

Attachment A – Detection results and targeting activity

Over the past few years asbestos has been detected in a wide range of imported goods including gaskets, brakes, ducts, pipe spools, heating equipment and pressurised hoses.

While a number of consignments containing these goods were identified by the ABF and intercepted, some consignments made it into the Australian community and were detected through other means. This point indicates that opportunities exist to refine the ABF’s current asbestos intervention efforts.

Included below is an overview of asbestos detections made by the ABF during the period June 2011 to June 2015. s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Detection Snapshot

Figure 1 shows the number of detections of asbestos consignments over the past four years. While not high in number, this figure demonstrates that goods containing asbestos are still being imported into Australia, regardless of its status as a prohibited import. Further analysis indicates a high proportion of these goods originated from China (57%) and the USA (17%). Other countries that have been the occasional origin (1-2 instances) of asbestos containing goods detected by the ABF include Vietnam, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Papua New Guinea, Canada and the Netherlands.²

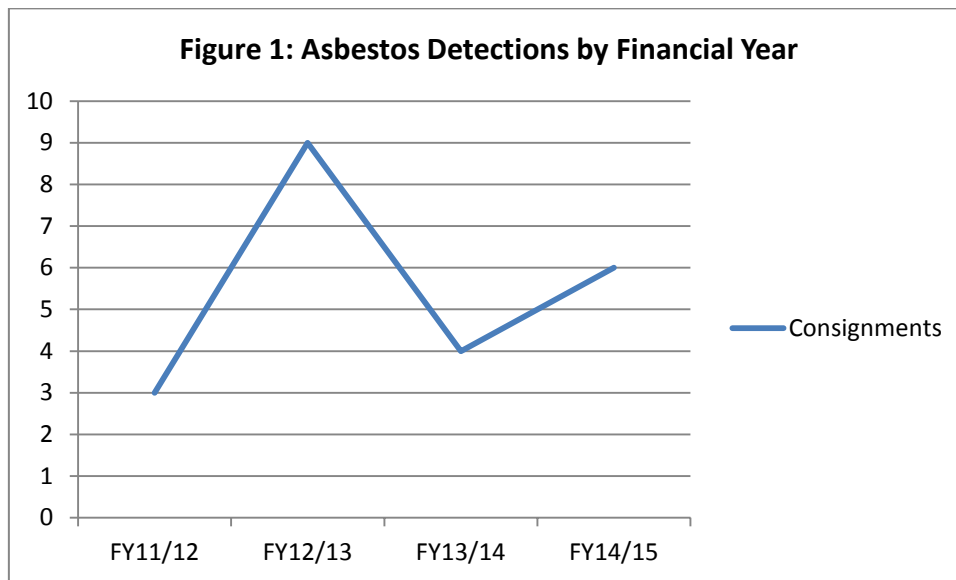


Figure 2 shows the distribution of asbestos detections across the regional commands over the past four years. Higher detections in Western Australia and Queensland are reflective of mining and industry activity in these regions that require heavy machinery and industrial products and parts sourced from overseas suppliers.

² Detection snapshot data sourced from the Detained Goods Management System, extracted from entries containing 'asbestos' in the goods description field.

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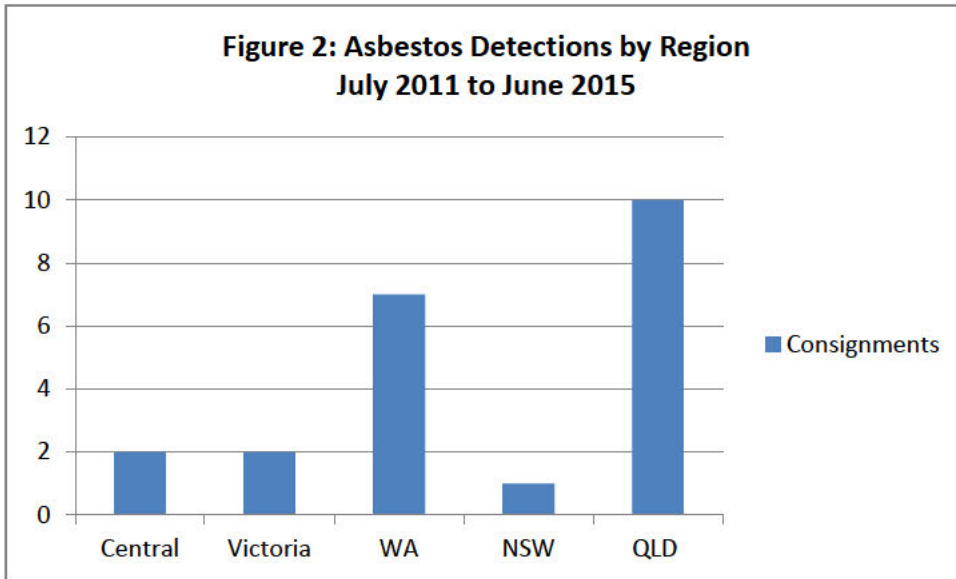
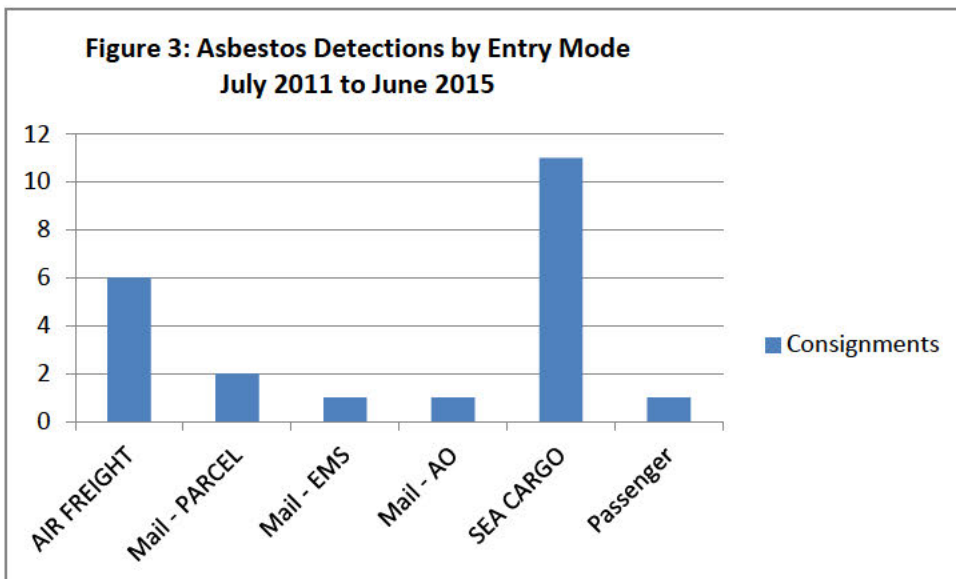


Figure 3 shows the distribution of asbestos detections across entry modes. The air and sea cargo streams are the most common channels where asbestos detections have been made.



s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Table 2 – Match Acquittals

Match acquittals from 1 July 2014 - 30 June 2015	Match numbers
s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
Exam Positive for asbestos	4
s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) Of these, four resulted in positive detections of goods containing asbestos:

- two detections of sample tiles from Papua New Guinea;
- one detection of brake linings (tricycle) from China; and
- one detection of gaskets from China.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

**Department of Immigration and Border Protection
Supplementary Estimates –October 2015**

SE2016 – 000198 – **Checking for imported goods containing asbestos**

Key Statistics

Profiles/Alerts	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 YTD
s. 22(1)(a)(ii)			
Number of positive matches	3	3	4

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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Asbestos in children's toys

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

As of 31 December 2015, s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

- o five consignment have tested positive to the presence of asbestos
- o two additional consignments are currently being held/assessed that are likely to result in seizure.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Asbestos verification

In November 2015, the ABF also stood up an asbestos verification operation. With the aim to target certain commodities that may contain asbestos, specifically linked to the building industry.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

As of 7 January 2016, s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

- o one consignment has had a positive test for asbestos which has not been formally seized yet

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Responsible Officer

Stephen Allen, Assistant Commissioner

Border Management

Ph: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Mob: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Contact Officer

Erin Dale, Commander

Customs Compliance

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Instances	date of detection	state	Item	Industry	Company s. 47G(1)(a)	Country	Action taken s. 37(2)(a), s. 37(2)(b)
2	May-15	QLD	Building Materials	sample tiles		PNG	
1	May-15	QLD	Building Materials	Modular Wall		PRC	
1	Nov-14	WA	Mining and oil gas	Gaskets		Thailand	
1	Jan-15	WA	Mining and Oil gas	Gaskets		Thailand	
1	Sep-14	SA	Vehicle products	Brake Pads		PRC	
1	Mar-15	WA	deisel motor parts	Gaskets		PRC	
1	May-15	WA	On vessel	Goods		NZ and UAE	
1		WA					
1	Oct-11	QLD		Goods			
1	Aug-12	QLD		Goods		Indonesia	

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Instances	date of detection	state	Item	Industry	Company	Country	Action taken
1	Jul-12	WA		Goods	s. 47G(1)(a)		s. 37(2)(a), s. 37(2)(b)
1	Dec-12	WA		Gaskets		China	
1	Jun-10	QLD		Gaskets		China	
1	Nov-13	SA		Train Parts			
1	Jun-06						
1	2012			Prohibited imports			

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