



## "Chain of Responsibility"

New Legislation covering specific to the Cartage of Containers

To our Valued Clients

Vanguard Logistics Services would like to advise that new legislation has been introduced changing the obligations that are to be enacted under the NSW Road Transport (General) Act 2005, which came into effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2005.

This legislation creates new offences and liabilities for consignors, shippers, packers, loaders and consignee's, effectively all parties involved in control of a transport operation can be held responsible for breaches of the law and may be held legally liable. In other words if you use road transport as part of your business, you share a responsibility for ensuring breaches of road laws do not occur, this is known as the "Chain of Responsibility".

This legislation also covers compliance and enforcement of mass, dimension and loading requirements for heavy vehicles namely the introduction of the new "Container Weight Declaration".

The consignor or a person who offers a container for transport by road must prepare a container weight declaration and give a copy to the road transport Company or driver before the commencement of the containers road journey.

The legislation requires that the container weight declaration accurately states the following:-

- Weight of the container including its contents
- Number and other particulars of the container necessary to identify the container
- Name and business address of the entity in Australia who engages the road carrier or offers the container for transport in Australia
- Date of the declaration

Since 30<sup>th</sup> September, Vanguard Logistics has been completed this requirement on behalf of our customers using the Forwarding Instruction supplied to ourselves. Unfortunately we are no longer able to do this on your behalf.

There is no specific form available that the container weight declaration has to take, only the information that we must have to carry the container on the road. We have attached a form we have devised for your use and will require for all FCL container effective 28<sup>th</sup> November 2005, to meet our obligations under the new legislation.

Should you require any further information we recommend the NSW government website [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au) , then choose "Bills" and follow the prompts.

Please however note we will not be permitted to transport any container without a container weight declaration after the 28 December 05.