



**Australian
BORDER FORCE**

Australian Customs Notice No. 2025/18

HOME AFFAIRS GATEKEEPER CERTIFICATE REPLACEMENT

The Department of Home Affairs' existing Gatekeeper certificate expires on 24 August 2025. The Department will be renewing the certificate until 2027, and the new one will be introduced as follows:

- Test Period – ~12:30 am 30 July to 12:30 am 6 August 2025:
 - ICS Test messages sent from Home Affairs will be signed with the new certificate
 - ICS Production messages sent from Home Affairs will continue to be signed with the current certificate
 - ICS Test and ICS Production messages sent to Home Affairs may both be encrypted with either the current or new certificate
- Final Cutover – from ~12:30 am 6 August 2025 onwards:
 - All messages sent from Home Affairs will be signed with the new certificate
 - All messages sent to Home Affairs must be encrypted with the new certificate

That is, ICS EDI messaging clients are required to use the new Home Affairs certificate from 6 August 2025 onwards but have the option of testing with the new certificate beginning 30 July 2025. (Note that this does not affect clients' own Gatekeeper certificates. And no effect on the ICS UI.)

Our new certificate's public key will be made available on the ABF website by ~21 July, on the same page where our current public key can be downloaded: [https://www.abf.gov.au/help-and-support/ics/integrated-cargo-system-\(ics\)/using-the-ics/digital-certificates](https://www.abf.gov.au/help-and-support/ics/integrated-cargo-system-(ics)/using-the-ics/digital-certificates) (look for the "Department of Home Affairs public key" heading).

Christopher Pearson

Acting Superintendent
Border Systems and Program Management Branch
Operational Coordination and Planning Division