



mitchell & co
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Mitco EMDG November 2020 Newsletter

"Not another rambling from a Madman like last time", I hear you groan.

Trust me, this one is only short.

EMDG Review Update

We will have a new Trade Minister by the end of the year, and the rush is on to get the legislation passed before Minister Birmingham departs. Not too keen on this fast tracking – it is the devil in the detail that needs to be looked at and I think there are a number of unintended consequences that will arise that have not been really thought out. Future problems for the new Minister and Austrade as the delivery agent for EMDG.

Overall, the proposed changes mean less opportunity to lodge a grant application and less money to exporters.

If you have been paid up to 5 grants now, then you will be hit the hardest going forward. You will not be able to claim for all markets, only new ones, yet to be defined. Please call for a chat.

I expect the new EMDG "Rules" soon – Ministerial Determinations behind the legislation are to be released towards the end of this month. Currently there are some 17 such legislative instruments, so I expect a lot more to come our way to review.

It will be our job (not yours) on Xmas day to review, digest and make submissions upon. Don't worry about us, just raise a toast on the day to say, "*I am glad someone else is looking after my EMDG interests*".

In parallel to the new rules, Austrade is developing new “Guidelines” – what’s the difference between a “Rule” and a “Guideline” you ask? Good question.

For EMDG purposes, “Rules” are legislative based – the theory behind the legislation.

The “Guidelines” are how things will work in practice, what the application(s) forms will look like, how to work out if you are export ready, how to calculate a new market to focus on etc. To me, you cannot work out “Guidelines” until you first work out the “Rules”, however that is not going to happen.

To meet the Minister’s year-end deadline, Austrade is making a start to the planned guidelines with a group “think” session planned for selected parties later this week.

We will keep you informed as things unfold. We hope Austrade will listen to exporter concerns and views, not just tick the exercise off as a job now done.

EMDG Applications for 2020

If we have already lodged your 2020 application, stop reading now.

If not, read on...

Please help us, to help you. To maximise your chances of prompt payment, this side of the Xmas break, we need to get your application lodged by the end of November.

Please send your information in pronto. Please answer our information requests with a sense of urgency as well.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our team.

All the best,

Stuart and Team