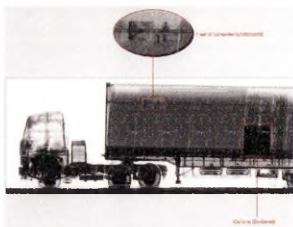
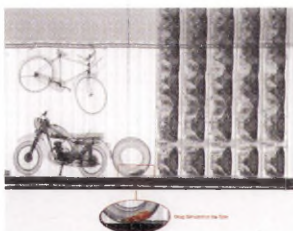


Container x-ray construction under way

THE BUDGET

In the 2002 Federal Budget, the Government announced that Customs will receive an extra \$39.8 million over four years to expand the container x-ray procurement program to Brisbane and Fremantle, and \$9.2 million over four years to purchase additional pallet x-ray machines.



Examples of x-ray images.

A cargo container x-ray system for Australian Customs is being constructed in Miyun, China. The arrival of the first unit is expected to coincide with the completion of the x-ray scanning hall facility under construction in the Melbourne port area.

In May 2001, Customs signed an \$11 million contract to purchase two state-of-the-art cargo container x-ray machines with Chinese manufacturing company Tsinghua Tongfang. The systems will allow for increased screening of imported goods at the wharf. The container x-ray facility will allow for inspection of about 100 containers a day. A facility is also to be located in the Sydney port area.

Australian companies Gutteridge, Haskins and Davey and Jones Lang LaSalle have been contracted by Customs to assist with the design of the x-ray scanning hall and examination facility. Another Australian company, Austin Australia Pty Ltd, was successful in its tender for construction of the container x-ray facility in Melbourne. Work began on construction of the x-ray scanning hall and an examination hall covering 2.05 hectares in early February 2002.

More information about the container x-ray system is available at www.customs.gov.au.



Container x-ray system construction in China.