



**AQIS REQUIREMENTS FOR NOTIFICATION OF DISEMBARKING PASSENGERS
AND CREW**

ADVICE TO AGENTS – SEAPORTS 04/02

To Whom It May Concern

This advice provides shipping agents with the current reporting requirements to the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) in respect to crew changes and/or disembarking passengers.

In 2001, the Australian government announced that increased quarantine intervention by AQIS would be undertaken on all vessels entering Australian ports. These measures were implemented by AQIS to reduce the risk of introduction of exotic pests and disease into Australia.

The *Quarantine Act 1908* states that all persons and goods that are or have been on board a vessel are subject to quarantine. All crew and passengers signing off vessels are subject to 100% baggage inspection by AQIS officers. This also includes day trippers off cruise vessels, and the passengers and any other personnel departing commercial vessels.

Shipping agents must notify their local AQIS office directly of all crew changes and/or passengers disembarking from any international vessel. Information should include the time of departure and intended length of stay in Australia to assist in facilitating appropriate clearance times (note: AQIS fees are applicable to crew changes). Agents should consider crew change clearances in-line with pratique inspections whenever possible to reduce facilitation fees and for efficient work practices.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. For further information and notification of crew changes / disembarking passengers, please contact your local AQIS office.

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