Australian Customs Notice 2000 37

**UNACCOMPANIED PERSONAL EFFECTS STATEMENT**

Due to the impending introduction of the Goods and Services Tax and other legislative changes the Unaccompanied Personal Effects Statement (Form B534) has been reviewed and amended to replace references to Sales Tax information.

The opportunity was also taken to simplify the form and to accommodate the move towards joint clearance of Unaccompanied Personal Effects (UPEs) by Australian Customs Service (Customs) and Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS).

These initiatives are expected to improve the service currently provided to industry and the public. The old Form B534 has been redesigned as a joint agency form for use by both Customs and AQIS which will streamline the clearance of UPEs. Changes to the format and content of the form will simplify the clearance process, lead to greater efficiency and improved co-ordination of processing by both agencies.

The new Form B534 reduces the number of documents that need to be presented for clearance as separate authorisation is no longer required where the importer nominates someone else to clear goods on their behalf. This authority has been included on the new form.

The new Form B534 can be used immediately and an Internet version will be available from 1 July 2000. After 1 July 2000, the old Form B534 will no longer be accepted for processing. The new form is currently only available in English. It is expected that it will be translated into other required languages by the end of September 2000.

L.G. Jones

National Director Border For Chief Executive Officer 19 June 2000