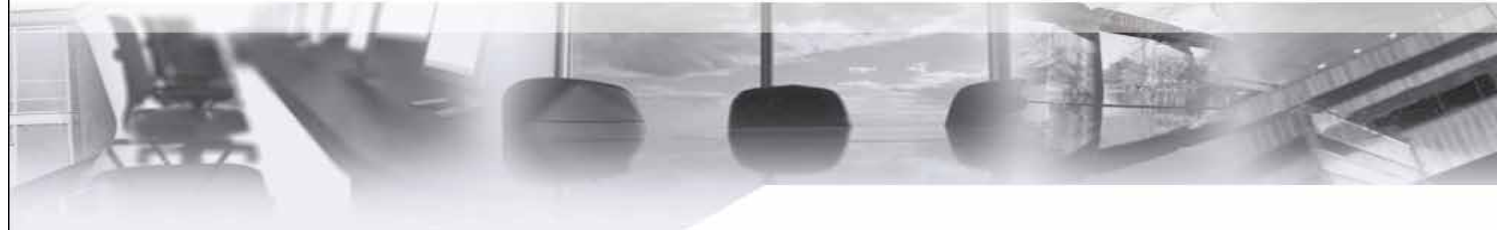


May 2007



Executive Director's Message

As a result of delays in completing the delivery and deployment of our IT system - which has caused difficulty for both AusCheck and our clients preparing to connect to AusCheck - I have decided to delay the commencement of AusCheck until Monday 3 September 2007.

In making this decision, I am mindful that a number of Issuing Bodies may not be ready to connect to AusCheck on 1 July 2007 and that a number of issues have arisen recently that should be resolved before we commence operations.

I announce this delay regretfully and continue to be grateful for the enormous amount of work done by Issuing Bodies in preparing for AusCheck. We are now completing a revised planning schedule and are working towards a progressive commencement of operations from mid August, with full operational status from 3 September 2007. AusCheck will keep you advised as this work progresses and obviously aim to meet your convenience and state of readiness in scheduling.

The DOTARS Background Checking Unit will continue to provide its current services in accordance with the existing arrangements until 3 September 2007.

Once again, I apologise that we have been unable to meet our timetable. Thank you once again for all your hard work in preparing for AusCheck. We look forward to continuing to work with you over the next 3 months to ensure the new background checking system works effectively from 3 September 2007.

Elizabeth Kelly

Keeping the Card Register Up-to-date

One of Government's objectives in establishing AusCheck is to create and maintain an up to date database of MSIC and ASIC holders. As well as achieving national security objectives, this database will allow on-line card verification to enhance security for secure areas of air and sea ports.

Recent discussion in teleconference with industry around options for the best way to keep the card register up to date touched on resource issues and varying business practices. It clarified that the best option initially is for AusCheck to show cards as "issued" if the background check on an application is clear with Issuing Bodies setting the record to "not issued" if they decide not to issue a card to a particular applicant, even though the background check is clear.

AusCheck will explore the possibility of offering a batch upload facility to assist larger Issuing Bodies.

The view of a number of teleconference participants was that the most accurate card register would be achieved if AusCheck initially set cards to "approved" when a background check was clear and Issuing Bodies set the record to "issued" once the card was actually issued. In light of that view, AusCheck will produce more detailed options for discussion about further development of the AusCheck system post commencement.

If you would like to add to the discussion on keeping the card register up to date, please give us your views:

AusCheck@ag.gov.au

AusCheck Weekly Teleconference

The AusCheck teleconference occurs Tuesdays at 11am (EST). This forum was devised for Issuing Bodies to discuss preparations for the operational launch of AusCheck.

Graham Hanna from DOTARS has indicated he will dial in to future forums to answer any DOTARS concerns you may have.

Should you wish to dial into this teleconference, please respond to this email with the list of questions you would like raised: AusCheck.Helpdesk@ag.gov.au.

This list will enable us to ensure the appropriate AusCheck representatives are available to answer your queries during the call.

We will also provide you with access codes for dial-in.

