



Australian Government

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service



Cargo Management eBulletin

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Providing information to the Cargo and Shipping industries on the latest AQIS developments

✦ Imported (Uncooked) Pig Meat Transfer of Coordination of Activities to the Entry Management National Coordination Centre (EM NCC)

From 7 April 2008 AQIS will begin the progressive transfer of the coordination of activities relating to imported (uncooked) pig meat consignments to the EM NCC located in Adelaide.

The EM NCC has been established in Adelaide, and is progressively assuming responsibility for a range of entry management activities currently undertaken in AQIS regional offices.

This trial transfer will commence with the EM NCC assuming responsibility for coordination of all activities relating to imported (uncooked) pig meat consignments currently performed by the AQIS New South Wales Regional Office. This will occur with an initial four week testing period commencing on 7 April 2008. If successful, the transfer will be progressively rolled out for consignments currently performed by all other AQIS regional offices.

The EM NCC will perform the following functions:

- All initial entry lodgement and processing for imported (uncooked) pig meat shipments;
- Processing of all movement requests for consignments of imported (uncooked) pig meat on AIMS entries;
- Becoming the central contact point for reporting of non-conformities in relation to consignments of imported (uncooked) pig meat.

If you are lodging entries, importing, storing or processing imported (uncooked) pig meat in New South Wales, from 7 April 2008, you will need to direct import documents, movement requests and all reports of non-conformities to the EM NCC. All affected parties will have received a letter explaining the new arrangements in greater detail.

The EM NCC contact details are:

Fax: 1300 665 674

Telephone: 1300 796 255

E-Mail: emncc@aqis.gov.au

Hours of operation: 7.30am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, Australian Central Standard Time.

Should you have any enquiries regarding the transfer of activities to the EM NCC, please contact the Entry Management Projects Team by telephone on 02 6272 4648 or alternatively by email on emprojects@aqis.gov.au

Further details are contained in Notice to Industry 23/2007-08 which can be found on the AQIS website at www.daff.gov.au/aqis/import/general-info/ian/07-08

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✦ **AQIS Import Management System (AIMS) and Self Assessed Clearance (SAC) Processing Outage**

The Australian Customs Service (ACS) has scheduled a 10 hour outage for its Integrated Cargo System (ICS) from Saturday 12 April 2008, 1600 hrs AEST to Sunday 13 April 2008, 0200 hours AEST as they undergo a server move. During this time there will be no messaging between the ICS and AQIS's AIMS and SAC systems and AQIS will not be able to facilitate electronic clearances for quarantine held consignments.

AQIS recommends that industry consider all possibilities for reporting any relevant documents prior to or following this outage.

For any AQIS queries please contact your regional office: <http://www.daff.gov.au/aqis/about/contact/aims>

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✦ **Lifting of the United Kingdom (UK) Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Restrictions**

In August 2007 Australia increased quarantine measures for a range of imports from the UK due to the outbreak of FMD in the UK. With the FMD free status of the UK now restored, these measures are no longer required.

Importers who had Import Permits or applications affected by the outbreak are asked to review the ICON case relating to their commodity at http://www.aqis.gov.au/icon32/asp/ex_querycontent.asp before contacting the relevant AQIS permit issuing area for advice:

For animal derived products (excluding reproductive material):

AQIS Biologicals Program

Phone: (02) 6272 4578

Fax: (02) 6249 1798

Email: biologicals@aqis.gov.au

For live animal imports and reproductive material:

AQIS Live Animal Imports

Phone: (02) 6272 4454

Fax: (02) 6272 3110

Email: animalimp@aqis.gov.au

For machinery:

AQIS Machinery and Military National Coordination Centre

Phone: (07) 3246 8706

Fax: (07) 3246 8785

Email: aqis.machinery@aqis.gov.au

AQIS would like to thank all involved for their support and patience which ensured these increased quarantine measures were successfully implemented.

Further information regarding importing to Australia is available from the AQIS website at www.daff.gov.au/aqis/import

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✦ **Unacceptable contamination on used machinery imported into Australia**

All imported used machinery requires an import permit issued by AQIS, and a condition of the permit is that machinery arrives in a clean state. In recent months, AQIS inspections have detected a rise in consignments of used machinery imported into Australia that have been found to be contaminated with unacceptable levels of Quarantine Risk Material (QRM), particularly soil and plant material. Importer failure to observe the cleaning requirements offshore in compliance with the import permit conditions is causing AQIS clearance delays at Australian discharge ports while appropriate quarantine action is undertaken such as cleaning or the re-export of the machinery at considerable cost to the Importer.

AQIS and the Machinery Consultative Committee met in Brisbane this month to discuss how to address this issue. As a result, AQIS is working with industry to improve the education and understanding of machinery importers on AQIS requirements. It was agreed that cleanliness of imported machinery needed to improve. If this issue is not resolved, AQIS will have to reconsider tolerance levels on contamination and increasing inspections, with consequent increase in re-exports and charges to importers.

More information on AQIS requirements and cleaning guides for different machinery can be found at www.daffa.gov.au/aqis/import/vehicles-machinery/regulations/guides-checklists.

To obtain further information on contamination issues with machinery please contact Lindy Cayzer on (02) 6272 4938 or email treat.inspect@aqis.gov.au

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✦ Quarantine Approved Premises (QAP) Renewal 2008

QAPs are places approved by AQIS to deal with goods of quarantine concern. There are many different types of QAPs, including sea and air freight depots, plant nurseries and laboratories.

QAPs are approved on an annual basis and current approvals for all QAPs will expire on 30 June 2008. QAP operators who wish to continue to operate QAPs in 2008/09 will need to renew their QAP approval.

The QAP approval renewal process starts in mid-April when AQIS will mail a 2008 QAP Renewal Package to all QAP operators. The package will include:

- a *QAP Renewal of Approval Application* form (and a reply-paid, pre-addressed envelope for return of this form);
- an *Invoice and Payment Form* (and a reply-paid, pre-addressed envelope for return of the payment);
- Step-by-Step Instructions for completing the renewal process;
- Answers to Frequently Asked Questions on the renewal process.

To renew their QAP approval, QAP operators must return the *QAP Renewal of Approval Application* form and pay the QAP fee no later than 13 June 2008. QAP operators that fail to renew their QAP approval by this date can expect their QAP approval to expire on 30 June 2008. After the expiry of QAP approval, operators will no longer be permitted to handle quarantine risk material.

For further information on the 2008 QAP renewal process contact Belinda Konz on 02 6272 3812 or by email at aqisqap@aqis.gov.au.

✦ Quarantine Approved Premises (QAP) Class 2 to 9 Re-accreditation training

An important component of the *QAP Conditions of Approval* is the requirement to utilise QAP Accredited Persons. QAP Accredited Persons are, amongst other things, responsible for identifying items subject to quarantine at QAPs and managing these items appropriately. QAP staff must undertake on-line accreditation training in order for them to become QAP Accredited Persons which is valid for two years.

Many QAP Accredited Persons are approaching the time when they will need to undertake on-line re-accreditation in order to maintain their status as QAP Accredited Persons. The re-accreditation training consists of a single training unit that will require, indicatively, a couple of hours to complete.

QAP Accredited Persons need not complete the re-accreditation training until the month prior to the expiry date on their certificate. The re-accreditation training is available on the Industry Working Group on Quarantine (IWGQ) website at www.iwgq.com and can be accessed at any time.

QAP Accredited Persons should check their certificate expiry dates.

The total cost of the re-accreditation training is \$66.00 (inclusive of GST) per person for on-line enrolments using a credit card or \$77.00 (inclusive of GST) per person if payment is to be made on invoice.

To enrol in the QAP Accredited Person re-accreditation training, Accredited Persons should proceed to the IWGQ web site at www.iwgq.com. By selecting the 'Purchase a Course' listing from the 'Guardian Directory' on the left hand side of the IWGQ homepage Accredited Persons will be able to purchase and enrol in the re-accreditation training. All persons enrolling in the re-accreditation training will have an existing IWGQ account and should enrol as an 'existing user'.

For further information on QAP Re-accreditation training contact Belinda Konz on 02 6272 3812 or by email at aqisqap@aqis.gov.au.

✦ **Summary of documents and alerts released by AQIS Cargo Management in January/February 2008**

Reference Number	Document	Overview
1	Public Quarantine Alert (PQA) 0203	All animal baits of animal, plant or microbial origin (including molluscs) require an Import Permit.
2	PQA 0550	Rosa spp. nursery stock (budwood as scions) from Phytophthora ramorum countries
3	Notice to Industry 21,2007/08	Transshipment of Ship Stores Containing Food and Other Quarantinable Material
4	Notice to Industry 22,2007/08	Survey of imported green sawn timber
5	Notice to Industry 23,2007/08	Imported (Uncooked) Pig Meat Transfer of Coordination of Activities to the Entry Management National Coordination Centre (EM NCC)
6	Notice to Industry 24,2007/08	Lifting of United Kingdom (UK) Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Restrictions
7	Shipping Industry Advice 01/08	New Measures for Controlling Quarantine Risk Material (QRM)

✦ **Contact cargobulletin@aqis.gov.au if you have any queries, suggestions or requests for further information**

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✦ **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY** ✦