DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION NOTICE N0. 2017/28

Cargo Timeliness Report

Voluntary compliance with the legislated requirements for cargo reporting remains a key area of focus for the Australian Border Force (ABF). Cargo reports lodged in the Integrated Cargo System (ICS) outside of the legislated timeframes limit the ABF’s ability to undertake effective risk assessment and can lead to delays in clearance. The ABF continues to work with industry to improve reporting performance and, where necessary, apply treatment options for non-compliance.

As part of this approach, the ABF has developed a new report in the ICS – the cargo timeliness report (the report).

# Legislative Requirements

Mandatory reporting timeframes are specified under section 64AB of the *Customs Act 1901* and sections 15 and 21 of the *Customs Regulation 2015* (the Regulation). It is a requirement that:

* Under paragraph 64AB (8)(b), air cargo reports must be lodged at least two hours prior to the estimated time of arrival of the aircraft specified in the impending arrival report.
* Under paragraph 64AB (8)(a)(i), sea cargo reports must be lodged at least 48 hours prior to the estimated time of arrival of the ship at the first Australian Port, or for voyages less than 96 hours, as specified in the Regulation.

# Cargo Timeliness Report

The report provides a facility for cargo reporters to monitor their individual reporting performance including incidences of late reported cargo. It includes both summary and detailed information for late reported cargo reports and an industry average benchmark for comparison. This will enable cargo reporters to compare their performance with the industry average.

This will also assist cargo reporters to improve business practices and to monitor trends relating to their lodgement of cargo reports in accordance with legislated timeframes. It can be run for any time period and provides filtering options to assist with analysis.

The report is available, via the reports menu, to any reporter with access to the ICS. Details on how to access the new report can be found here.

# Compliance Approach

The ABF requires accurate and timely cargo reporting to undertake proper risk assessment, and to facilitate clearance of cargo. The introduction of the report does not change existing legislated requirements for cargo reporting.

The ABF is committed to working with industry to improve compliance.

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