



What's New, What's Different: Quick Reference Guide

Updates to PEMS on 11 October 2025

As part of the **11 October 2025 release** there were 2 critical enhancements to PEMS to improve compliance, data integrity and privacy protection.

Feature 1: Empty container validity check

PEMS has been updated to allow users to verify container history and ensure that valid empty container inspections are recorded before submitting goods inspection records. Third party authorised officers (AOs) and Establishment/Exporters/EDI users will now be able to search for a valid empty container inspection. This enhancement addresses recurring compliance issues and reduces the risk of costly export returns caused by missing inspection data. Additionally, it introduces safeguards to prevent manipulation of inspection details across duplicate Request for Permits (RFPs), thereby strengthening data integrity and supporting regulatory compliance.

Feature 2: Privacy of treatment records

PEMS has been enhanced to restrict visibility of all treatment types, calibration records for third party AOs. The updated functionality ensures:

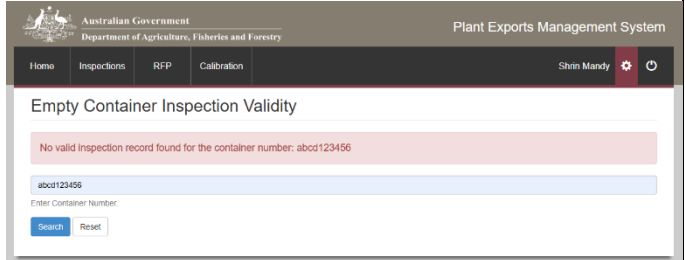
- **Access Control:** Each AO can now only view calibration batches associated with their own establishment profile.
- **Privacy Compliance:** This change aligns with privacy regulations, safeguarding sensitive data from unauthorised access.
- **Controlled Collaboration:** The ability to 'Join' another AO's calibration record remains available but is now governed by permission-based parameters that validate the AO's authorisation to access the record.

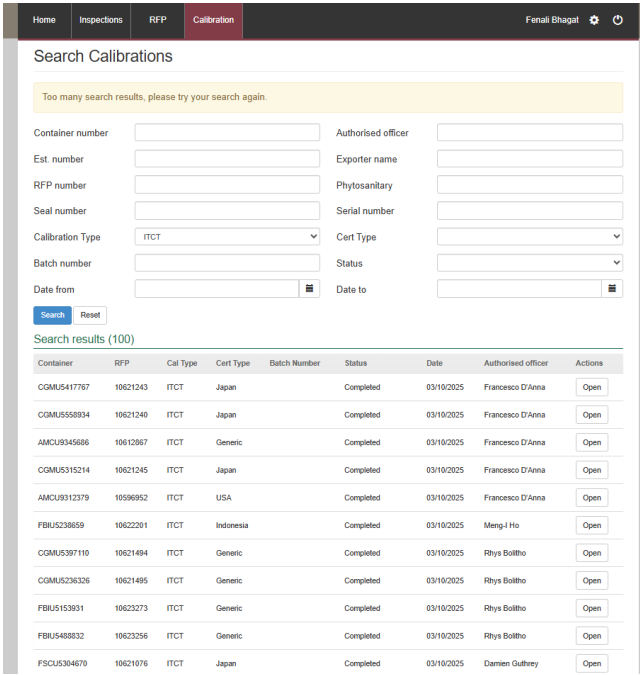
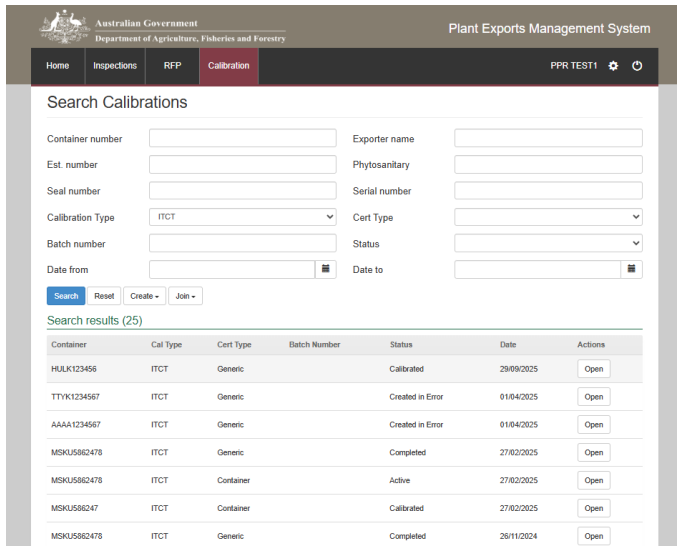
This update strengthens data confidentiality, mitigates commercial risk, and ensures compliance with the *Privacy Act 1988*, while still supporting collaborative workflows under controlled conditions.

Below is the current state and future state view for the 2 features went live on the 11 October 2025.

Current	Changes
Feature 1: Empty container inspection validity check	
Third party AOs could submit goods inspection records without verifying whether valid empty container inspections were recorded, leading to compliance issues and costly export returns. Third party AOs were able to search an 'Empty Container inspection' using the Inspection tab within PEMS. However, the process was not straightforward for the AOs to determine whether an empty container had a valid inspection.	Appointed AOs with at least one 'Grain' job function, as well as Establishment, EDI, and Exporter Executives with PEMS access, can now perform a search to verify container history and confirm valid empty container inspections before submitting goods inspection records.

Current	Changes														
Feature 1: Empty container inspection validity check															
HomeInspectionsRFPCalibrationShrin Mandy⚙️🔌 Search Inspections No search results. RFP number Est/yard number TypeEmpty Container Date from Country Port Container number IMO numberIMO StatusInspected Date to Region Authorised officer SearchResetCreate	HomeInspectionsRFPCalibrationShrin Mandy⚙️🔌 Plant Exports Management System Your BVI job function has expired as your First aid prerequisite has not been renewed. Please upload your renewed prerequisite to the Documents tab in your PEMS profile. Should you require assistance, please email PlantExportTraining@agriculture.gov.au. Search RFPs Request for authorisation Bulk into ship hold Empty container Horticulture Grain and Plant Product Inspection Empty Container Inspection Validity Quality System Recognition OSCT Calibration VHT Sensor Calibration Supervision of VHT There is a separate tile on the PEMS home screen that allows the above listed user roles to easily access the Empty Container Validity Check tile where PEMS requests the user to enter a valid container number in the search field.														
Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry HomeInspectionsRFPCalibrationShrin Mandy⚙️🔌 Empty Container Inspection Completed 03/10/2025 Required fields denoted by * Inspection ID - C732369 Inspection Authorised Officers Time Entry Communications Actions Location details Container yard ID100 Place of inspectionTEST FOR ER 2.5.15 51-53 HOBSONS ROAD KENSINGTON VIC 3031 Results (1) <table><thead><tr><th>Container</th><th>Level</th><th>Result</th><th>Authorised officers</th><th>Expiry date</th><th>RFP</th><th>Actions</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>UATT1234566</td><td>Consumable</td><td>Pass</td><td>Shrin Mandy</td><td>01/01/2026</td><td></td><td> Open Expiry Revoke </td></tr></tbody></table> Comments No comment.	Container	Level	Result	Authorised officers	Expiry date	RFP	Actions	UATT1234566	Consumable	Pass	Shrin Mandy	01/01/2026		Open Expiry Revoke	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Plant Exports Management System HomeInspectionsRFPCalibrationShrin Mandy⚙️🔌 Empty Container Inspection Validity Enter Container Number: SearchReset We have defined the criteria for a valid Empty Container Inspection as 1. The inspection result is marked as 'Pass'. 2. The expiry date is in the future. 3. There are NO failed inspections with a start date later than any other previous passed inspection.
Container	Level	Result	Authorised officers	Expiry date	RFP	Actions									
UATT1234566	Consumable	Pass	Shrin Mandy	01/01/2026		Open Expiry Revoke									
	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Plant Exports Management System HomeInspectionsRFPCalibrationShrin Mandy⚙️🔌 Empty Container Inspection Validity Enter Container Number: SearchReset The result will extract the below data from the inspection record and display in the search result. • Container (container number) • Seal number • Level (Consumable or Non-Consumable) • Result (Pass) • Inspection Date														

Current	Changes
Feature 1: Empty container inspection validity check	
	Expiry date It will ONLY display one result that matches the validation rules that define the criteria for a 'valid' Empty Container Inspection.  If an incorrect container number is entered, PEMS will display an error message or "No valid inspection record found for the container number: <i>container#</i>". This ensures inspection data is complete and prevents manipulation across duplicate RFPs.

Feature 2: Privacy of treatment records	
Third party AOs can view and join calibration records from other establishments via the calibration tab in PEMS, creating a risk of commercial misuse and potential breaches of the <i>Privacy Act 1988</i>. 	Third party AOs are now restricted to viewing only calibration batches (within the Calibration tab) associated with their own user profile. The system enforces access controls to ensure sensitive treatment data remains confidential. The search function remains the same however, the search result list will only display calibration records initiated by the logged-in third party AO.  The 'Join' functionality for calibration records remains available to support collaborative workflows; to allow

The 'Join' button is currently linked to the calibration record in the search results list.

Feature 2: Privacy of treatment records

Join Calibration

Calibration ID *

A Calibration ID is required.

Establishment number *

An establishment number is required.

Offsite calibration seal number

Close

Join

The third party AO wanting to join another AO’s calibration record must have the Calibration ID and other relevant information to ‘Join’ another AOs calibration record. This needs to happen through a manual comms channel.

ITCT:

Join Calibration

Calibration ID *

A Calibration ID is required.

Establishment number *

An establishment number is required.

Offsite calibration seal number

Close

Join

OSCT:

Join Calibration

Calibration ID *

A Calibration ID is required.

Seal number *

A seal number is required.

Treatment start date

Treatment start date is required

Treatment start time

hh:mm

Treatment start time is required

Treatment end date

Treatment end date is required

Treatment End time

hh:mm

Treatment end time is required

Close

Join

Feature 2: Privacy of treatment records

VHT Sensor Calibration:

Join Calibration

Calibration ID *

A Calibration ID is required.

Establishment number *

An establishment number is required.

Offsite calibration seal number

Close

Join

Supervision of VHT:

Join Calibration

Calibration ID *

A Calibration ID is required.

Establishment number *

An establishment number is required.

Offsite calibration seal number

Close

Join

For ITCT Records, where seal number is required, PEMS will throw an error message to request the third party AO to enter the seal number, upon clicking 'Join'.

Join Calibration

Please provide the Offsite calibration seal number.

Calibration ID *

1515034

Establishment number *

5462

Offsite calibration seal number

Close

Join

All other user roles, for example, AO Admin, Internal AO, Establishment Executive will remain the same. The functionality is ONLY introduced for third party AOs.