

AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS NOTICE NO. 2003/17

Cargo reporting procedure for re-mail consignments

This Notice details new cargo reporting procedures given effect by the *Customs Legislation Amendment Act (No.1) 2002* (the CLA Act). These new procedures relate to the reporting of re-mail consignments to Customs and will commence on April 10, 2003.

The CLA Act defines re-mail items as follows:

***a re-mail item***, in relation to a ship or aircraft, means an item of cargo carried on the ship or aircraft, in respect of which all of the following apply:

1. the item is packaged in an addressed envelope, of paper or other material, whose length plus width does not exceed 80 cm;
2. the item consists only of paper;
3. the item and packaging weigh no more than one kilogram;
4. the item either has no commercial value or is a publication in respect of which the following apply:
   1. the publication is sent from overseas to the addressee as a subscriber to the publication;
   2. the subscription is made by a direct dealing with the consignor by either the addressee or another person arranging a gift subscription for the addressee;
   3. the value of the publication does not exceed $250 (or such other amount as is prescribed for the purposes of subparagraph 68(1)(f)(iii));
   4. the total liability for import duty and other taxes related to the importation of the publication does not exceed $50 (or such other amount, not exceeding $75, as is prescribed for the purposes of this definition);
5. the item is not mail (*the items cannot be consigned through the post at point of origin*);
6. the item is not, or does not contain, goods covered by paragraph (a) or

(b) of the definition of ***prohibited goods*** in subsection 4(1);

1. there is no individual document of carriage (*consignment note or air waybill*) for the item;
2. the item was consigned on the ship or aircraft by the consignor, with other items that are covered by paragraphs (a) to (g) of this definition, to different consignees (*that is the items must all have one consignor and a unique addressee*).

Re-mail operators should note that the above definition states that no re-mail item may weigh more than one kilogram. This may mean a change of business practice for some operators. Items weighing more than one kilogram, along with any item that does not meet **all** of the parameters above, must be reported to Customs in full detail as a normal consignment line.

The CLA Act also restricts those cargo reporters eligible to make a report of re-mail at the sub-master or bulk level. In order to be eligible a cargo reporter must apply to be registered under Subdivision E as a re-mail reporter. A person, body corporate or partnership may apply to be registered. Applications must be in writing on the approved form.

# Registration

A person may apply at any time to be registered. Current operators who believe they are eligible to be registered as a re-mail reporter and wish to do so should complete the application form and apply as soon as possible to:

# National Manager Cargo Branch

**Cargo and Trade Division Australian Customs Service 5 Constitution Avenue**

# Canberra ACT 2600

Application forms are available from the Customs Supervisor Air Cargo at the above address or by phoning (02) 6275 5088 or by making an e-mail request to [tranpol@customs.gov.au](mailto:tranpol@customs.gov.au)

The CEO must register an applicant where, inter alia, the CEO is satisfied that the applicant would be unlikely to have information, or access to information, about re- mail items that would allow the applicant to make cargo reports at a level of specificity below the level of sub-master air waybill (SMAWB) or ocean bill of lading. The CEO must also be satisfied that the applicant meets the fit and proper person test under section 67H of the *Customs Act 1901*.

The CEO may request, in writing, that the applicant provide additional information specified in the request within a specified period. The applicant will be advised of the CEO’s decision within 60 days of the lodgement of the application. In cases where further information has been sought from the applicant the decision will be made

60 days from the date that the further information is received.

The CEO will notify the applicant in writing and where the decision is to register the applicant the CEO may make the registration subject to conditions.

The CEO may cancel the registration of a re-mail reporter if:

The reporter reports an item of cargo in a re-mail report that was not a re-mail item; or

The reporter reports an item of cargo in a re-mail report for which the reporter has information to enable an item level report; or

The reporter breaches a condition of registration or section 67I of the

*Customs Act 1901*.

# Making a re-mail report

Although this legislation covers both air and sea cargo it is expected that it will be used primarily in the air cargo environment. The re-mail reporter will report through Air Cargo Automation at the SMAWB level. The goods description field will include the term “Re-mail”. In addition, this field is to display the re-mail reporter’s allocated six-digit alpha-numeric registration code. The ‘consol’ indicator should not be set.

As with all other arriving cargo, re-mail cargo must be checked in and accounted for at the report level by the deconsolidating Customs licensed depot prior to release.

Where Customs has no further interest, release will be by means of a screen free status (C150) transmitted on arrival.

Any inquiries in relation to this Notice should be referred to the Director Transport Policy on (02) 6275 6564 or by facsimile (02) 6275 5745.

Philomena Carnell National Manager Cargo Branch

Cargo and Trade Division for Chief Executive Officer

12 March 2003