Dear Exporter,

In less than six weeks, changes to the screening of US-bound air cargo will impact your US export business.

After 1 July 2017, you will be unable to export to the US by air unless you comply with US air cargo screening requirements that require strict 100 per cent piece-level screening.

While these requirements are imposed by the US Government, it is your responsibility to check what impact the changes will have on your business. Many of businesses have already secured their export arrangements. Are you ready?

The Australian Government's Office of Transport Security has worked with many of you to ensure a smooth transition, but to avoid increased costs, delays and red tape, you should understand these changes and what you need to do to comply before 1 July.

You have two options for meeting these requirements. You can use an Australian Government-approved freight agent who can examine your US-bound air cargo (a list of Regulated Air Cargo Agents is available here).

There is also the option of being approved as a Known Consignor, which allows you to secure air cargo at your business.

A range of businesses have already become Known Consignors and a number of other businesses have started the process of becoming a Known Consignor to secure their US-bound air cargo business. Click here to begin the process of being approved as a Known Consignor.

I have also attached some information from Marinova on their experience of becoming a Known Consignor. Marinova is an innovative Tasmanian bioactive seaweed compound exporter which has signed up to the program to secure its US-bound air cargo business.

More information including responses to Frequently Asked Questions can be found on the Department's website here or you can contact aircargosecurity@infrastructure.gov.au or ring the Office of Transport Security Guidance Centre on 1300 791 581 between 9 am and 5 pm on weekdays.

You can also subscribe to Air Cargo Security updates here

Yours sincerely

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