

WHY ARE WE REQUESTING ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS (CPQ)?

20th November 2021

We have a shared responsibility for due diligence on imported cargo – CPQ's are part of this responsibility

Overview

As a party in the supply chain Customs Brokers Pty Ltd (or its subsidiaries) understand that everyone in the supply chain is responsible for the safe movement of cargo both locally and internationally. This includes answering Community Protection Questions (CPQ) correctly on import declarations.

What are Community Protection Questions (CPQ)?

These are questions posed by either Australian Border Force (ABF) and/ or Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) in relation to a specific commodity based on the classification of the commodity and its current risk profile.

These change from time to time based on assumed or appropriate risks and seasonal pest requirements.

Why does the Importer need to provide these answers?

As a licensed customs broker, we are bound to ensure we conduct all due diligence to answer these questions. Many of these questions can often be answered by the documentation received for clearance, or through our relationship with frequent importers and their products. Sometimes however this is not clearly evident.

As part of this due diligence approach and the auditing regime where strict liability offences in the infringement processes apply our preferred method of receipt of these answers from the IMPORTER is via email, in writing. Where this is not possible the questions will still be asked via telephone, and the answers and conversation documented.

Further information

Further details about community protection questions are available on the Australian Border Force and Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment websites, and BICON cases relating to specific commodities. Please ask and we can direct you to this information.

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