



Australian Government
**Australian Customs and
Border Protection Service**

**AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
NOTICE NO. 2011/34**

**Release of the updated Australian Harmonized Export Commodity
Classification (AHECC) effective 1 January 2012**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) released a complete update of the AHECC on 22 August 2011. This 2012 version of the AHECC incorporates changes resulting from the World Customs Organization fourth review of the Harmonized System, including changes to headings and subheadings and also the results of a general review of statistical codes.

The new AHECC for export goods will take effect on 1 January 2012. The 2007 version should continue to be used to classify goods departing Australia before this date.

The ABS will release an information paper on the changes to the AHECC and the *Customs Tariff Act 1995* (cat. no. 5368.0.55.017) on 8 December 2011. This information paper will cover Free Standing Descriptors (FSDs) and concordances to other classifications.

The current 2007 and new 2012 versions of the AHECC are available on the ABS website free of charge. These documents can be accessed using the following links:

The link to the 2012 version:

<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/1233.0Jan%202012?OpenDocument>

The link to the current (2007) version:

<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/1233.0Jan%202007?OpenDocument>

or go to the ABS website www.abs.gov.au then type 1233.0 in the search field and click on the first match. To access the current 2007 version of the AHECC, use the "Past and future releases" tab. To access the new 2012 version, use the "Download" tab.

Inquiries about this notice may be directed to:

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