

AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS NOTICE NO. 2012/06

Importation of goods containing cat or dog fur.

This Notice has been issued to remind importers and their agents of the import control that applies to cat and dog fur and to products made from that fur.

The importation of domestic cat fur (the pelt or hair of an animal of the species *Felis catus*) and domestic dog fur (the pelt or hair of an animal of the species *Canis familiaris*) and cat or dog fur products without permission is prohibited under Regulation 4W of the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956*.

Applications for import or export permissions should be addressed to: National Manager

Trade Branch

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service 5 Constitution Avenue

Canberra ACT 2601

Recently, there have been allegations that goods containing dog fur have been imported in contravention of the control. If such goods were imported without the necessary permission, they would be prohibited imports and liable to seizure. The importation of a prohibited import is also an offence under the *Customs Act 1901* that may attract a maximum penalty of $110,000.

Importers are reminded that they bear the responsibility for ensuring that imported goods comply with legislative requirements. Care should be taken when sourcing imported products that the goods comply with Australian law.

Customs and Border Protection will be increasing its surveillance of imported clothing and footwear products in 2012 to ensure compliance with the control. If any fur products are suspected of being a prohibited fur, importers may be asked to prove the origin and type of fur being used.

Customs Brokers and buying agents are encouraged to alert clients, who may be importing goods at risk of containing prohibited fur of their obligations.

For any additional information regarding Customs import requirements, please refer to the Customs website [www.customs.gov.au](http://www.customs.gov.au/) or contact the Customs Information & Support Centre on 1300 363 263.

Inquiries concerning this Notice may be directed to the Manager, Community Protection on telephone number (02) 6229 3825.

Geoff Johannes National Manager Trade Branch

Trade and Customs Division Canberra ACT

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