

# AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS NOTICE NO. 2003/72

**Overtime charges for requested out-of-hours boarding duties**

Following a review which involved industry consultation, and in line with the cost-recovery policy in all other Australian ports, Customs has decided to introduce charges for out-of- hours activities by officers conducting **requested** tasks in the ports of Melbourne, Geelong, Westernport and Port Welshpool.

As of 1 December 2003, the Melbourne Boarding Response Unit will begin charging merchants overtime fees for out-of-hours attendances. Fees will be charged for attendances that occur on weekends and public holidays and outside Monday-to-Friday working hours (8:30am to 5:00pm) as stated in Regulation 19(1) of the Customs Regulations 1926.

Overtime fees are not incurred for attendances that involve only the checking of passenger baggage at an appointed port or wharf – for example, checking baggage of previously immigration-cleared passengers/transit passengers [Reg 19(1) Item 4].

All other Customs functions that are **requested** and occur out of hours as above will incur overtime charges [Reg 19(1) Item9].

# Schedule of charges

The overtime rate per officer per hour of attendance (or part there of) including travelling time is $43.35 [Reg 20(1)].

The number of officers required for an attendance is at the discretion of Customs. The travel charge for a departmental vehicle is 58 cents per kilometre of travel to and from the place where the function is performed [Reg 20(3)(b)].

These rates were current at 28 October 2003. Notification will be made of any rate changes.

# Overtime billing

Overtime payments will be billed as for out-of-hours vessel clearance through the Accounts Receivable Section and are to be settled on either a daily or monthly account.

Inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to the Supervisor Boarding Response Unit on telephone number (03) 9244 9125 or fax number (03) 9244 9130.

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