

Aussie exports meeting new air cargo security screening requirements

By MALCOLM THOMPSON, Deputy Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

Air freight is an important export pathway for the movement of perishable agricultural products.



It's a key element in Australia's economy, enabling Australian producers to compete successfully in world markets.

Australia exported over three hundred thousand tonnes of perishable agriculture and seafood products by air in 2018. This included red meat, horticulture, seafood and dairy. This is a huge amount, and I'm sure this year our export volumes will grow further.

Using air freight to transport agricultural exports gives producers the ability to maintain the safety and quality of their product during the transport process. It offers reduced handling and faster delivery times, allowing exporters to deliver a superior product into overseas markets.

With the introduction of the Enhanced Air Cargo Examination (EACE) program, the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has been working closely with Austrade to support the Department of Home Affairs in building industry awareness, achieving the smoothest possible roll-out of these new screening requirements.

We recognise and appreciate the role that the airfreight industry has played in helping exporters adjust to the new arrangements by 1 March 2019.

Similarly, a thank you to exporters for continuing to meet strict export and importing country requirements—which are so important for maintaining overseas market access and growing the value of our agricultural trade.

In addition to our role as a regulator, we look to support growth in agricultural exports. Efficient regulation of exports will enhance Australia's reputation as an excellent source of reliable agricultural exports.

The Australian Government is investing an additional \$83 million to capitalise on this reputation, to secure greater market access and modernise our export systems.

If you have any feedback on the implementation of the new screening requirements, or messages that we should be sharing with industry, please send them to HAengagement@agriculture.gov.au.

For more information visit agriculture.gov.au/air-cargo-changes.



World Transport



www.agsworld.com



AGS WORLD TRANSPORT NEUTRAL SCREENING FACILITIES – YOUR SOLUTION TO THE GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION PUZZLE