



Australian Government

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service

Ship Sanitation Certificates Transitional Arrangements

ADVICE TO AGENTS – SEAPORTS 09/07

Shipping Agents/Operators

The purpose of this advice is to notify shipping agents of advice regarding Ship Sanitation Certificates published by the Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA). This advice is further to Advice for Agents 07/07. Please refer to the Attachment.

If you have any queries the DoHA contact number is 0434 609 309. The phone is switched on from 7.00 am until 7.00 pm, 7 days per week.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Franks', with a large circular flourish at the start.

David Franks
National Manager
Seaports Program

19 Nov 2007



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

International Health Regulations 2005
Transitional arrangements for Australia's issuing of Ship Sanitation Certificates

Further to the Advice to Agents 07-07 issued on 26 October 2007, shipping agents, masters of ships and ship owners should be aware of Australian arrangements for the issuance and acceptance of Ship Sanitation Certificates.

Australia will commence issuing Ship Sanitation Certificates on 15 December 2007. The Ship Sanitation Certificate replaces the Deratting Certificate, which was issued under the former (1969) iteration of the International Health Regulations. From 15 December 2007, Australia will cease to issue Deratting Certificates.

The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) will undertake inspections and issue the Australian Ship Sanitation Certificate. The Ship Sanitation Certificate will not change the standards required of ships in Australian waters – but will broaden certification to help control vectors of diseases of international concern and conditions that could attract them. In addition, conditions on board vessels that could cause or substantially contribute to such illnesses will be targeted.

Australia will continue to accept Deratting Certificates issued on or between 15 June 2007 and 14 December 2007 by the competent authorities of World Health Organization (WHO) member states (including Australia) until they expire.

Australia will not accept Deratting Certificates issued after 14 December 2007 from any country.

Be advised that after 14 December 2007, some ports outside Australia may no longer accept Deratting Certificates. It is recommended that Masters of ships replace their Deratting Certificates with Ship Sanitation Certificates where this is possible – noting that this will not be possible in Australia until 15 December 2007.

Summary:

- Australia will commence issuing Ship Sanitation Certificates on 15 December 2007.
- The Ship Sanitation Certificate will replace the Deratting Certificate.
- AQIS will undertake inspection of ships for the issuance of Ship Sanitation Certificates.
- Australia will accept Deratting Certificates issued on or between 15 June 2007 and 14 December 2007 by the competent authorities of WHO member states until they expire.
- Australia will not accept Deratting Certificates issued after 14 December 2007 from any country.
- Ports outside Australia may not accept Deratting Certificates after 14 December 2007.
- Masters of ships are advised to replace Deratting Certificates with a Ship Sanitation Certificate where possible – noting that this is not possible in Australia until 15 December 2007.