Australian Customs Notice 1998 49

**WAREHOUSE LICENCES - Renewal and payment of fees for 1998-99 (Part V of the Customs Act 1901)**

Warehouse licences for 1997-98 expired on 30 June 1998. Licences may be renewed upon submission of a written application for renewal, together with payment of the fees, to the relevant office of the Australian Customs Service. Due to delays in determining and obtaining approval for the warehouse fees for 1998-99, the cut-off date for lodgement of renewal applications and payment of fees has been extended to 29 July 1998.

# Review of Warehouse Licence Fees

Warehouse licence fees are reviewed annually in order to recover the costs of administering the warehouse licensing system. The 1998 review also considered initiatives such as: the introduction of the Customs Cost-Recovery System in April 1997;

Customs greater emphasis on self-assessment and risk-assessment when dealing with clients; and

the need to ensure that the charging structure for new undertakings, such as the recently approved Manufacturing in Bond scheme, is consistent with cost-recovery principles.

As a result, the fee structure has been changed to reduced flat fees for new licences and renewed licences, with no additional charges for specific types of warehouses and no reductions for computer-based accounting and recording systems. Other aspects, such as the facility for quarterly payments and the pro-rata fees for new licences issued after 1 July, will continue.

In future, warehouse licence fees will be reviewed twice a year as part of the current price review process for all cost-recovery charges. This will ensure that charges continue to be commensurate with the costs of administering the warehouse licensing system.

# Fees for 1998-1999

The Customs Regulations have been amended, with effect from 1 July 1998, to prescribe warehouse licence fees for 1998-99 as specified below.

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| New warehouse licence fee | $7,000 |
| Warehouse licence renewal fee | $4,000 |

# Lodgement of Application for Renewal and Payment of Fees

Applications for renewal of warehouse licences are to be made on the form supplied to licensees together with remittance of the appropriate fees. Licensees will receive confirmation of the fees for 1998-99 and of the date by which they must be paid.

Where fees remain unpaid beyond the specified date, the licence may be suspended and the premises may not be used for warehousing goods subject to Customs control. **Further Information**

For further information concerning warehouse licensing or the fee structure please contact the Warehouse Licensing Clerk in the Customs office in the capital city of the State or Territory in which the warehouse is located.

Richard Hunt

Acting National Manager Excise Branch

For Chief Executive Officer July 1998