**APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO IMPORT   
ENGINEERED STONE BENCHTOPS, PANELS OR SLABS**

Engineered stone (ES)

Benchtops, panels or slabs – also referred to as: *goods* (Section 4 *Customs Act 1901* (Cth))

# **Instructions**

1. **Section 1:** all applicants must complete this section

* The applicant’s name is to be the same name that will appear on the customs import entry   
  (as the goods owner) at the border, to be listed as the permit holder. Differing details will invalidate the permit at the border.
* The applicant’s physical address will be listed on the permit, to where the intended importation will be delivered.

1. **Section 2:** all applicants must complete this section and **either** section 3 or section 4.
2. **Section 3:** import ES benchtop, slab or panel for genuine research and analysis or identification\*.
3. **Section 4:** import ES benchtop, slab or panel under exceptional circumstances.

General guidance

Please complete the application electronically.

Organisations based outside Australia must provide the Australian name and address details of the actual importer (consignee), even if using a local subsidiary that trades under a different name.

If intending to use a third party to receive the goods (importation consignee): Provide organisation name and address details. Permit will be listed to applicant c/- third party. This must be identical to the goods consignee details on the customs import entry.

Sections may be extended into the next page if required. Your information is not restricted to a single page.

Important: To avoid delays in processing your application, please provide as much detail as possible when answering the questions.

\*Identification of *engineered stone* – see last page for definition.

# **Section 1**

**Importer details**

All applicants must complete this section

| **Question** | **Applicant response** |
| --- | --- |
| **Previous permission number (if applicable):** |  |
| **Applicant name:**  **ABN:**  **Foreign organisation registered number:** *Disregard if not applicable*  **Contact officer name:**  **Phone number:**  **Email address:**  **Physical address for intended importation:**  (for vessels, address in intended home port)  **Postal address (not for intended importation):**  **Website:** |  |
| **Type of organisation/business or individual:** | Choose an item. |
| **What is the intended end date for the importation?** | 00 month year |
| **Is your request urgent?**  *(eg. Are the goods under Customs hold at the border, by the Australian Border Force)* | Yes:  No:  If yes, you must provide a reason and requested end date here: |
| **Is your organisation a laboratory?** | Yes:  No: |
| **Do you give a general assurance of compliance with all applicable laws?** | Yes:  No:  If no, please provide a reason here: |

**Section 2**

**Importation of engineered stone benchtops, panels or slabs**

All applicants must complete this section and either section 3 or 4 (whichever applicable)

| **No.** | **Question** | **Applicant response** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **What is the purpose of the importation?** | Research and analysis:  (also complete section 3)  To sample and identify ES:  (also complete section 3)  Exceptional circumstances:  (also complete section 4) |
| **2** | **At which port will the goods enter Australia?** |  |
| **3** | **What country are the goods being imported from?** |  |
| **4** | **What country were the goods manufactured in?** |  |
| **5** | **Details of ES manufacturer**  **Organisation trading name:**  **Address:**  **Website:**  **ES product/s market name/s:** |  |

**Section 3**

**Complete this section if you are applying for permission to import engineered stone benchtops, panels or slabs for the purposes of research and analysis or to sample and identify engineered stone**

Note: Small volume bulk samples for analysis, taken from complete engineered stone benchtops or panels or slabs, do not require import permission. If required, refer to the [ASSEA website page](https://www.asbestossafety.gov.au/prohibition-engineered-stone) for details.

| **No.** | **Question** | **Applicant response** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **What is the reason for the analysis and research, or identification?**  *e.g., to test representative samples from an intended importation, research of new cutting technique.*  *Provide supporting documentary evidence, if available.* |  |
| **2** | **What are the dimensions of the products/samples?** |  |
| **3** | **Provide the details of the party that independently collected the samples.** |  |
| **4** | **How many samples are being imported?**  **Are they of the same product or multiple products?**  **If more than one of same, why?** |  |
| **5** | **Where will the research and analysis, or identification take place?** (Details of laboratory, research institution, etc) |  |
| **6** | **What method of analysis, research or identification will be used?**  *State method standard, if applicable* |  |
| **7** | **Is the research and/or analysis to be carried out by someone other than the importer?** | Yes:  No:  If yes, please provide details:  Name of organisation/laboratory:  Address:  Phone:  Email: |
| **8** | **Will the benchtop, slab or panel be subject to *processing* as defined in regulation 529A of *the Work, Health and Safety Regulations 2011* (Cth)?**  *(refer to last page of this form)* | Yes:  (Go to 8) No:  (Go to 9) |
| **9** | **Describe the processing, including all relevant technical and work, health and safety controls to avoid human exposure to respirable crystalline silica.**  *Provide evidence of controls in place.* |  |
| **10** | **Has the applicant previously been refused import permission by ASSEA, or refused a written confirmation by a WHS regulator, for engineered stone goods?** | Provide date and reason given for refusal. |

**Section 4**

**Complete this section if you are applying for permission to import engineered stone benchtops, panels or slabs under exceptional circumstances that justify the importation.**

Note: Exceptional circumstances for granting an import permission for the lawful importation of ES benchtops, panels or slabs will be considered in line with the Australian Government’s intention to prevent these products entering Australia.

| **No.** | **Question** | **Applicant response** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **Describe the exceptional circumstances of the importation** |  |
| **2** | **How is allowing the importation justified by the circumstances?** |  |
| **3** | **What is the intended function of the goods?** |  |
| **4** | **How long does the importer intend to be in possession of the goods?** |  |
| **5** | **Will the imported goods be supplied to a third party at any point in the future?** |  |
| **6** | **What will happen to the** **goods at the end of the intended working life?** |  |
| **7** | **Has the applicant previously been refused import permission by ASSEA, or refused a written confirmation by a WHS regulator, for engineered stone goods?** | Provide date and reason given for refusal. |

***Work, Health and Safety Regulations 2011* (Cth)**

**529A  Meaning of *processing* in relation to crystalline silica substances and related terms**

 (1) In these Regulations, ***processing***in relation to a CSS means:

 (a) the use of power tools or mechanical plant to carry out an activity involving the crushing, cutting, grinding, trimming, sanding, abrasive polishing or drilling of a CSS; or

 (b) the use of roadheaders to excavate material that is a CSS; or

 (c) the quarrying of a material that is a CSS; or

 (d) mechanical screening involving a material that is a CSS; or

 (e) tunnelling through a material that is a CSS; or

 (f) a process that exposes, or is reasonably likely to expose, a person to respirable crystalline silica during the manufacture or handling of a CSS.

(2) In these Regulations***, crystalline silica substance (CSS)***means material that contains at least 1%   
 crystalline silica, determined as a weight/weight (w/w) concentration.

Note: Engineered stone is a type of CCS.

(3) In these Regulations, ***crystalline silica***:

 (a) means crystalline polymorphs of silica; and

 (b) includes the following substances:

 (i) cristobalite;

 (ii) quartz;

 (iii) tridymite;

 (iv) tripoli.

  (4) In these Regulations, ***engineered stone***:

  (a) means a CSS that:

 (i) is an artificial product; and

 (ii) is created by combining natural stone materials with other chemical constituents such as water, resins or pigments; and

 (iii) becomes hardened; but

(b) does not include the following:

  (i) concrete and cement products;

(ii) bricks, pavers and other similar blocks;

 (iii) ceramic wall and floor tiles;

 (iv) grout, mortar and render;

 (v) plasterboard;

 (vi) porcelain products;

 (vii) sintered stone;

 (viii) roof tiles.