Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure and Transport

OFFICE OF TRANSPORT SECURITY

Air Cargo Security eNewsletter

December 2012 | **Issue 3**

Welcome to the third issue of Air Cargo Security News

The Department of Infrastructure and Transport (the Department), through the Office of Transport of Security is working towards implementing a new air cargo supply chain security framework to ensure the Australian transport system is more secure against the threat of terrorism and unlawful acts. These e-newsletters have been designed to keep you informed of the latest developments in the air cargo security framework.

In this issue of Air Cargo Security News you will find a review of the year and important updates on:

- Chain of Custody Statements (ChOCS);
- Regulated Air Cargo Agent (RACA) List changes;
- Regulated Air Cargo Agent (RACA) Transport Security Programs (TSPs) to expire;
- future Air Cargo Supply Chain Security Framework.

Chain of Custody Statements (ChOCS)

The Department would like to thank industry for the feedback they provided on the regulation relating to ChOCS. On the basis of this feedback the Department has made a minor amendment to the Aviation Transport Security Regulations 2005 to improve the efficiency of issuing ChOCS.

Effective from 27 November 2012, Regulation 4.41E is amended such that a ChOCS issued by a regulated business **DOES NOT** need to state **the time and date when the regulated business took possession of the cargo**. Other information required to be recorded on a ChOCS remains unchanged.

Regulated Air Cargo Agent (RACA) List changes

The Secretary's RACA List is changing as of 1 January 2013. The list will focus only on head office contacts (trading name, address and phone number) and will no longer contain site information. The Secretary's RACA List is updated frequently and is located on the Department's website www.infrastructure.gov.au/transport/security/cargo/raca_list.aspx

While every effort is made to ensure details within the Secretary's RACA List are correct and current we need your help to ensure the accuracy of the information. It is a requirement of the Aviation Transport Security Regulations 2005 that Regulated Air Cargo Agents notify the Department of a change of circumstance, in writing, within seven days.

RACAs should send any change of circumstance by email. The email is to contain relevant supporting written documentation outlining the change of circumstance and such advice is required to be authorised by the Company Director or the listed Security Contact Officer. Relevant supporting documentation may include:

- an alteration or revision to an approved Transport Security Program; and
- Business Registration Certificate.

From 1 January 2013 we encourage all RACAs to review the Secretary's List on a regular basis to verify the status of other businesses they may work with.

Regulated Air Cargo Agent (RACA) Transport Security Programs (TSPs) to expire

Earlier this year the Department sent reminders to all RACAs to review their TSPs where they were due to expire on 31 December 2012. RACAs with a TSP expiring on 31 December 2012 are urged to submit a revised TSP to the Department as soon as possible so that it may be considered before the current TSP expires. A TSP revision will extend the life of a TSP by up to five years.

Any RACA that does not have a revised TSP approved by the Department before their current TSP expires will no longer be able to operate as a RACA and will be removed from the Secretary's RACA List.

Future Air Cargo Supply Chain Security Framework

The Office of Transport Security is developing a whole of air cargo supply chain security framework to strengthen Australia's transport system against the threat of terrorism and unlawful acts. Once fully implemented all air cargo exported from Australia will need to originate from a Regulated Shipper, or be subject to enhanced examination (predominantly by technology), prior to uplift on an aircraft. The framework will be introduced from July 2014.

The most significant changes will be the introduction of Regulated Shipper entities who will originate secure cargo, and an increase in regulated businesses examining cargo at off-airport locations before the cargo is consolidated. The new arrangements will progressively encourage the security clearance of cargo before it reaches Cargo Terminal Operators at airports.

As part of continuing policy development the Department held workshops in Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney during November and December 2012, particularly targeting businesses that originate international air cargo.

This round of industry consultation is the next step in meeting Australian Government requirements for regulatory policy implementation. The information collected will also inform the development of a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS).

The RIS is a document covering the impacts of policy/regulatory change and it will include findings from consultation with affected parties.

The Department would like to thank everyone who participated in the consultation.

Year in Review

In 2012 the Department implemented a number of improvements and initiatives aimed at improving security in the air cargo supply chain, including:

- changes to the air cargo regulations – specifically international cargo clearance requirements;
- the commencement of the Accredited Air Cargo Agent (AACA) Scheme in June;
- renewal process for expiring RACA TSPs; and
- developing and consulting on improvements to be implemented as part of the Securing the Air Cargo Supply Chain initiative.

The Department wishes all readers of the Air Cargo Security eNewsletter a happy festive season and we look forward to working with you in 2013.

We value your feedback which can be provided to
aircargosecuritynews@infrastructure.gov.au

Please refer to the **'Latest News'** Section of the Department's website: www.infrastructure.gov.au/transport/security/cargo/index.aspx to keep up-to-date with developments in the air cargo sector.