AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS NOTICE NO. 2006/12

Customs Broker Licensing – Approved Courses of Study

This Australian Customs Notice is to provide potential applicants for a customs broker licence with information regarding the approved courses of study.

# Background

Applications for a broker’s licence must be made in accordance with the requirements of the *Customs Act 1901* (the Act). Among other things, the Act requires that the Chief Executive Officer of Customs (the CEO) grant a broker’s licence only if, in his opinion, the applicant is qualified to be a customs broker. A qualified customs broker must:

1. unless exempted by the CEO, complete an approved course of study or instruction; and
2. have sufficient suitable experience to be a customs broker.

# Current Approved Course

For the purposes of section 183CC of the Act, certain specified units of a Certificate IV course titled ‘Australian and International Trade Facilitation’ provided by Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutions have formed the approved course of study for a broker’s licence for many years. Completion of these units is recognised as completion of the ‘approved course of study’. The specified units, referred to as the existing course, are:

# Module No. Module description

8870A International Trade and Export Procedures

8870BA Permit Issuing Authorities - Environment Australia

8870BB Permit Issuing Authorities – GST

8870BC Permit Issuing Authorities – AQIS

8870C Customs Authorities and Functions

8870D Customs Clearance Practices

8870E Customs Valuation

8870F Customs Tariff I

8870G Customs Tariff II

8870H Advanced Customs Broking

8979A Presenting Information

8672D Commercial Law I

8656J Accounting for Non-Accountants

8767P Managing Operations - Customer Services

8767Q Managing and Organising Work - Goal Achievement

TAFE colleges are no longer offering enrolment in the above units to new students and will cease to offer these units to existing students after Semester 2, 2007.



# New Approved Course

Following a review of the course of study, the CEO of Customs has now also approved the following competencies, referred to as the new course, as a course of study for a broker’s licence:

# Unit Description

TDTA997C Complete and Check Import-Export Documentation TDTA4804A Carry Out Border Clearance Functions

TDTA4904A Implement Specialist Permit Requirements as Part of Customs Broking Activities

TDTA5004A Implement GST Regulations as Part of Customs Broking Activities TDTA5104A Carry Out Non-Commodity Quarantine Procedures

TDTA5204A Carry Out Customs Clearance Practices TDTA5304A Carry Out Customs Valuation

TDTA5404A Classify Commodities for the Import and Export of Goods Through Customs TDTA5504A Classify Complex Commodities

TDTA5604A Carry Out Complex Valuation

TDTA5704A Analyse, Advise and Carry Out Integrated Border Clearance Transactions

The new course is an alternative to the existing course and may be delivered by Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) where the course falls within their scope of registration.

RTOs, including TAFE institutes with either the Certificate IV in Transport and Distribution (Administration) or the above units of competency on their scope of registration, may deliver training and provide assessment in the designated course, provided that they have purchased the competencies or download them from the NTIS (National Training Information Service) and developed appropriate learning and assessment strategies.

TAFE institutes offering the course are:

NSW - Sydney Institute of TAFE. Contact Joseph Famularo at [joseph.famularo@tafensw.edu.au](mailto:joseph.famularo@tafensw.edu.au)

QLD - Southbank Institute of TAFE. Contact Anne Johnston at [anne.johnston@det.qld.gov.au](mailto:anne.johnston@det.qld.gov.au) VIC – Kangan-Batman TAFE. Contact George Miokovic at [gmiokovic@kangan.edu.au](mailto:gmiokovic@kangan.edu.au)

VIC – Holmesglen TAFE. Contact Judy Miller at [judym@holmesglen.vic.edu.au](mailto:judym@holmesglen.vic.edu.au)

The Customs Brokers and Forwarders Council of Australia Inc (CBFCA) will be offering the eleven units that comprise the approved course of study via an Internet based study platform. Details of the course are available on the CBFCA website at [www.cbfca.com.au.](http://www.cbfca.com.au/)

My Freight Career Pty Ltd has also advised that it is offering the new course either as part of a Certificate IV course titled ‘Transport and Distribution (Administration)’ or as eleven stand- alone study units only. Details of the courses available are at [www.myfreightcareer.com.au.](http://www.myfreightcareer.com.au/)

Details of how to locate other RTOs intending to deliver the new course may be obtained from Transport and Distribution Training Australia (TDT Australia), which is the Industry Skills Council responsible for developing these competencies within the national training framework. TDT Australia contacts are Lisa Davies (03 93204242, lisa@tdtaustralia.com) and Adrian Denyer (0400 911 459, adrian@tdtaustralia.com).

# Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) or Current Competencies (RCC)

Applicants seeking recognition of prior learning or current competencies should contact their intended training organisation for details.

# Applying for a Customs Broker licence

Licence application forms are available from the Customs Internet site (www.customs.gov.au) and completed forms should be forwarded to:

Chief Executive Officer (Attention: Broker Licensing Group) Australian Customs Service

5 Constitution Avenue

CANBERRA ACT 2600

Applications will be referred to the National Customs Brokers Licensing Advisory Committee (NCBLAC) for consideration and a hearing, if required. The NCBLAC will report to the CEO of Customs for a decision on the application. In doing so, the NCBLAC will examine whether the applicant is fully conversant with the functions and role of a customs broker.

Inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to the Supervisor, Broker Licensing Group on telephone number (02) 6275 5088 or fax number (02) 6245 5446.

Tim Chapman National Manager Cargo Branch CANBERRA ACT

March 2006