

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 76

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 13 February 2007:

a) Has the Customs and Department of Transport and Regional Services Joint Review of the current operating procedures and transport security program requirements applying to the regulated air cargo scheme (as per page 64 of the 2005-06 Annual Report) been completed?

i) If so, please provide.

ii) If not:

1) When will this be completed?

2) Are there any interim reports available and, if so, provide those to the Committee.

b) Has the review of emerging technologies relevant to air cargo examination (as per page 64 of the 2005-06 Annual Report) been completed?

i) If so, please provide.

ii) If not:

1) When will this be completed?

2) Are there any interim reports available and, if so, provide those to the Committee.

c) With regards to the statement on page 77 that approved supply chain security is part of the program's entry requirements:

Provide a copy of the entry requirements highlighting the improvements in supply chain security.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

a) No.

i. N/a.

ii.

1) The review will be completed by 30 June 2007.

2) No.

b) No.

i. N/a.

ii.

1) The review will be completed by 30 June 2007.

2) A first draft of the Executive Summary of the report was prepared for provision to the Aviation Security Advisory Forum Air Cargo Working Group. A copy of that Executive Summary is provided in response to this question.

c) The supply chain security entry requirements relevant to the Accredited Client Program are currently under development. These requirements will be consistent with the standards for Authorised Economic Operators as set out in the World Customs Organization Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade. The requirements will address security aspects such as:

- physical security of buildings and perimeters;

- access controls;
- protection of data through automated capabilities;
- personnel security;
- cargo and container integrity; and
- employee training and education.