



FACT SHEET Tradex Scheme

Programme status: Open for applications

The programme helps Australian businesses to be more competitive in international export markets. It gives up-front tax exemptions on certain types of imported goods. This can give significant cash flow advantages.

What does it offer?

If your business is importing goods that you intend to directly export or incorporate in other exported goods, you may be eligible for exemptions on customs duty and GST.

Normally, you would have to pay customs duty and GST at the time of import for any goods destined for export. You would then claim a refund ('drawback') after you export the goods.

Under this programme, you get up-front exemptions on duty and GST. This can give you significant cash flow advantages. The savings can then flow through the entire supply chain to the final exporter.

For example, if goods normally attract 5% customs duty and 10% GST, a Tradex order means an up-front saving of 15% on the value of the imported goods when they first arrive in Australia.

Am I eligible?

You must comply with the following:

- The goods you intend to import must be exported or incorporated in other goods that are exported.
- Export of imported goods must take place within one year of importation, or within an AusIndustry approved period of time.
- You must keep records of all goods imported and exported under Tradex. This includes any manufacturing records that show how the imported goods were incorporated in other goods that were exported. Keeping your normal Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and Department of Immigration and Border Protection records is sufficient for the purposes of Tradex.

Who can apply?

An individual or a corporate entity based in Australia or overseas.

All Tradex order holders, including overseas entities, must keep and maintain records covering their Tradex usage in Australia.

How do I apply?

You must apply for a Tradex order before you import your 'nominated' goods.

Please apply via the [Tradex Application Form](#) on business.gov.au.

Please contact us if you have any questions on how to complete the application form.

Once you've got a Tradex order, you don't need to apply for separate or new orders for any future shipments of the goods shown on the order.

AusIndustry can generally assess and approve applications in a few days.

How do I use a Tradex order?

You will receive a Tradex order number and a distinguishing instrument number if you meet the eligibility requirements.

When you import goods for export, quote your Tradex order instrument number on your Customs Import Declaration form. You must have nominated those goods on your Tradex order. This ensures you don't pay customs duty or GST on those imported goods.

If you change the type of goods that you import, you can [apply to vary your Tradex order](#) so that it covers the new type of goods that you wish to import.

If you import goods for export which aren't specified on your Tradex order, you will pay the normal customs duty and GST.

What goods are ineligible?

- Goods intended for sale in an establishment that offers goods for sale free of customs duties and other taxes.
- Goods which, if they were produced in Australia, would be subject to duties of excise (also known as excise-equivalent goods). For example, most forms of alcohol, cigarettes and other tobacco products, a wide range of petroleum products.

What happens if you don't export the goods imported under your Tradex order?

You will have to pay Tradex duty to AusIndustry if the goods that you import under your Tradex order are:

- Sold, used or disposed of in Australia; or
- Not exported within one year of being imported, or within a further period of time as approved by AusIndustry.

The Tradex duty you will have to pay is the equivalent to the customs duty that you were exempt from paying using your Tradex order.

You'll also need to account for the GST component in your normal Business Activity Statement lodged with the ATO.

Where do I find more information?

Visit business.gov.au/TS or call **13 28 46**.

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