

LIN 25/047

Customs (Information Technology Requirements) Amendment (API Project and Other Measures) Determination 2025

I, Tim Fitzgerald, A/g Comptroller‑General of Customs, make the following determination.

Dated 23 June 2025

Tim Fitzgerald

A/g Comptroller‑General of Customs

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1 Name

This instrument is the *Customs (Information Technology Requirements) Amendment (API Project and Other Measures) Determination 2025*.

2 Commencement

Each provision of this instrument specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Commencement information |  |  |
| Column 1 | Column 2 | Column 3 |
| Provisions | Commencement | Date/Details |
| 1. Sections 1 to 4 and anything in this instrument not elsewhere covered by this table | The day after the instrument is registered. |  |
| 2. Schedule 1, items 1-5 | The day after the instrument is registered. |  |
| 3. Schedule 1, items 6-9 | The later of:  (a) the day after the instrument is registered; and  (b) 1 July 2025. |  |

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this instrument as originally made. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this instrument.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 126DA of the *Customs Act 1901*.

4 Schedules

Each instrument that is specified in a Schedule to this instrument is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to this instrument has effect according to its terms.

Schedule 1—Amendments

Customs (Information Technology Requirements) Determination 2021

1 Section 4 (after the definition of *Act*)

Insert:

***API*** means Application Programming Interface, which acts as an intermediary that enables software applications to communicate with a server to access data and functions.

***ATT Portal*** means the Australian Trusted Trader Portal, which is the website operated by the Department to receive nominations by entities to join the Australian Trusted Trader Programme.

2 Section 4 (after the definition of *Australia Travel Declaration*)

Insert:

***Claim for the Return of Seized Goods web form*** means the website operated by the Department to process electronic applications for the return of seized goods.

3 Section 4 (after the definition of *EDI*)

Insert:

***Endpoint*** means a digital location where an Application Programming Interface (API) receives API calls, also known as API requests, for resources on its server.

***Home Affairs Access Manager*** means the website that is used to manage access and permissions for external organisations to Departmental systems at https://am.homeaffairs.gov.au.

4 After section 8A

Insert:

8B Claim for return of goods seized under section 205B of the Customs Act

(1) Subsection (2) applies if a person wishes to electronically make a claim for the return of goods seized under subsection 205B(2A) of the Act.

(2) The claim must be made using the web form, known as the Claim for the Return of Seized Goods web form, administered by the Department.

5 Section 9A

Omit “myGovID”, substitute “myID”.

6 Section 9B (definition of *Home Affairs Access Manager*)

Repeal the definition.

7 Section 9E

Omit “myGovID”, substitute “myID”.

8 Section 11

Repeal the section, substitute:

11 General requirements for electronic communications

(1) A person who communicates electronically with the Department must communicate by:

(a) an EDI message attached to an S/MIME SMTP email to an email address specified by the Department; or

(b) an EDI message delivered by MQ over an MQ channel preconfigured by agreement with the Department; or

(c) the Cargo Interactive Facility using HTTPS to a Departmental website using a version of an internet browser that is supported by the Department for such transactions; or

(d) an API to a nominated Departmental Endpoint.

(2) For the purposes of subparagraphs 11(1)(a)-(c), a person who communicates electronically with the department must:

(a) be registered in:

(i) the Common Connect Facility; and

(ii) the ICS; and

(b) communicate with the Department using Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) in accordance with the Commonwealth’s Gatekeeper® strategy administered by the Digital Transformation Agency; and

(c) configure the person’s email software with the appropriate digital certificate to be able to decrypt encrypted emails sent to the person by the Department.

Note: The Commonwealth Gatekeeper® strategy could in 2025 be viewed on the Australian Government Digital Transformation Agency’s website (https://www.dta.gov.au).

(3) For the purposes of subparagraph 11(1)(d), a person who communicates electronically with the Department via an API to a Departmental endpoint must:

(a) be registered in Home Affairs Access Manager; and

(b) use an authenticated and authorised digital machine certificate linked to the organisation’s ABN.

9 After section 12

Insert:

12A Standards and Specifications for APIs

A person who communicates electronically with the Department via an API must comply with the API specifications outlined in the API Developer Portal Guidelines.

Note: The Department’s API Developer Portal Guidelines could in 2025 be viewed on the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs website (https://homeaffairs.gov.au).

10 At the end of section 13

Add:

(3) A communication via an API must be digitally authenticated with a machine credential that is registered in Home Affairs Access Manager in accordance with the Commonwealth’s Gatekeeper® Strategy.

11 After section 14

Insert:

14A Authentication to Home Affairs Access Manager

A person using Home Affairs Access Manager for the purposes of communicating with the Department via an API must:

(a) establish their Digital Identity in myID; and

(b) link their myID with the ABN of the organisation in accordance with the Trusted Digital Identity Framework.

Note: The Trusted Digital Identity Framework could in 2025 be viewed on the Digital ID website (<https://www.digitalidentity.gov.au/>).