

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 168

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2005:

- a) Is the Security Enhancements program complete?
- b) Were the funds fully expended?
- c) How were the funds expended? (specify allocation)
- d) Were any positions tied directly to this program?
 - (i) *If yes, now the program has been expired are they redundant?*
- e) Did it meet budget?
- f) How much did it go over or under?
- g) Please provide a breakdown of final expenditure?

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

- a) The Security Enhancements program is not complete.
- b) There is still approximately \$0.9m in capital to be expended as the remainder of the works program is carried out.
- c) A budget of \$4.8m was provided for Customs security enhancements covering the redevelopment of the Electronic Access Control Systems (EACS) in Customs House Canberra, enhancing security of Customs network server rooms, reviewing and scoping work required to have the Customs network classified to 'Protected', and an Identity Management project to rationalise login processes to multiple systems on the Customs Network. These works have been completed and funds expended.
- d) Positions tied to this program included a project manager for the EACS redevelopment and server room hardening projects.
 - (i) The project manager's position was filled on a temporary basis. The position is now redundant and the manager no longer works for the organisation.
- e) All works undertaken under the project have met budget. A consultant will review the project to confirm work met appropriate standards.
- f) Not applicable.
- g) The majority of monies spent in this program relate to the upgrade of access control systems, including improved CCTV coverage for Customs House Canberra and work to make file server rooms throughout Australia comply with requirements outlined in the Commonwealth Protective Security manual and the Commonwealth's communications security manual. This included the physical improvement to server rooms often requiring redesign and changes to facilities (eg: better storage facilities).