



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

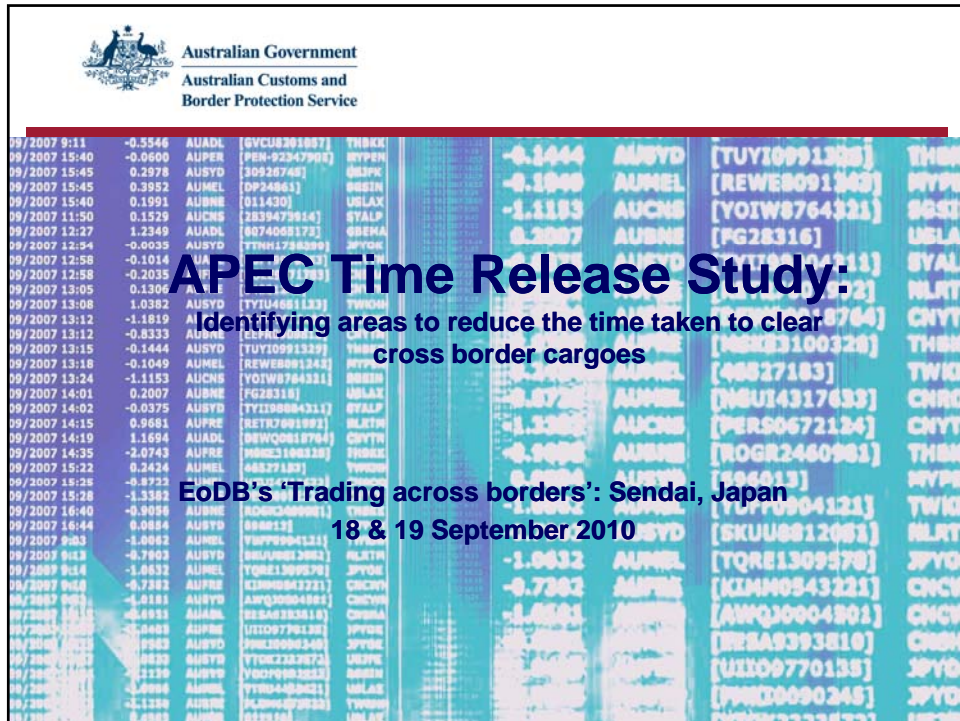
2010/SOM3/CTI/WKSP/012

**APEC Time Release Study: Identifying Areas to
Reduce the Time Taken to Clear Cross Border
Cargoes**

Submitted by: Australia



**Ease of Doing Business Workshop on Trading
Across Borders
Sendai, Japan
18-19 September 2010**



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Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

Australia's TRS experience

- Committed at APEC, Sydney 2007 to conduct a 1st TRS
- Sought advice from APEC members Japan and Korea
- Since completed 3 (import) TRS's for 2007, 2008 & 2009
- Recently completed a bi-lateral TRS with New Zealand covering import & export for a sample period from 2009



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What we have learned

- Features of the customs environment that contribute to trade facilitation
- Factors that drive industry behaviour
- Where there are opportunities for future improvement
- That TRS is a practical and valuable tool



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Customs contributors to trade facilitation

- Customs leadership at the border via provision for electronic B2G communications and 1st generation single window
- Consultation and engagement with industry
- Legislation, systems and processes to encourage and support advance reporting by industry
- Risk management – intervention by exception
- Highly automated processes including EFT
- Predictability for industry via ‘early report, early status’



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Drivers of industry behaviour

- Efficient, timely & predictable border requirements are highly valued
- Government recognition of and alignment with industry processes is desired
- Advance reporting to customs is dependent on efficient B2B communications
- Large traders are active managers of their supply chains
- Revenue payment arrangements are VIP for smaller traders and service providers
- The timing of industry actions to clear cargo also depends on the relative efficiency of handling, storage and inland transport



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Opportunities for improvement

- Working with industry to increase the levels of advance reporting
- Extending deferred payment arrangements
- Refining and extending the domestic single window
- Targeted advice for smaller traders and service providers
- Collaborating with other customs administrations on effective risk management practices
- Participating internationally with industry and other customs on (targeted & incremental) data harmonisation and exchange
- Using TRS data to monitor and manage border performance



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TRS as a tool

- Provides a means for bench-marking clearance performance and for identifying improvement opportunities
- Since evidence-based and supported by large samples, TRS assessments are objective and representative
- Because it relates a customs event to a cargo movement event, TRS allows the impact of customs on the supply-chain to be determined
- Allows for the distinction of who is responsible for what – customs, other agencies, industry
- The methodology is extensible up the supply-chain or down into internal customs processes



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Questions?

Thank you