



## INFORMATION SHEET

# CUSTOMS

## **Gateway Clearance**

### **What is Gateway Clearance?**

Gateway clearance is the term used for gaining Customs clearance for cargo at the port of discharge in PNG, instead of the current practice of this occurring at the destination port.

For example, a consignment on a through bill of lading, destined for Madang, may currently be discharged in Lae and transferred underbond by coastal ship to Madang where it is entered for home consumption and Customs cleared. Under the Gateway Clearance approach this consignment would be entered for home consumption and customs cleared at Lae, prior to transfer to Madang.

Gateway clearance will also impact on underbond transfers of excisable products such as tobacco products, and alcohol. These goods are expected to be duty paid at the point of manufacture prior to transfer

### **Why Gateway Clearance**

Gateway clearance is considered as a more efficient option to the current under-bond transfer system which requires the submission of inwards and outwards transires, and the licensing of conveyances. Gateway clearance should afford

more flexibility to coastal shipping in prioritising cargo consignments. Also a consideration is the fact that longer the period goods remain under-bond, the higher the risk the goods maybe diverted and as a consequence revenue foregone.

### **Gateway Clearance in Practice.**

Importers at destination ports can either engage a local customs broker who has access to Asycuda++ at their own port, or a broker at the discharge port. Brokers engaged locally are able to lodge a customs entry at the destination port, but have the delivery authority printed at the discharge or gateway port. In either situation post customs clearance, transport from the import wharf to the coastal wharf will require arranging.

All coastal cargo will travel as "free goods".

### ***This information is provided as a guide only.***

For more information please contact your local Customs office or write to The Commissioner of Customs, PO Box 777, Port Moresby, NCD or visit our website at

[www.customs.gov.pg](http://www.customs.gov.pg)