



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET [24/04/2018]

The Investigation of the Effect of the Verified Gross Mass (VGM) Implementation in Australia

1. Invitation

You are invited to participate in a research study investigating the effect of the Verified Gross Mass (VGM) implementation in Australia. This study is being conducted in partial fulfillment of a Master's degree for Eda Aras under the supervision of Dr. Shu-Ling (Peggy) Chen, Acting Head of the Department of Maritime and Logistics Management, National Centre for Ports and Shipping, Australian Maritime College, University of Tasmania

2. What is the purpose of this study?

The VGM implementation is to ensure shippers to provide accurate and reliable total weight of the containers to the terminal and shipping companies. This study aims to investigate the impact of VGM implementation in Australia with the industry perception and provide managerial implications for the industry.

3. Why have I been invited to participate?

You have been invited to participate in this study because you are one of the key professional actors with management experience and knowledge of the VGM practices in Australia.

4. What will I be asked to do?

If you choose to participate this study, you will be asked to provide your invaluable views pertaining to the effect of VGM implementation in Australia and specific information regarding the effect of VGM implementation in your respected organization.

You will be requested to complete an online survey provided in the web link attached. Your participation will take approximately 10-15 minutes. Please be sure that all responses will only be used for research purposes with strict confidentiality and will not be attributed to any particular person or organization. Please note that receiving your completed questionnaire implies your consent for participating in this survey.

5. Are there any possible benefits from participation in this study?

As this research will be the -first known- academic research about the investigation of the impact of VGM implementation in Australia, the research findings would help to facilitate increased insight of the VGM implementation for Australia as well as wider community in other countries. It may also be used as a source of knowledge and reference by future learners and researchers.

6. Are there any possible risks from participation in this study?



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There are no specific risks anticipated with participation in this study.

7. What if I change my mind during or after the study?

You are free to withdraw from the study without providing an explanation. However, since you will provide your data anonymously, it is not possible to remove your data from the survey.

8. What will happen to the information when this study is over?

All data from your participation will be stored in a secure server of University of Tasmania and password protected. Based on the research requirement, all data will be kept for five years for publication purposes and after that, it will be securely destroyed.

9. How will the results of the study be published?

The results from this study will be published in the form of a Master thesis of the student investigator. The findings may later be presented or published at conferences and in other academic arenas, including journals. A summary of the results will be provided upon request to any participant in this study.

10. What if I have questions about this study?

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this study, please feel free to contact the student investigator or chief investigator:

CHIEF INVESTIGATOR:

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“This study has been approved by the Tasmanian Social Sciences Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study, please contact the Executive Officer of the HREC (Tasmania) Network on +61 3 6226 6254 or email human.ethics@utas.edu.au. The Executive Officer is the person nominated to receive complaints from research participants. Please quote ethics reference number [H0017263].”

Thank you for taking your time to consider this study.

If you wish to take part in it, please access the online survey via the link provided.

This information sheet is for you to keep.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YTRXNCT>