Customs new organisation structure

re-engineered business processes

ustoms has a new organisational structure to support its new cargomanagement practices.

The new structure, designed as part of the Business Re-engineering Project, ensures that Customs business processes align with the new cargomanagement processes.

The new structure removes the distinction between border and commercial business areas. Border managed physical functions such as movement, reporting and security of cargo. Commercial managed import and export transactions and revenue collection and the overseeing of regulatory requirements regarding prohibited imports and exports.

Now Customs has an organisationwide approach to both business lines with the emergence of three new divisions: Cargo and Trade; Border Compliance and Enforcement; and Border Intelligence and Passengers.

The Cargo and Trade Division in Central Office brings responsibility for all cargo policy together, while the cargo functional groups in regions are responsible for facilitating the clearance process for legitimate trade.

Border Compliance and Enforcement is responsible for compliance assurance programs covering the movement, reporting and clearance of cargo, and the payment of relevant duties and taxes. It also focuses on deliberate non-

compliance and illegal activity through detection of prohibited goods, investigation of illegal activity and prosecution action.

Customs risk identification and intelligence functions are coordinated in Border Intelligence and Passengers Division for smarter operational capacity. This area is responsible for identifying, analysing and disseminating information on threats to Customs. It will provide information to Border Compliance and Enforcement to support decision-making about operational response activity.

The functional responsibilities of each division and branch are grouped into a structure that links Central Office and the Regions to promote commonality and consistency across Australia.

Customs will continue to operate under a matrix-management system.
Central Office senior executive staff will remain responsible for setting policy and standards, coordinating national operations and delivering outputs. Senior executive staff in the Regions are responsible for administering these policies and standards and for managing regional operations including the delivery of services.

Previous inconsistencies between work areas had led to some duplication of effort. The new structure integrates Customs core functions for maximum efficiency.

Opposite page: Customs new organisation chart outlining the new structure that came into force on 1 October.

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