of the amendments is to allow the importation of semi-automatic paintball markers and their parts into Australia under the Police Authorisation Test.

The amendments create a new item number, 14A, in Part 2 of Schedule 6 for single shot, repeating action and self-loading paintball markers and their parts. Both handgun markers and longarm markers of these categories are controlled under item 14A.

To import these types of paintball markers the importer must comply with the Police Authorisation Test by obtaining a police authorisation (B709A) prior to importation. A unique serial number on the paintball marker is also required.

The amendments also introduce a modified safety test specifically designed for paintball markers.

Paintball ammunition is now specifically included in the controls under item 20 and most importers will import under the Police Authorisation Test (B709A).

Automatic paintball markers and any markers that resemble automatic firearms, such as a sub- machine gun, an assault rifle, a machine gun or a machine pistol fall to item 12. These paintball markers require the Attorney-General’s permission to import, which will be granted for official purposes or specified purposes only.

Inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to Manager Firearms and Detained Goods on telephone number (02) 6275 5873 or fax number (02) 6275 6699.

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30 April 2004

