



Notice to Industry

16/2009

## **Revised Low Risk Wooden and Related Article Scheme**

The purpose of this notice is to advise industry of the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service's (AQIS) implementation of the Revised Low Risk Wooden and Related Article Scheme (LRWRA) – The Scheme. The LRWRA Scheme will replace the current Low Risk Wooden Article Scheme (LRWA). The new Scheme recognises that some manufacturing processes may provide a suitable quarantine treatment. It also includes additional products made from solid wood, plywood, veneer, highly processed bamboo, willow and wicker and cane and rattan.

AQIS has also developed a LRWRA Treatment Standard (The Standard) in consultation with an industry working group to provide information to importers of AQIS's treatment and storage requirements. The Standard recognises that standard industry production practices may also provide a suitable quarantine treatment. It outlines minimum AQIS-acceptable processing/treatment, quality control requirements and substrate requirements for a range of veneered products including guidelines on storage/shipping requirements.

AQIS will review the performance of the Scheme/Treatment Standard after two years from the implementation of the modified Scheme. AQIS reserves the right to modify, improve or cease the Scheme at any time or pending the outcome of future review.

The LRWRA Scheme is separate to the existing Automatic Entry Processing (AEP) procedure for clearance of manufactured wooden articles. AEP requires an accredited broker to assess treatment certificates from AQIS approved sources. The LRWRA Scheme requires an AQIS assessment of manufacturing processes and consignments are cleared at Integrated Cargo System (ICS) level apart from a percentage referred to AQIS for inspection.

### **When will this revised scheme be implemented?**

The revised LRWRA Scheme will be effective from 4 May 2009. The Treatment Standard will be available on the AQIS website from 4 May 2009.

All current LRWA approvals will remain valid until their current expiry dates specified in their approvals. However, consignments with current LRWA approval will now be subject to a random 5% physical inspection.

After 4 May 2009, anyone wishing to renew their previous LRWA approval or apply for new LRWRA approval must apply using the new LRWRA Scheme's requirements.

### **Further information**

For further information regarding the current LRWA Scheme and the new LRWRA Scheme, please check the AQIS website from 4 May 2009, contact the Timber National Co-ordination Centre on 03 8318 6929, or email [timber\\_imports@aqis.gov.au](mailto:timber_imports@aqis.gov.au).