AusCheck External Release Notes 30 August 2024 v4.7.0

The primary goals of Release 4.7.0 have been to:

- Enable ASIC and MSIC facility operators and CIBC responsible entities to have multiple facilities/assets, rather than only one in the portal.
- CIBC employers and responsible entities must contact AusCheck before being able to view detailed criminal history information. This process will involve AusCheck requesting consent from the applicant prior to doing so.

Applicants

User experience enhancements for portal applications

Change Type: Enhancement

Business Problem: From user feedback and research activities, we have identified areas for improvement with portal applications.

User Benefit:

- Improvements to verifying their employer code, which was being missed by users and resulting in preventable errors.
- Re-labelled "birth locality" to "birth town/city".
- Additional help-text to mitigate invalid document exemption requests.

Streamlined process to update photo and identity documents

Change Type: Enhancement

Business Problem:

- Currently, there is no portal functionality to allow an applicant and verifier to correct photos that do not meet AusCheck's requirements.
- Additionally, if the applicant is requested to provide updated identity documents, they are required to
 progress through each page of the entire portal application to do so, which is unnecessary.

User Benefit:

- Photos can now be updated through the portal
 - Firstly, the applicant selects an appropriate verifier organisation and location to capture the updated photo

- o Then the verifier will be able to search for the record to capture and upload a new photo.
- When AusCheck requests applicants to provide updated photos or identity documents, the portal will only show the specific pages that relate to the photo and identity document process.

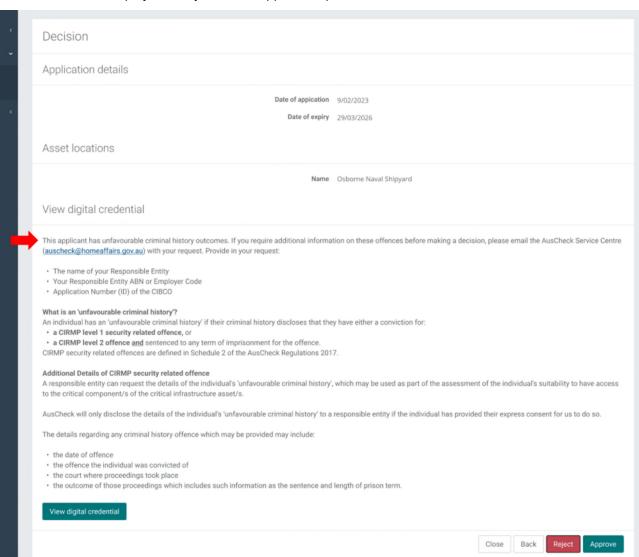
Employer

Request for detailed criminal history information

Change Type: Enhancement

Business Problem: AusCheck requires applicant consent prior to releasing criminal history information to their employer / responsible entity. This information is required for the employer to make an informed decision whether to continue employing or rejecting the applicant's access to their asset.

User Benefit: Employers are advised to email AusCheck to request detailed criminal history information prior to making a decision. AusCheck will collect the applicant's express consent and only send detailed information to the employer if they have the applicant's permission to do so.



Load time improvements to 'Manage Op Need'

Change Type: Enhancement

Business Problem: For larger Employer organisations (greater than 500 active operational needs), attempting to search for all operational need records was taking over 30 seconds.

User Benefit: Improvements have been made to significantly reduce the load time of the 'Manage Operational Need' pages.

'Verify security card' no longer requires a mandatory search for an Issuing Body

Change Type: Enhancement

Business Problem: Currently, when verifying security cards, the issuing body field is mandatory. With the transition to the AusCheck Issuing Body, users were confused which issuing body they should enter.

User Benefit: AusCheck and the portal will allow employer users to search for a card without having to provide an Issuing Body. This field is now optional and can be used if users need to narrow their search results.

Fixed: Unable to find application if AusCheck requests applicant to update their operational need

Change Type: Bug

Business Problem: Employers are unable to locate operational need updates by applicant, when remediation is required.

User Benefit: Bug has been fixed and applications are able to be located as expected.

Facility Operator (ASIC, MSIC) / Responsible Entities (CIBC)

Enable facility operators to have multiple facilities

Change Type: Enhancement

Business Problem: Currently, the portal only permits facility operators to have one facility.

User Benefit: AusCheck are able to setup facility operators with multiple facilities.

Admin users will be able to assign specific facilities to their users, which will control their data visibility when searching and ceasing facility access for applicants.

Functions such as verifying security cards and searching for applications will remain across the entire AusCheck holdings and AusCheck portal holdings respectively.

'Verify security card' no longer requires a mandatory search for an Issuing Body

Change Type: Enhancement

Business Problem: Currently, when verifying security cards, the issuing body field is mandatory. With the transition to the AusCheck Issuing Body, users were confused which issuing body they should enter.

User Benefit: AusCheck will allow facility operator users to search for a card without having to provide an Issuing Body. This field is now optional and can be used if users need to narrow their search results.

Background Checking Services (BCS) AusCheck Portal Enhancements

ASIO Identity verification issues: Birth Country information is inconsistent across applications

Change Type: IB Portal Enhancement

Business Problem: ASIO have highlighted issues with the country of birth differing between current and previous applications.

User Benefit: This change will enable the AusCheck system to check for and detect any Birth Country mismatches between newly submitted applications and existing records held in the system. Issuing bodies will then need to remediate these applications before further processing can occur (refer to Figure 1). Remediating Birth Country mismatches at the submission stage will improve the quality of data stored in the system and shared with our external checking partners during the background checking process.

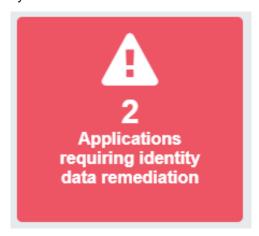


Figure 1: New tile on the IB Portal dashboard for applications with Birth Country mismatches

Address validation: always return errors for the most critical validation failures

Type: IB Portal Enhancement

Business Problem: Currently, there are warnings for address validation issues. However, these do not prevent submission. As a result, BCS receives numerous requests for information (RFI) from ASIO relating to incorrect addresses. These RFIs lead to delays in completing background checks.

User Benefit: This change enables the IB Portal to show validation errors for incorrect addresses (refer to Figure 2). Issuing bodies will need to fix any errors before submission. This will help to prevent incomplete information being sent to ASIO, thus reducing the number of RFIs.

New Application

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Submit Errors/Warnings:

• ErrorCode (EE009-01) - Organisation Address is mandatory and is missing.

• ErrorCode (EE006-01) - Organisation Contact Person Name is mandatory and is missing.

• ErrorCode (2006-01) - Organisation Contact Person Name is mandatory and is missing.

• ErrorCode (2006-01) - Organisation Contact Person Name is mandatory and is missing.

• ErrorCode (2006-01) - Individual Petidential Address is mandatory and is missing.

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• ErrorCode (2007-01) - Individual Petidential Address is mandatory
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Figure 2: IB Portal error message for Address with critical validation failure

Address validation: additional processing to identify missing unit cases

Change Type: IB Portal Enhancement

Business Problem: Currently, BCS receives a large number of RFIs for incomplete Australian addresses. Commonly these addresses are missing unit numbers.

User Benefit: With this change, the IB Portal will identify any missing unit numbers for Australian addresses, and display either a warning (refer to Figure 3) or error message (refer to Figure 4). Issuing bodies will need to fix any unit number issues at submission. This will improve data quality in the system and prevent incomplete information from being sent to ASIO. This should result in a decrease in RFI requests.

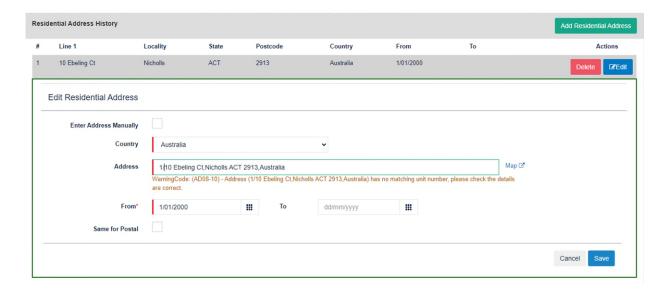


Figure 3: IB Portal warning message for missing unit numbers

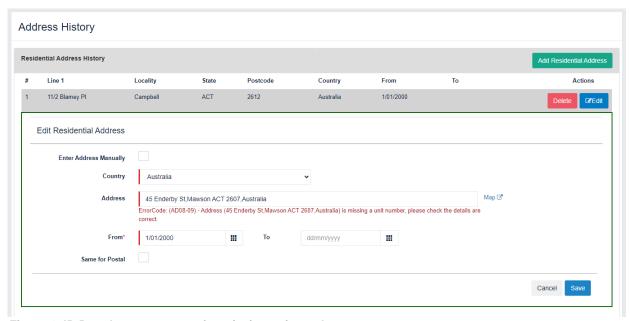


Figure 4: IB Portal error message for missing unit numbers

BCS Minor Fixes

Bulk upload: identity document date of birth format causing system errors

Change Type: IB Portal Bug fix

Business Problem: System errors were occurring when issuing body users entered the date of birth, for identity documents into the bulk upload spreadsheet, using the wrong date format (month name instead of numerical month).

User Benefit: After the release, users will be prompted with an error message (refer to Figure 5) if they enter dates with the wrong format.



Figure 5: Date of birth error message

IB Portal App Mod: Photo Quality Assessment results lost

Change Type: IB Portal Bug fix

Business Problem: Currently, when an application is modified in the IB Portal (updated or remediated), without any changes to the photo, the photo quality assessment results are missing in the updated submission.

User Benefit: After this fix, the photo quality assessment results will be displayed for each photo during the application modification process. This change will improve data in the system.

Outage Window

AusCheck system maintenance is scheduled for 30 August 2024, between 19:00 to 11:59 (AEDT). Systems may be offline at times during this period.

The outage will affect:

- Aviation Security Identification Card (ASIC) issuing bodies
- Maritime Security Identification Card (MSIC) issuing bodies
- National Health Security (NHS) responsible entities
- Naval Shipbuilding and Sustainment Identity Cards (NSSIC) responsible entities
- Critical Infrastructure Background Checking (CIBC) responsible entities
- Web portal users (applicants, employers, verifiers and facility operators)
- Web services users