



**Australian Government**

**Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service**

**MARKET ACCESS ADVICE**

Date of Issue: 17 October 2008  
Date of Effect: Immediate

**USA: High Security seals for Containers**

The United States (US) Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has issued a notice to shippers and importers stating that all loaded maritime containers arriving by vessel at a port of entry in the US on or after 15 October 2008, are required to use a seal meeting the ISO PAS 17712 Standard. CBP have advised that they will phase in the enforcement of the new seal requirements. Once fully enforced, containers sealed incorrectly may be refused entry and returned. Specific time frames for the phase-in period have not been supplied and industry is encouraged to implement these requirements as soon as possible.

AQIS seals issued since 29 January 2008 meet the ISO PAS 17712 standard test requirements. Exporters using company seals are advised to liaise with their seal supplier/manufacturer to ensure that the seals they apply meet the relevant standard.

Industry is also advised to study the notice in detail at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/e8-18174.pdf>

Please contact me at [fay.stenhouse@daff.gov.au](mailto:fay.stenhouse@daff.gov.au) or on (02) 6272 5965 for further information on the review.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fay Stenhouse', written in a cursive style.

Dr Fay Stenhouse  
Food Exports Policy Section  
Animal Products Market Access Branch

*The information provided above is current at the time of writing and is intended for use as guidance only and should not be taken as definitive or exhaustive. The Commonwealth endeavours to keep information current and accurate, however, it may be subject to change without notice. Exporters are encouraged to verify these details with their importers prior to undertaking production/exports. The Commonwealth will not accept liability for any loss resulting from reliance on information contained in this notice.*