

VIRGIN AUSTRALIA CARGO PTY LTD

CARRIAGE POLICY and PROCEDURES

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- set out which commodities Virgin Australia Cargo expressly refuses to accept for carriage; and
- provide information and guidance concerning other commodities that may, under certain circumstances, be refused for carriage.

This document applies to all Virgin Australia Cargo staff, contractors, agents, third party suppliers and specifically those involved in the sale and reservation of commodities tendered to Virgin Australia Cargo for transportation. This document is intended for internal use only by Virgin Australia Cargo staff, contractors, agents and third party suppliers.

2. Virgin Australia Cargo's policy statement

Virgin Australia is committed to Australian and international efforts to conserve and protect certain wildlife and plant species.

Virgin Australia Cargo will not book, accept or transport primates to or from medical research facilities.

While Virgin Australia acknowledges that there is a legitimate global trade in certain wildlife and plant species and products, in recent years there has been a significant increase in the illegal trade of some of these commodities. The scale and growth of this illegal trade has potential adverse effects, not just for wildlife and plant species but also to people, their communities and livelihoods, biodiversity and economies that rely on wildlife based tourism.

3. International and domestic regulation

The best way that Virgin Australia can address these issues is by complying with Australian domestic laws and Australia's international commitments, in particular, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) which is enacted into Australian law by the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)(Act)*.

CITES regulates international trade in over 35,000 species of animals and plants, including their parts and derivatives and places protected species into three main groups; Appendix I, II and III. Under CITES, international commercial trade in some species is either strictly prohibited or allowed in certain circumstances, but to avoid overexploitation, the trade must be in accordance with the Act's requirements.

The Australian Government has adopted stricter trade controls for a number of species that go beyond CITES requirements. The Act makes it an offence to:

- import or export a "CITES Specimen", meaning a specimen of a species included in Appendix I, II or III, unless the importer/exporter holds a permit or an exemption applies;
- export a "Regulated Native Specimen"¹, unless the exporter holds a permit or an exemption applies; and

- import a “Regulated Native Specimen” unless the importer holds a permit.

¹ Under the Act, a “Regulated Native Specimen” is, or is derived from, a native animal or plant (subject to limited exceptions). This includes hunting trophies.

These additional controls put in place by the Australian Government affect both Australian native and imported species.

When importing or exporting species listed under CITES or a native Australian species, the Australian CITES Management Authority generally requires relevant permits or certificates to be issued prior to the shipment taking place.

4. Virgin Australia’s compliance with CITES and the Act

- Virgin Australia Cargo will not undertake the carriage of wildlife unless such carriage is in accordance with the Act’s requirements.²
- Virgin Australia Cargo does not transport hunting trophies of any species listed under CITES Appendix I.
- Virgin Australia Cargo does transport hunting trophies of elephants, rhinoceros and lions, as per Australian Government restrictions under the Act. These species cannot be imported to Australia except under a limited number of circumstances including for conservation breeding or research purposes, or if the specimen has been proven to pre-date the listing of the species on CITES.
- Virgin Australia Cargo does not accept hunting trophies of animals listed under CITES Appendix II or III unless accompanied by relevant CITES permit(s)/certificate(s) and is then subject to Virgin Australia Cargo’s discretion.

Categories of species and restrictions

App	Species	Trade restrictions	Virgin Australia Cargo Policy
I	All species that are threatened with extinction.	Trade in specimens of these species is permitted only in exceptional circumstances and there is no commercial trade in wild caught specimens. Where non-commercial trade is allowed shippers require an import and export permit.	VAC will not transport hunting trophies of Appendix I species under any circumstances.
II	Includes species not yet threatened with extinction but that may become so. Australia has chosen to list some Appendix II species as Appendix I - (i.e. African lions, elephants, cetaceans and rhinoceros).	Trade must be strictly controlled. Some Appendix II specimens always require a permit.	VAC requires shippers to obtain an Australian Government import permit for a booking to be placed.

III	Includes species that are protected in at least one country and the country has asked other CITES Parties for assistance in controlling the trade.	If you are importing or exporting an Appendix III specimen to/from Australia from the listing country, it is treated like an Appendix II specimen, and you will generally need both an export and an import permit.	Shippers need a certificate of origin or export permit.
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5. Commodities

Set out below is a guide as to the types of commodities that Virgin Australia Cargo:

- A. Will not carry (section 5.1); and
- B. Will require prior approval for carriage (section 5.2).

5.1 We will not accept these commodities for carriage

<p>Appendix I species, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • great apes, lemurs, the giant panda, many South American monkeys, great whales, cheetah, leopards, tiger, elephants (Australian stricter domestic measure applies), rhinoceroses, many birds of prey, cranes, pheasants and parrots, all sea turtles, some crocodiles and lizards, giant salamanders, and some mussels, orchids, cycads and cacti; • Parts and derivatives of prohibited species such as elephant ivory, rhino horn, great apes, marine turtles and tigers
Hunting trophies of CITES Appendix I species.
Those species designated as Appendix I species by Australian law (i.e. African lions, rhinoceroses, cetaceans and elephants).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endangered species: Live animals or products made from endangered species (animals, birds, plants, etc.) without a valid CITES permit, including but not limited to: • jewellery, shoes, bags, belts and foodstuffs made from (but not limited to) ivory, rhino horn, caviar, coral, tortoise/turtle-shell, crocodile, alligator and snake skin taken from endangered species.
Puppies or kittens under 10 weeks old on domestic or international flights.
Shark products or bi-products (other than shark meat for human consumption caught in accordance with Australian law).
Hatching eggs/day old chicks on flights greater than 5 hours
<p>Snub/pug nosed dogs (e.g. Pekingese) or snub/pug nosed cats (e.g. Persians). On international flights with a flight time greater than 5 hours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snub/pug nosed animals (brachycephalic) are at a higher risk of death because their breathing is more restricted than that of a dog with a longer muzzle. This restricted breathing makes it harder for a short-nosed animal to cool itself down by panting. This is further exacerbated in cats where breeds are long-haired
<p>Dogs banned under Australian Law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dogo Argentino, Fila Brasileiro, Japanese Tosa, Pit Bull Terrier (including the American Pit Bull Terrier or Pit Bull types) Perro de Presa Canario or Presa Canario <p>Regardless of origin/destination, we will not accept these breeds (whether pure or cross-bred). • At times, Virgin Australia Cargo may choose to refuse other breeds of dog which we feel may pose a threat to our staff and/or the staff of our 3rd party handlers.</p>

5.2 Goods requiring senior management approval for carriage

Item	Comments
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<p>Endangered species: live animals or products made from endangered species (animals, birds, plants, etc.) WITH a valid CITES permit. This includes (but is not limited to) jewellery, shoes, bags, belts and foodstuffs made from (but not limited to) ivory, rhino horn, caviar, coral, tortoise/turtle-shell, crocodile, alligator and snake skin taken from endangered species.</p>	<p>Whilst goods with a valid CITES licence can be legally imported/exported, Virgin Australia Cargo may still choose to refuse commodities for transportation on our flights. Please check.</p>
<p>All other animals – i.e. animals which are not on the endangered list. Includes exotics (for example, reptiles). Animals travelling under the Pet Travel Scheme are covered under section 5.0. In all instances, the welfare of animals in transit will be of paramount importance.</p>	<p>Those destined for reputable breeding/conservation programmes will be considered. Please check. Animals, other than cats and dogs, which are personal pets will be considered. Animals destined for the ‘pet trade’ (i.e. commercial use) may be excluded. Please check.</p>
<p>Munitions of War</p>	<p>The Senior Management team have authorised the carriage of MoW and there is a standing procedure in place that must be followed.</p>
<p>Stuffed (taxidermy) animals</p>	<p>These may require some sort of import/export licence and/or CITES licence, however Virgin Australia Cargo may still choose to refuse goods for transportation on our flights. Please check.</p>

Note - Animals means mammals, birds, reptiles, fish If in doubt, please check the species CITES status at: <http://checklist.cites.org/#/en>

We work with Virgin Australia’s Sustainability Steering Committee and monitor outside environmental agencies and organisations to ensure our policy is up-to-date. This means that new commodities may appear in this policy and some existing commodities may be removed (for example, previously endangered species moving off the ‘endangered’ list). This policy will be version controlled and will be circulated each time it is revised. If you are unsure that you have latest issue number, please check with Head of Cargo Systems & Customer Support.

6. Virgin Australia’s discretion to refuse carriage

Notwithstanding the above, Virgin Australia Cargo may also decide to refuse the carriage of any live animals, Regulated Native Specimens or commodities that it is legal to trade in, but that we feel compromise Virgin Australia’s sustainability values and commitments. The decision as to what is accepted for carriage is taken by senior Virgin Australia Cargo management staff and, if necessary, with reference to Virgin Australia’s leadership team. Our staff, contractors, agents and third party suppliers must be aware of the commodities expressly excluded from carriage and those which require authorisation prior to carriage.

This policy, and the associated commodity list, form part of our procurement and contracting practice. It will be updated and circulated, as a minimum, on an annual basis.

7. What this means for you

It is important that you are familiar with the types of cargo that we refuse to carry outright and those which require senior level authorisation prior to acceptance. In some cases the import/export of certain commodities is not illegal and you may be challenged on our refusal to transport them. We want you to feel confident to be able to politely and professionally handle such matters so please ensure you are clear about Virgin Australia

Cargo's policy, terms and conditions of carriage or cargo and our position in relation to endangered species. If you're not, check with your senior manager or Virgin Australia Cargo contact.

7. Procedure

Stage 1	You may check whether a species is a CITES Species by searching at http://checklist.cites.org/
Stage 2	Requests for carriage of commodities in box 5.2 (and/or other commodities that you reasonably believe might not fit with Virgin Australia Cargo's brand values and company ethics) should be referred to one of the Cargo safety and management team prior to acceptance of the booking. Malcolm Handley – Head of Operations Delivery Sean Frawley – Safety, Audits, Standards
Stage 3	In the event that a clear decision cannot be made, the request will be passed to the Chair of Virgin Australia's Sustainability Steering Committee.

Sean Frawley

Safety, Audits, Standards