Australian Customs Notice 1996 02

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CUSTOMS (PROHIBITED IMPORTS) REGULATIONS - WOOLPACKS &amp; WOOLPACK CAPS**

The Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations have been amended to reflect the transfer of responsibility for the management of woolpack quality assurance issues to the Australian Wool Exchange Ltd (AWEX). Statutory Rule No 412 of 1995 which was gazetted in Gazette No S488 of 19 December 1995 amends the Regulations with effect from 1 January 1996.

Regulation 4K of the Regulations prohibits the importation into Australia of woolpacks and woolpack caps unless the permission in writing to import the goods has been granted by the Minister for Primary Industries and Energy or an authorised person (subregulation 4K(1)) or unless a certificate in respect of those goods issued under subregulations 4K(3) to 4K(7) is produced. Certificates under subregulations 4K(3) and 4K(7) refer to certain standards published by the Australian Wool Corporation or the Australian Wool Research and Promotion Organisation.

The amendments to the Regulations reflect the transfer of responsibility for the standards published by the Australian Wool Corporation or the Australian Wool Research and Promotion Organisation to AWEX. They also provide for importations of woolpacks or woolpack caps where a certificate has been issued which refers to a standard of AWEX. A transitional provision has also been inserted to allow the importation of such goods until 31 March 1996 where the goods conform to a previous standard published by the Australian Wool Research and Promotion Organisation. It is considered that this will provide a suitable time to allow importers to have new certificates issued in respect of the relevant woolpacks.

Enquiries regarding these changes can be directed to the Commerce Prohibitions and Restrictions (Policy)

Group, CANBERRA, on (06) 275 6571

for (L B WOODWARD)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CANBERRA

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