# Empowering Customs through Artificial Intelligence- An Australian Perspective

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# **Australian context**



The ABF is leading a **Trade Modernisation** program under a whole of Australian Government **Simplified Trade System** agenda to strengthen our strategic national asset – the Australian border.

This reform agenda provides opportunities to harness the potential of big data, machine learning and Artificial Intelligence.

# Opportunities for AI use

Across the **end to end trade and customs process** we have identified opportunities to harness AI and ML to improve and streamline customs operations and processes, as well as increasing security and accuracy.

- Which are the critical parts of the customs and trade process where investment in AI would bring the highest return?

- Is it document lodgement and assessment? Tariff classification? Verification of identity? Risk assessment for border threats? Inspection of cargo to detect border threats?

# Development of automated threat detection for cargo

Vision: a sea and air cargo model that supports streamlined, accurate, secure and scalable cargo inspection at the border.

Australia has taken an evidence-based, policy-led approach to cargo reform.

Leveraging AI represents opportunity to scale with minimal supply chain impact.

Early lessons from experience

# Operationalising AI

How do we get the AI out of the lab and into operations with minimal disruption?

Some of the challenges we face operationalising AI:

- Building new officer capability and managing the impact on our workforce

- Integration with internal systems

- Continuing data set collection to support ongoing algorithm development and training