AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS NOTICE NO. 2006/47

Amendments to the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956*

– Importation of firearms and related goods

Regulation 4F and Schedule 6 of the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956* (the Regulations) have been amended in order to clarify the import controls on firearms, ammunition, parts, accessories, magazines and replicas and make the Regulations more user-friendly.

These amendments commenced on 22 September 2006. The changes include:

* Inserting a definition of deactivated firearms and allowing these firearms to be exempt from safety testing requirements;
* Streamlining the procedure for reimporting firearms that were temporarily exported and are being re-imported into Australia without modification;
* Allowing the importation of articles to be destroyed or wholly consumed in testing when imported for the purposes of the Commonwealth or a State or Territory government;
* Inclusion of a new branch of the specified purposes test to broaden the circumstances in which firearms can be imported for research and development purposes;
* Changing the firearms safety test to allow for new firearms technologies to be tested, and allow certain consignments to be passed or failed on the basis of a sample from that consignment;
* Inclusion of provisions that allow firearm dealers to on-sell Category C firearms imported for demonstration or testing purposes;
* Clarification of the definition of firearms accessory to make it explicit that it includes collapsible and telescopic firearms stocks;
* Clarification of the definition of a firearm replica;
* Provisions clarifying restrictions on the importation of high capacity detachable magazines for pump-action and lever-action centre fire rifles;
* Clarification of the controls on magazines for fully automatic firearms;
* Clarification of the requirements that apply to the importation of interchangeable firearms parts.

Reference to the amendments to the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956* can be found at [www.comlaw.gov.au](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/)

Inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to Manager, Firearms and Detained Goods Management on telephone number (02) 6275 5873 or fax number (02) 6275 6699 or via email to [weaponspolicy@customs.gov.au](mailto:weaponspolicy@customs.gov.au)

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