1 GENERAL

1.1 Each horse must:

. be accompanied by a copy of a valid "Permit to Import" obtained, prior to export, from the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) in the State into which the horse is to be imported,

. undergo pre-export quarantine (PEQ) for a minimum period of 21 days in premises which meet AQIS standards (Appendix 2) and are approved by the Veterinary Administration of the exporting country,

. be accompanied by an Animal Health Certificate, which conforms to the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) Animal Health Code [Code] Model Certificate No. 6, written in English, stamped on each page with an Official stamp and signed by an Official Veterinarian. Note: An Official Veterinarian means a veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration of the exporting country to perform animal health and/or public health inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, perform certification in conformity with the provisions of the OIE Code.

1.2 In the event of any animal arriving in Australia without the correct certification or in any other way not having met these requirements, that animal and any in-contact animals may be detained in quarantine or returned to the country of origin at the importer's expense.

1.3 The importer or the agent coordinating the importation must nominate a person who will be accessible to AQIS officers.

1.4 Costs associated with the selection, testing, transport, quarantine (including any extension to the quarantine period for whatever reason) and any Australian Government veterinary supervision of the animals during each quarantine period and during transport to Australia will not be met by the Australian Government.
1.5 Conditions of importation may be varied or reviewed at any time at the discretion of the Australian Director of Animal and Plant Quarantine (herein called the Director).
2 CERTIFICATION

The Animal Health Certificate must attest that:

2.1 The horse was continuously resident for the two months immediately prior to export:

- in one or more Member States of the European Union in which:
  .. African horse sickness Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis and vesicular stomatitis are compulsorily notifiable; and
  .. vaccination against African horse sickness or Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis has not been practised in the last 12 months; and

- in part of the territory of the Member State, or States, in which the following diseases have not occurred for the period stated:
  .. African horse sickness 2 years
  .. dourine 6 months
  .. glanders 6 months
  .. equine encephalomyelitis 2 years
  .. vesicular stomatitis 2 years
  .. surra 1 year and

- in part of the territory of the Member State, or States in which Borna disease in horses and in ruminants has not been detected during the past 2 years, and

- in an establishment or establishments in which no case of epizootic lymphangitis, equine ehrlichiosis (*Ehrlichia risticii* and *Ehrlichia equi*), equine infectious anaemia, equine influenza, equine viral abortion, equine viral arteritis, equine piroplasmosis, horse pox, Lyme disease, rabies or any other notifiable disease of horses has occurred during the previous three months.

Note: equine viral abortion means disease due to infection with equine herpesvirus type 1 and includes central nervous disease.

NOTE: If the Member State from which the horse is to be exported can not certify disease freedom for other Member States in which the horse has resided in the previous 2 months, an Official Veterinarian from each of those Member States should also certify to 2.1 and 2.2 (this certification should be attached to the Animal Health Certificate - Appendix 1).

2.2 The horse is not known to have ever been infected with *Taylorella equigenitalis*, has not been mated with another horse known to have been infected with *Taylorella equigenitalis*, and has not, during the past 2 months, been resident on any property on which contagious equine metritis has been confirmed in the previous 2 years.
2.3 **Equine Influenza**

During the 4 months before the pre-export quarantine period the horse was vaccinated against equine influenza, using an approved inactivated vaccine, either once as a booster to a certified primary course or twice at an interval of 4 to 6 weeks.

2.4 The horse received no vaccinations during PEQ.

2.5 **Pregnancy**

In the case of a female horse

**EITHER**

The horse is not pregnant.

**OR**

So far as can be determined the horse is less than 7 months pregnant and has been continuously resident, since last being covered, in an establishment or establishments in which no case of contagious equine metritis or equine viral abortion occurred during the past 12 months.

2.6 **Contagious Equine Metritis** (this certification does not apply to geldings)

During the 60 days prior to export, the horse was tested for the contagious equine metritis organism, *Taylorella equigenitalis*, with negative results, by:

- culture of samples collected on three occasions, ............. (date), ............. (date) and ............. (date) at intervals of 7 to 9 days from:
  - the penile sheath, the urethra and the urethral sinus (colts and stallions), the clitoral fossa including the clitoral sinuses (fillies and mares);
  - culture of a sample collected on at least one occasion during oestrous from the endometrium or deep cervix (non-pregnant fillies and mares).

Samples were cultured at an Official laboratory. The horse was not mated by natural service after collection of the first samples for testing.

2.7 **Equine viral arteritis.**

In the case of an uncastrated male horse

**EITHER**
So far as can be determined on the basis of relevant laboratory reports and vaccination certificates the horse has been tested for equine viral arteritis (EVA) with negative results using an approved test, and subsequently vaccinated against EVA with an approved vaccine.

**OR**

During the 60 days prior to export the horse was tested negative for equine viral arteritis (EVA):

- by a virus neutralisation (VN) test, **OR**

- by a virus isolation test on two semen samples at an Official laboratory recognised as having the appropriate expertise in this field (semen samples can be collected on the same day or on consecutive days or after an interval of several days).

**NOTE:** The horse is not to be mated by natural service during the period commencing the 14 days before collection of blood for serology or semen for virus isolation until the horse is exported.

2.8 The horse was continuously held in pre-export quarantine premises (PEQ) which comply with standards set by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service, and which were approved by an **Official Veterinarian** for holding horses for export to Australia, for at least 21 days immediately prior to export.

2.9 The horse was thoroughly examined by an Official Veterinarian, or under the direct supervision of an Official Veterinarian on arrival into PEQ and found to be free of ticks. A systematic approach was undertaken with close examination of ears, false nostrils, under body areas (axilla, inguinal, under jawbone), perineum, mane and tail

- if any horse in the consignment was found to have ticks on arrival into PEQ all horses in the PEQ premises were immediately treated with a parasiticide effective against ticks.

2.10 During PEQ:

- samples were taken from the horses and subjected to a Coggins test or an approved ELISA for equine infectious anaemia, and an indirect fluorescent antibody test (IFAT) for piroplasmosis (*Babesia equi* and *B caballi*), at an Official laboratory, with negative results in each case; and

- the horse was treated with a broad spectrum parasiticide containing ........................................ (active ingredient/s) effective against ticks according to the manufacture’s recommendations within 7 to 2 days prior to shipment unless ticks found on arrival and the horses have been treated; and

- the horse was treated with a broad spectrum anthelmintic containing ................................. (active ingredient/s); and
- all horses in the pre-export quarantine premises remained free from evidence of infectious or contagious disease, and had no contact with horses not of the same health status.

Note: Certifications 2.3, 2.6, 2.7 and 2.10 do not apply to unweaned foals, under 6 months old, travelling with their dams, with the exception that foals must be treated with a broad spectrum parasiticide and anthelmintic as in 2.10.

2.11 The horse was examined by an Official Veterinarian within 24 hours prior to leaving the pre-export quarantine premises for the port of export and was found to be free from evidence of infectious or contagious disease and external parasites and fit to travel.

2.12 The vehicle for the transport of the horse to the port of export was cleaned and disinfected prior to loading this and other animals of the same consignment.

2.13 During transport to the port of export the horse had no contact with horses not of the same certified health status.

2.14 The compartment of the aircraft or vessel to be occupied by the horse and all removable equipment, penning and containers including loading ramps were satisfactorily cleaned and disinfected prior to loading.

2.15 At the time of loading the horse was healthy and fit to travel.

3 TRANSPORT

3.1 The horse must be consigned to Australia by a route approved by the Director. It may be accompanied by other animals only with the approval of the Director. Any transhipment requires the approval of the Director. Stops on route will need approval from relevant authorities in the countries of transit and transhipment.

3.2 An Australian or New Zealand quarantine veterinarian may be required to accompany the shipment to Australia at the importer's expense. AQIS must receive adequate notice of the intention to import so that arrangements can be made.

3.3 The design of the containers, the recommended species requirements, the preparation for transport, and the disinfection of the interior of the aircraft, removable equipment, penning and containers must be in accordance with the recommendations of the OIE International Animal Health Code 6th Edition and International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations unless otherwise agreed by the Director.

The use of hay or straw as bedding during transport is not permitted; treated wood shavings, sterilised peat and soft board may be used.

4 ENTRY AND POST-ARRIVAL QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS
4.1 Each imported horse must undergo post-arrival quarantine (PAQ) in a Government animal quarantine station or other approved premises for at least 14 days.

4.2 Each imported horse must be thoroughly examined for ticks within 48 hours of arrival in Australia under the direct supervision of a Quarantine Officer. A systematic approach must be taken with close examination of ears, false nostrils, under-body areas (axilla, inguinal, under jawbone), perineum, mane and tail

- if ticks are found the whole consignment must be treated with an approved acaricide according to the manufacturer’s recommendations (any tick found should be identified).

4.3 Each imported pregnant mare will be held under quarantine surveillance in approved premises until at least 20 days after foaling. Detailed conditions of quarantine surveillance for pregnant mares are at Appendix 3.

4.4 During PAQ and while the imported horses remain under quarantine surveillance, they may be subjected to any testing or treatment prescribed by the Director at the importers expense.

4.5 If any horse fails a test or shows signs of disease, that horse and any or all other horses in the PAQ premises may be detained in quarantine for further testing and/or observation or exported at the importer's expense, or destroyed without recompense.

4.6 The importer will be charged for services provided by the Australian Government. If any animals die or are destroyed during any period of control, compensation will not be paid by the Australian Government.

DAVID BANKS
Acting Assistant Director
Animal Quarantine Policy Branch

EU Equine Permanent Import
APPENDIX 1

ADDITIONAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE TO BE COMPLETED WHEN THE HORSE HAS RESIDED IN MEMBER STATES OTHER THAN THE EXPORTING MEMBER STATE DURING THE 2 MONTHS PRIOR TO EXPORT

Health Certificate

I, an Official Veterinarian of ..................................... (name of Member State), hereby certify that:

a) the horse was continuously resident from ................ to ............... (dates) in ............................................(Member State);

b) African horse sickness, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis and vesicular stomatitis are compulsorily notifiable in ............................................(Member State) and vaccination against African horse sickness or Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis has not been practiced in the last 12 months;

c) the horse was resident in part of the territory of ............................................ (Member State) where the following diseases have not occurred for the following time periods prior to export of the horse

- African horse sickness 2 years
- dourine 6 months
- glanders 6 months
- equine encephalomyelitis 2 years
- vesicular stomatitis 2 years
- surra 1 year
- in which Borna disease in horses and in ruminants has not been detected during the past 2 years

e) during the previous three months no case of epizootic lymphangitis, equine ehrlichiosis (*Ehrlichia risticii* and *Ehrlichia equi*), equine infectious anaemia, equine influenza, equine viral abortion, equine viral arteritis, equine piroplasmosis, horse pox, Lyme disease, rabies or any other notifiable disease of equidae has occurred in the establishment or establishments at which the horse resided. Note: equine viral abortion means disease due to infection with equine herpesvirus type 1 and includes central nervous disease.

f) The horse is not known to have ever been infected with *Taylorella equigenitalis*, has not been mated with another horse known to have been infected with *Taylorella equigenitalis*, and has not, during the above residency period, been resident on any property on which contagious equine metritis has been confirmed in the previous 2 years.

Issued at: ____________________________________
Date: ____________________________________
Signature: __________________________________________________________________
Printed Name: _______________________________________________________________
AQIS STANDARDS FOR PRE-EXPORT QUARANTINE PREMISES FOR EQUIDAE FOR EXPORT TO AUSTRALIA FROM MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

1 LOCATION

1.1 The premises must be located in a country, or part of the territory of a country, that has been free from African horse sickness, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis and vesicular stomatitis for 2 years.

1.2 For the duration of pre-export quarantine (PEQ), other equidae should not be depastured, held or exercised within 100 metres of horses on the premises except as specifically authorised by AQIS.

1.3 The premises must be conveniently located for supervision by an Official Veterinarian except as specifically authorised by AQIS.

2 FACILITIES

2.1 The premises must be surrounded by two stockproof fences at least 5 metres apart except where the wall of a building forms part of the perimeter. Exceptions to these standards may be approved by AQIS.

2.2 The premises shall have an area for the cleaning and disinfection of vehicles well separated from stables, holding pens and the loading area, and facilities for the safe unloading and loading of horses.

2.3 Stables on the premises must be so constructed that they can be readily cleaned and disinfected.

2.4 Stables, yards, fences, and feeding and watering arrangements must be so constructed that the horses are protected from injury, and other welfare needs are met.

2.5 The premises shall have facilities for veterinary examination and the collection of samples, and facilities for the segregation and isolation of sick or suspect horses.

3 OPERATION

3.1 The premises must be approved by an Official Veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration prior to the commencement of each PEQ.

3.2 Stables must be cleaned and disinfected, and exercise yards, holding yards and paddocks cleaned to the satisfaction of an Official Veterinarian, prior to the commencement of each PEQ.
3.3 The PEQ must be supervised by an *Official Veterinarian*.

3.4 The PEQ period shall be deemed to start from the time of entry of the last horse. Horses must not leave the premises during PEQ without permission of the supervising *Official Veterinarian* and AQIS.

3.5 During the PEQ the premises must only be occupied by horses of the export consignment unless otherwise agreed by the supervising *Official Veterinarian* and AQIS.

3.6 All equipment used in the feeding, handling and treatment of the horses in PEQ must be new or cleaned and disinfected before use and must be used only in the premises for the duration of the PEQ.

3.7 Personnel attending the horses must don outer clothing and footwear used exclusively in the premises during PEQ, and wash hands, before handling the animals.

3.8 Any health problems affecting horses or other stock on the premises during PEQ must be promptly reported to the supervising *Official Veterinarian*. AQIS must be notified if the incident is considered, by the *Official Veterinarian*, to be of quarantine concern.

3.9 A detailed health record must be kept for each horse on the premises during the PEQ period and it must be available to the supervising *Official Veterinarian*.

3.10 Entry to the premises should be prevented unless specifically authorised by the supervising *Official Veterinarian*. All visitor entries should be recorded.

3.11 Vehicles for transport of horses from the premises to the port of embarkation must be cleaned and disinfected to the satisfaction of the *Official Veterinarian* prior to loading.

3.12 The owner or person in charge of the premises must not be the owner or vendor of any of the horses undergoing pre-export quarantine except as specifically authorised by AQIS.
CONDITIONS OF QUARANTINE SURVEILLANCE FOR PREGNANT MARES IMPORTED FROM APPROVED COUNTRIES OTHER THAN NEW ZEALAND

Mares imported in-foal are required to remain in quarantine, or under quarantine surveillance pursuant to Quarantine (Animals) Regulations 36 and 37. Regulation 36(2) requires that:

“The owner or person in charge of an animal under quarantine surveillance -

(a) shall submit the animal to inspection and treatment when required to do so by the Chief Quarantine Officer;

(b) shall immediately report any disease or suspected disease in the animal or the death of the animal to the Chief Quarantine Officer;

(c) shall keep the animal under such conditions as are notified to him in writing by the Chief Quarantine Officer;

(d) shall, if the animal is ordered into quarantine, immediately remove the animal to a quarantine station or such other place as is specified by the Chief Quarantine Officer;

(e) shall immediately carry out, or cause to be carried out, any test on the animal which the Chief Quarantine Officer requires him to carry out.”

The Chief Quarantine Officers (Animals) (CQO(A)’s) have agreed that the following conditions shall apply under Regulation 36(2)(c):

“The imported mare(s) shall be transported directly from the Australian animal quarantine station to approved premises without contact with other horses.

The imported mares shall be maintained in paddocks and/or stables on premises approved by the Chief Quarantine Officer (Animals) (CQO(A)), and under the direct supervision of a registered veterinarian approved by the CQO(A). The approved premises shall include facilities for veterinary examination, treatment and intensive care of mares and foals.

The approved premises shall be located on a property free from other horses, except as approved by the CQO(A), and shall be surrounded by two secure stock proof fences at least 5 metres apart. The area between the two fences shall be kept free of horses. The outer fence shall be so constructed as to discourage unauthorised entry.

The imported mares shall be kept individually in stables and/or paddocks of at least 0.2ha, until at least 20 days after having foaled or been confirmed non-pregnant. If in paddocks, each paddock will be enclosed by a dog-proof fence. They will be pregnancy tested either during quarantine at the

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Australian animal quarantine station or within 7 days of arrival at the approved premises. Release from quarantine surveillance will not normally be effected until receipt of a satisfactory report from the authorised veterinarian or responsible Government Veterinary Officer (GVO), to the CQO(A) detailing the outcome of the pregnancy, and the health status of the mare (and foal) at the end of the quarantine surveillance period.

Mares from the UK, Ireland and France, and from other approved European countries, must be held separately from mares from North America, and must be tested for contagious equine metritis by culture of swabs collected from the endometrium during oestrus, and from the clitoral fossa including the clitoral sinuses, before being released from quarantine surveillance. Mares may not be mated while under quarantine surveillance.

Quarantine surveillance of any or all mares may be extended if abortion or perinatal mortality due to infection with equine herpesvirus type 1 occurs or if there is any evidence of contagious equine metritis on the property.

The person in charge shall ensure that the vehicles used to transport imported mares to the premises are cleaned and disinfected before leaving the premises. Equipment used in the handling or treatment of the imported mares must be dedicated to use on those mares. Personnel handling, examining or treating the imported mares shall change outer clothing and boots, and wash thoroughly, before leaving the premises.

The person in charge shall keep appropriate records in respect of each imported mare including:

- country of origin
- date of entry
- date and result of pregnancy test
- details of veterinary examinations and treatments
- date of foaling and identification of foal
- date of release.

The records shall be available to a quarantine officer on request.

The authorised veterinarian shall inspect the imported mares frequently during the period of quarantine surveillance. A quarantine officer may inspect the premises and animals at any time and will do so at least fortnightly.

The person in charge shall immediately notify the authorised veterinarian or responsible GOV of any sickness or deaths in imported mares, or their foals, or of any abortion or abnormality of parturition. The authorised veterinarian or responsible GVO shall examine the animals affected and collect and promptly transport or cause to be transported, to the appropriate diagnostic laboratory, such samples as may be useful in reaching or confirming a diagnosis. In the case of an abortion the samples should include foetal membranes and the aborted foetus wherever possible. The veterinarian shall report such incidents in detail to a quarantine officer without undue delay.
All expenses associated with the maintenance of quarantine surveillance, including all inspections and examinations of horses, and collection and examination of specimens, are to be borne by the owner or importer of the imported mares.”

Quarantine (Animals) Regulation 37(1) requires that:

“... and animal under quarantine surveillance shall continue thereunder until the Chief Quarantine Officer is satisfied that the animal is free from disease and permits the animal to be released from quarantine surveillance.”