



AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS NOTICE NO. 2010/07

NEW IMPORT CONTROL ON TABLET PRESSES

The importation of tablet presses is to be controlled under Regulation 4G of the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956* (PI Regulations). The control will come into effect on 1 March 2010.

It is being introduced to reduce the supply of illicit drugs. Tablet presses are highly sought after by criminal organisations for use in the domestic manufacture of these drugs.

Tablet presses are defined as semi-automatic or fully automatic equipment that can be used for the compaction or moulding of powdered or granular solids, or semi-solid material, to produce coherent solid tablets. The control does not include encapsulators or tablet press parts such as punches or dies.

The Attorney-General's Department has policy responsibility for the control and will initially administer the permission arrangements. The permission regime will be based on "registered" importers. Importers must apply to the Attorney-General's Department in writing using the application form which can be found on the Attorney-General's Department website at <http://www.ag.gov.au/tabletpresses>

A permission can specify conditions or requirements such as the length of time for which an approval is valid, and/or the number of tablet presses that can be imported. The Minister or an authorised person has the power to revoke a permission where the holder does not comply with a condition or requirement.

Enquiries regarding the policy of the new control may be directed to Attorney-General's Department via email tabletpress@ag.gov.au or by telephone (02) 6141 2730.

Enquiries regarding this notice may be directed to Community Protection Policy on telephone (02) 6275 6114 or via email to community.protection@customs.gov.au

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