

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

**Question No. 103**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 13 February 2007:**

The October-December 2006 quarterly average on-time reporting rate was 93.2% for air cargo and 83.1% for sea cargo, how many twenty-foot equivalent containers does this represent?

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

Air cargo is not transported in shipping containers and consequently data pertaining to twenty-foot equivalent containers is not available for air cargo.

Sea cargo reporting statistics are based on the reporting of bills of lading to Customs. A single bill of lading may cover several shipping containers or alternatively, several bills of lading may cover several unrelated consignments included in a single container. Consequently, Customs does not have a report available which provides an accurate count of the number of twenty-foot equivalent containers the on-time cargo reports represent.