

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

**Question No. 94**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 17 February 2006:**

- a) Has the Accredited Client Program started yet?
  - i) If so, when did it start? If not, when is it scheduled to start?
- b) Was it scheduled to start earlier in the year and delayed?
  - i) If so, could you indicate when it was scheduled to start and why it was delayed?
- c) How many applications for Accredited Client status have been received?
- d) How many organisations have been awarded Accredited Client status since the scheme began?

**The answer to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:**

- a) No
  - i) The Accredited Client Program will commence once necessary amendments to the *Customs Act 1901* have been passed by Parliament and modifications to the Customs Integrated Cargo System have been made. At this stage a commencement date has not been proposed.
- b) No.
- c) Customs is aware of some 15 companies that have expressed an interest in joining the Accredited Client Program once it commences.
- d) The Accredited Client Program has not yet commenced. Consequently no organisations have the status of an Accredited Client.