

**True friendship is when you walk into their house and your WiFi connects automatically** - author unknown

CARGO NETWORK INTERNATIONAL PTY LTD

## “ASBESTOS” update

Importation into Australia of asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) is prohibited except under very limited circumstances, however, despite this prohibition, there have been a number of incidents where ACMs have been imported into Australia. This may sometimes have been the result of unreliable certification provided by overseas manufacturers that goods are asbestos-free. This is because some countries regard products to be ‘asbestos free’ if they contain asbestos below a certain level. In Australia, however, we require zero asbestos content and do not allow tolerances in manufactured goods.

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The Asbestos Importation Review Report prepared by KGH Border Services in March 2016 suggests that *the testing standard (AS 4964) applied by National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) cannot absolutely certify the absence of asbestos, and further confirming testing techniques that exist outside of the Australian Standard may be required. While some of these techniques are available in Australia, no Australian laboratory is currently accredited by NATA to undertake them.*

The report elsewhere states: *“The International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) facilitates the process of mutual recognition agreements between NATA and equivalent authorities overseas. This allows for the accreditation of overseas laboratories to the Australian Standard, but very few laboratories that The International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) facilitates the process of mutual recognition agreements between NATA and equivalent authorities overseas. This allows for the accreditation of overseas laboratories to the Australian Standard, but very few laboratories seek this accreditation”.*

So, expect delays at ABF processing and in drawing samples and then in getting the testing done?

The only definitive part in all this, Importers will be deemed responsible for any asbestos non-compliance.



## Department of Agriculture, Water & Resources



### Front Counter operations:

Import Documents requiring a biosecurity assessment will no longer be accepted over the counter.

Unless DAWR specifically request to sight original paperwork, all processing must be completed via the Cargo Online Lodgement System (COLS).

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### New Sea Freight Packing Declarations:

DAWR has introduced new Packing Declaration for FCL/FCX and LCL cargo. Whilst there has been minimal change to the existing document, it is important for importers to re-establish their Standard Operating Procedures and incorporate this new document into any company Quality Assurance policies and processes.

DAWR are currently accepting the old Format through to 2017.

CNI has been introducing the new format to all CNI overseas partners and will continue to assist importers accordingly

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### Fresh Cut Flowers

A pest risk assessment of the importation of cut flowers of *Chrysanthemum spp.* and *Rosa spp.* has been conducted by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. As a result, conditions for fresh cut flowers and foliage of both *Chrysanthemum spp.* and *Rosa spp.* have been changed.

It has been determined that:

*Chrysanthemum spp.* from all countries other than Indonesia, Colombia, Israel, Malaysia, Netherlands, Republic of South Africa, Zimbabwe, Vietnam and India can be imported into Australia subject to an import permit.

*Rosa spp.* from Canada, USA and European countries can be imported into Australia subject to an Import permit.

The import permit requirement is an interim measure to facilitate trade until a legislative process has been completed that will allow this requirement for an import permit for the importation of *Chrysanthemum* and *Rosa spp.* from specific countries to be removed.

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## Reserve Bank speculates at another rate cut

The new Reserve Bank of Australia governor, Philip Lowe, says the official cash rate may be cut again, despite it sitting at a record low already.



Lowe also spoke about the housing affordability crisis, saying it was not in society's interest for prices to keep rising much faster than incomes, as has taken place over the past decade in most Australian capitals.

He also said he would like Australia's banking industry to regain its reputation of being a strong service profession, where staff behaved in ways that benefited clients, and where banks were trusted and considered custodians.

Speaking at a parliamentary hearing on Thursday, Lowe said it was possible that interest rates could be cut again in Australia, from a record low 1.5% to an even lower 1.25%.

He said financial markets were factoring in a 50% probability of another rate cut.

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## Hanjin Shipping Line update...

This is no US – style "Chapter 11" akin to our "administration". It is far more serious and creates a whole set of new and alien concepts to consider and battle.



There is likely to be some uncertainty for some time as the current ownership and operation of the Hanjin group is far from clear so people will, naturally enough act in a limited and cautious manner.

There are no guarantees as to when Hanjin ships will land and when (and if) they will unload and what will be required to secure cargo.

Prepaid freight may well be lost – like payments for gift vouchers from companies which go into insolvency. Those vouchers are treated as "unsecured" and cannot be enforced in the same way as prepaid freight cannot be enforced.

It's a good time to check your insurances to determine if they may cover liability arising from the insolvency of the shipping line.

*If you have any cargo on Hanjin vessels, please contact our Sales operations...*





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## SPECIALISING IN:

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### [Australian Border Force \(ABF\) — seizure...](#)

A 31-year-old man from Port Neill was arrested yesterday after an Australian Border Force (ABF) and South Australia Police (SAPOL) investigation linked him to the importation and distribution of numerous border controlled drugs via the dark net.

The man was arrested after ABF and SAPOL officers executed several search warrants at residential properties in Adelaide and the Eyre Peninsula of South Australia.

During the warrants, ABF officers and SAPOL members seized 910 doses of an amphetamine type substance, 380 LSD doses and 72 capsules and 15 grams of MDMA. A number of other powders and liquids, which the ABF will allege were to be used in the manufacture of illicit drugs, were also seized.

SAPOL will charge the man with 14 counts of trafficking in a controlled drug contrary to section 32 of the Controlled Substances Act.

“Working with our partner agencies, we will continue to target those people who think they can illegally purchase and import illicit goods online.”

The man arrested could face a maximum penalty of 25 years' imprisonment and/or a fine of up to \$900,000.

