Amendments to the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956* and *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958*  
Agricultural, Veterinary and Industrial Chemicals

Amendments to the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956* (the PI Regulations) and the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958* (the PE Regulations) relating to the control of certain chemicals (the controlled chemicals) were made on 5 August 2004. The amendments commence on 18 August 2004.

The amendments have been introduced to meet Australia’s obligations under the *Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants* (Stockholm Convention) and the *Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade* (Rotterdam Convention).

The amendments to the PI and PE Regulations complement amendments that have been made to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Regulations (the AgVet Regulations, now the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Regulations 1995*) and the *Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Regulations 1990* (the Industrial Chemicals Regulations).

Regulation 5I of the PI Regulations has been amended to introduce a new permission-based regime to control the importation of chemicals that are covered by the Stockholm Convention and specified in Schedule 9 to the PI Regulations. Schedule 9 has also been amended to add two new chemicals covered by the Stockholm Convention. The importation of these chemicals is similarly controlled under the amended AgVet Regulations where the chemicals are imported for agricultural or veterinary use.

New regulation 4A has been inserted into the PE Regulations to prohibit the exportation, without a permission, of a chemical specified in new Schedule 2 to the PE Regulations. New Schedule 2 lists 70 chemicals that are covered by the Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions. The exportation of these chemicals is similarly controlled under the amended AgVet Regulations where the chemicals are exported for agricultural or veterinary use.

Attachment A lists the chemicals that are being added to the PI and PE Regulations.

Under the new regimes in the PI and PE Regulations for both the importation and exportation of the controlled chemicals, the required permissions will be granted by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (the Minister) or an authorised officer of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). Corresponding permissions to import or to export these chemicals granted by the Minister or an authorised officer of DAFF under the AgVet Regulations will be accepted for the purposes of the new regimes in the PI and PE Regulations.

Amendments have also been made to the Industrial Chemicals Regulations to ensure that Australia’s obligations to control the importation and exportation of industrial chemicals covered under the Rotterdam Convention are met. The Rotterdam Convention requires an exporter to comply with the importing response of the destination country. The amendments to the Industrial Chemicals Regulations give effect to this requirement, for industrial chemicals covered under the Rotterdam Convention.
In addition to the amendments to the Industrial Chemicals Regulations, the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) are implementing new registration requirements for importers of industrial chemicals from 1 September 2004. Further advice about these new requirements can be obtained from NICNAS on 1800 638 528.

Inquiries concerning the importation or exportation of the controlled chemicals for agricultural or veterinary use under the amended Agvet Regulations or applications for permission to import or export these chemicals under the PI and PE Regulations should be directed to the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Section of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry on 02 6272 4837.

Inquiries concerning the importation or the exportation of industrial chemicals covered by the Industrial Chemicals Regulations should be directed to NICNAS on telephone number 02 8577 8855, fax number 02 8577 8888, or by email to comply@nicnas.gov.au.

Inquiries concerning this notice may be directed to Community Protection Section on telephone number 02 6275 6114, fax number 02 6275 5828 or by email to community.protection@customs.gov.au.

Philomena Carnell
National Manager
Cargo Branch
CANBERRA ACT

August 2004
Chemicals added to Schedule 9 to the PI Regulations

Mirex
Toxaphene (camphechlor)

Chemicals added to Schedule 2 of the PE Regulations

2-(Acetoxymercuric)ethanol  Methylmercury hydroxide
2,4,5-T  Methylmercury nitrite
Aldrin (HHDN)  Methylmercury propionate
Captafol  Mirex
Chlordane  Monocrotophos
Chlordimeform  N-(phenylmercuric) urea
Chlorobenzilate  Parathion (ethyl)
Cyano(methylmercuric)guanidine  Parathion-methyl
DDT (pp’-DDT)  Pentachlorophenol
Dieldrin (HEOD)  Phenylethylmercuric salicylate
Dinoseb  Phenylmercuric acetate
Dinoteb acetate  Phenylmercuric ammonium acetate
Endrin  Phenylmercuric ammonium propionate
Ethylene dibromide (EDB)  Phenylmercuric borate
Fluroacetamide  Phenylmercuric carbonate
HCH (mixed isomers) (BHC)  Phenylmercuric chloride
Heptachlor  Phenylmercuric dimethylthiocarbamate
Hexachlorobenzene (HCB)  Phenylmercuric formamide
Hydroxymercuri-o-nitrophenol  Phenylmercuric hydroxide
Lindane (y-BHC, y-HCH)  Phenylmercuric lactate
Mercuric acetate  Phenylmercuric monoethanol ammonium acetate
Mercuric chloride  Phenylmercuric monoethanol ammonium lactate
Mercuric oxide  Phenylmercuric naphthenate
Mercurous chloride  Phenylmercuric nitrate
Mercury  Phenylmercuric oleate
Mercury naphthenate  Phenylmercuric propionate
Mercury oleate  Phenylmercuric salicylate
Mercury pentanedione  Phenylmercuric thiocyanate
Mercury phenate  Phenylmercuric threthanol ammonium lactate
Methamidophos  Phenylmercuric-2-ethylhexonate
Methazole  Phenylmercuric-8-quinolinolate
Methylmercury 2,3-dihydroxypropyl mercaptide  Phenyl mercury lauryl mercaptide
Methylmercury-8-quinolinolate  Phosphamidon
Methylmercury acetate  Toxaphene (camphechlor)
Methylmercury benzoate  Tribufos