From 1 July 2018, the Australian Government will impose a 10% goods and services tax (GST) on goods valued at AUD1,000 or less which have been imported by consumers into Australia.

GST liability will be on merchants who sell goods valued at equal to or less than AUD1,000 to an Australian consumer. This applies to merchants who deliver or facilitate the delivery of low value goods into Australia such as electronic distribution platform operators or re-deliverers.

Merchants with annual sales into Australia of AUD75,000 or more will be required to comply with this new legislation by registering for GST, collecting GST at time of each sale, and remitting same to the Australian Tax Office (ATO).

The legislation also requires merchants to provide specific information to the transporter of each shipment that has attracted GST. This Shipping Guide provides details on how to provide this specific information to FedEx.

For further information please contact the Australian Tax Office or email AustraliaGST@ato.gov.au.
Shipping Information for Low Value Goods to consumers in Australia

GST registration details will be provided by the Australian Tax Office (ATO) to merchants with sales to Australia of AUD75,000 or more per annum.

Depending on circumstances, the ATO will provide each merchant with either an Australian Taxation Office Registration Number (ARN) or an Australian Business Number (ABN). This merchant specific number must be provided to the transporter on shipping documentation for every shipment valued at AUD1,000 or less on which GST has been collected.

If you are selling low value goods to an Australian business eligible for GST exemption you must also provide their ABN details in addition to your own ARN or ABN.

How to provide Merchant and Purchaser information to FedEx

FedEx requires Merchant and Purchaser related GST details to be provided electronically via FedEx shipping software.

This can be done via FedEx Ship Manager or www.fedex.com, our automated shipping solutions which allow you to process shipments easily, quickly and conveniently.

Simply follow the steps below to provide applicable ARN and ABN details:

1. For your merchant specific number, the required format is ARN2222222222222 where the numbers in this string is either the ARN provided to you by the ATO, or your company ABN.

2. If the purchaser has claimed GST exemption and provided an ABN, the required format for this is ABN3333333333333 where the numbers in this string is the ABN provided by the purchaser.

3. The above information is required to be entered into the “Department Notes” field on either FedEx Ship Manager or fedex.com in a specific format for each shipment valued at AUD1,000 or less.
Examples on how to complete the “Department Notes” field

A. Your merchant specific number provided by the ATO is 222222222222
   The purchaser has not provided an ABN at time of purchase
   
   Department Notes
   ARN222222222222

B. Your merchant specific number provided by the ATO is 222222222222
   The purchaser provides ABN 33333333333 at time of purchase

   Department Notes
   ARN222222222222ABN33333333333

Ensure the “Department Notes” field is completed in the format shown above. If ARN and/or ABN numbers you have been provided have spaces, please remove those spaces, there should be no spaces in “Department Notes” field. FedEx reporting software is programmed to find ARN and ABN numbers from this format.

FedEx Ship Manager
www.fedex.com
Australia imposes GST on Low Value Imports
Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I get further information on this new legislation?
Visit the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) website for further information, alternatively you can email the ATO at AustraliaGST@ato.gov.au or call +61 2 6216 1111.

Where can I get further assistance on FedEx shipping software in order to provide GST registration details?
Contact your local FedEx Technical Support team for all enquiries or assistance on FedEx automation products and applications. Contact details can be found on fedex.com.

If I fail to provide FedEx with GST registration details, will my shipments be delayed?
Businesses that are treated as the supplier of low value goods for GST purposes and are registered for GST are legally required to ensure that relevant tax information is provided to transporters. If this information is not provided electronically, FedEx will proceed with delivery, but the merchant may be subject to penalties applied by the ATO for non-compliance, further details of which can be found on the Australian Tax Office website.

How do I know if I am required to register for GST?
Merchants with annual sales into Australia of AUD75,000 or more will be required to register for GST and comply with this legislation. Please contact the ATO for further details.

Will FedEx Share my GST registration details with the Australian Tax Office?
Transporters are required by the legislation to electronically report ARN and ABN details received from merchants to Australian Customs at time of importation into Australia.

What is the definition of a Consumer who is liable to pay GST?
A purchaser is a consumer if they are either:
- Not registered for Australian GST; or
- Registered for Australian GST but do not purchase the low value imported goods for use in their business in Australia

What if any shipment to Australia has a declared value of more than AUD1,000?
There is no change to the current process, GST on High Value shipments will continue to be collected from the importer at time of importation.