

Australian Crime Commission

Overview of the new ACC organisation and its Identity Crime Intelligence Operation

11 September 2003

The **Australian Crime Commission** commenced operations on 1 January 2003.

It replaced the National Crime Authority, the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence and the Office of Strategic Crime Assessments.

497 staff situated in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth.



OSCA
Office of Strategic Crime Assessments

Parliamentary Joint
Committee

Inter-Governmental
Committee

ACC Board

To ensure the appropriate use of its powers, and to provide general oversight of and direction to ACC activities, scrutiny of the ACC is conducted through the following mechanisms (in addition to the checks and balances provided by the legal system).

**Parliamentary Joint
Committee**

Made up of members of both the Senate and the House of Representatives

Monitors and reviews the performance of the ACC according to its functions and in relation to trends and changes in criminal activities

Examines the Annual Report

Reports to Parliament

**Inter-Governmental
Committee**

Commonwealth, State and
Territory Police/Justice Ministers

Monitoring the work of the ACC
and its Board

Oversee the strategic direction of
the ACC and its Board

Receiving and transmitting to
their respective Governments,
key ACC performance reports

Oversight of the Board's
authorisation for the use of
special powers

The Board consists of the following members:

- Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police (Chair)
- Secretary of the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department
- CEO of the Australian Customs Service
- Chairperson of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission
- Director-General Security (ASIO)
- Commissioners of all State & Territory Police services
- CEO of the ACC (Non-Voting Member)

ACC Board

The Board has the following functions:

- Determine national criminal intelligence priorities;
- Provide strategic direction and determine ACC priorities;
- Determine & Authorise operations and investigations;
- Determine the class or classes of persons participating in operations or investigations;

The Board has the following functions: (continued)

- Establish task forces;
- Disseminate to law enforcement agencies and foreign law enforcement agencies strategic criminal intelligence assessments;
- Report to the Inter-Governmental Committee on the ACC's performance;
- Perform such other functions conferred by the Act.

National Criminal Intelligence Priorities

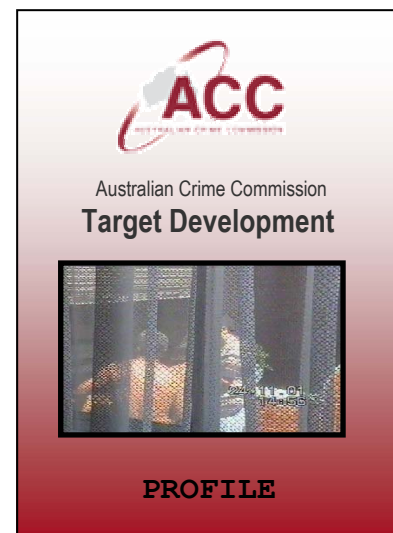
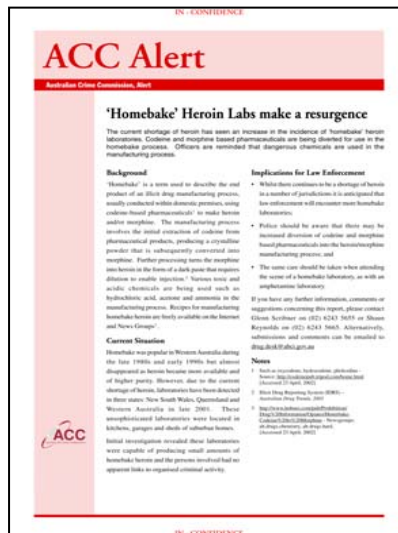
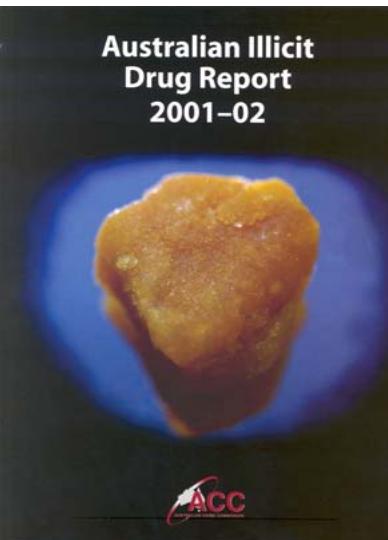
The very first function of the Board, stipulated under the ACC Act, is for it to establish National Criminal Intelligence Priorities (NCIPs).

NCIPs are deemed necessary for effective law enforcement agency planning and responses because they provide:

- *A comprehensive ranked summary of known national criminal threats affecting Australia;*
- *A basis for resource allocation and operational deployments to be considered; and*
- *A basis for performance reporting for the ACC.*

Provision of criminal intelligence

The ACC provides a range of criminal intelligence products and services to client and partner agencies at strategic and operational levels, to support the work of those agencies.



Function



Delivery of National Criminal Intelligence Information Systems



Co-operation with law enforcement agencies

The ACC works in partnership & co-operation with law enforcement agencies.

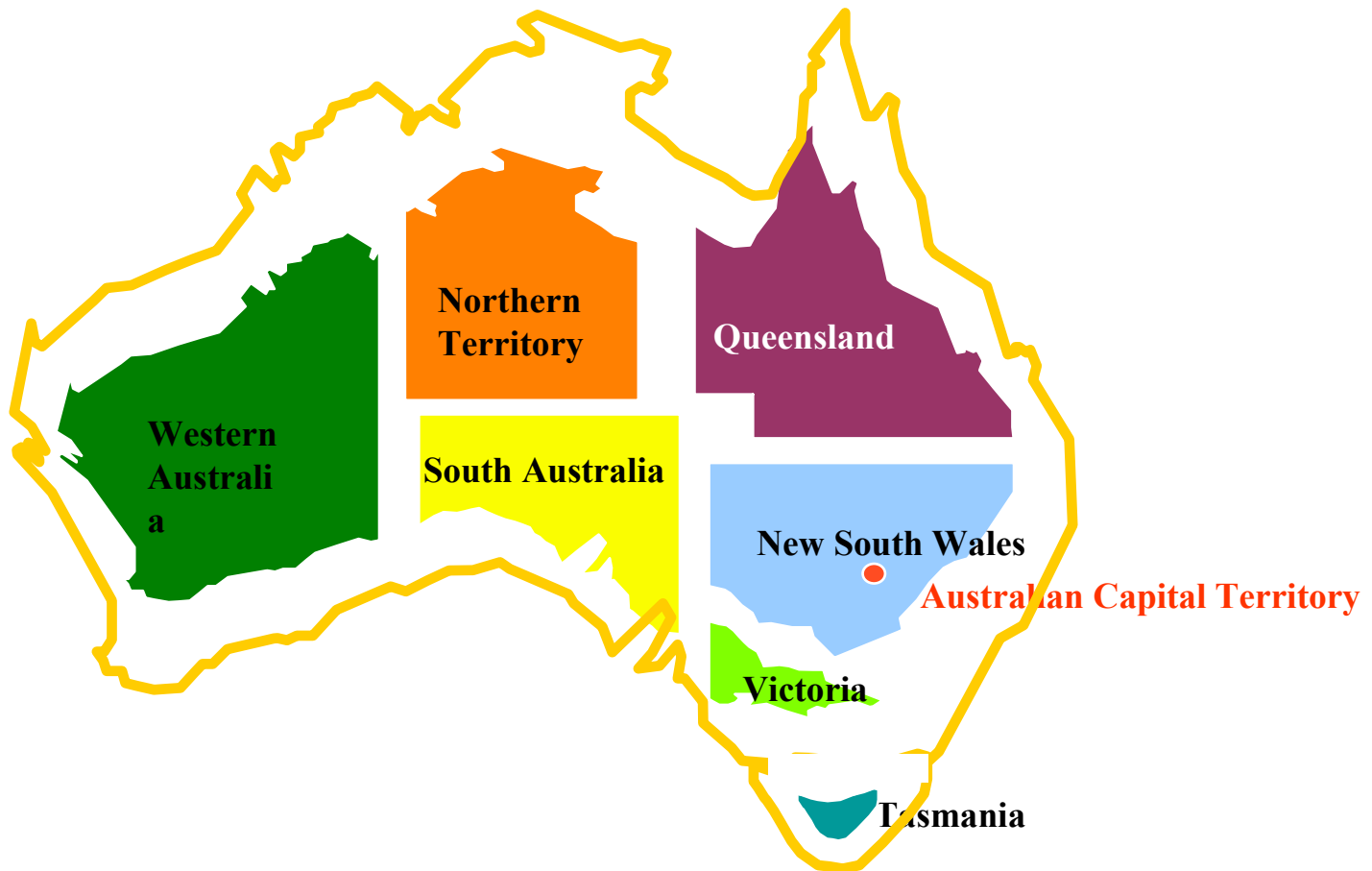
The ACC may co-ordinate its activities with the activities of authorities and persons in other countries performing functions similar to the ACC.



Features of the ACC Legislation

- Responds to the need for a National Agency to attack organised crime
- c.f. Commonwealth jurisdiction with “National” jurisdiction
- Powers from all 9 Australian jurisdictions vested in the ACC
- Examiners exercise special coercive powers
- Strong accountability framework
- Partnerships, joint efforts, cooperation, coordination & sharing of information & intelligence is critical

A Coordinated & Consensus National Approach to Organised Crime



Classes of Operation

- Intelligence Operation
- Special Intelligence Operation
- Special Investigation

Continuation Provisions

The *ACC Establishment Act* provides for transitional arrangements of **National Crime Authority** investigations.

The Board of the **ACC** is taken to have:

- authorised, in writing, the **ACC** to investigate the matters;
- that the investigation is a special investigation; and
- that person(s) in charge and undertaking an **NCA** Investigation immediately before commencement of the **ACC** are the same persons participating in or head the **ACC** special investigation.

NCA REFERENCES (at 31 Dec 02)

- **Blade** South East Asian Organised Crime
- **Swordfish** Money Laundering
- **Freshnet** Established Criminal Networks
- **Panzer** Outlaw Motor Cycle Gangs
- **Cerberus** Italian Organised Crime
- **Oakum** Abalone Poaching in Tasmania
- **Firearms** Federal/State Firearms Offences

Operations Authorised by the Board on 13 May 2003

Intelligence Operations

- Card Skimming
- Identity Crime

Special Intelligence Operations

- Vehicle Rebirthing
- Amphetamines and Other Synthetic Drugs

Special Investigations

- Firearms Trafficking
- South East Asian Organised Crime
- Money Laundering and Tax Fraud
- Established Criminal Networks

Aim of Special Intelligence Operations and Special Investigations

The role of this special intelligence operation/special investigation is for the ACC, working with other law enforcement agencies to develop intelligence/ investigate into, from and within Australia.

Objectives of Special Intelligence Operations & Special Investigations

The Objectives for the ACC include working with partner agencies to-

- a) Improve Intelligence on the nature and extent of the threat fromwithin Australia;
- b) Scope the threat from in a international context, identifying trends, issues and law enforcement opportunities;
- c) Reduce the impact of on the Australian community;
- d) Deliver informed and timely advice to drive an effective national response to by the ACC and partner agencies.

Identity Crime Intelligence Operation

Mission:

To collect, collate, analyse, interpret and disseminate (on an international and national basis) intelligence about Identity Crime.

Objectives:

1. Improve intelligence on the nature and extent of the Identity Crime threat to Australia;
2. Scope the threat from Identity Crime in international and national contexts, identifying trends, issues and law enforcement opportunities;
3. Reduce the impact of Identity Crime on the Australian community; and;
4. Deliver informed and timely advice to drive an effective national response to Identity Crime by the ACC and partner agencies.

Identity Crime Intelligence Operation

Strategies:

1. Deliver informed and timely advice to drive an effective national response to Identity Crime by the ACC and partner agencies.
2. Undertake intelligence development work and produce a revised national strategic intelligence assessment;
3. Establish (where necessary) and coordinate systems for intelligence collection and analysis, information management, and dissemination between ACC, partner agencies and other stakeholders, including enhancement of the existing Fraud Desk on ALEIN;
4. Establish appropriate collaborative relationships with elements of the private sector, including an effective program to encourage the reporting of Identity Crime activity.

Identity Crime Intelligence Operation

ABCI's ID Fraud Register project

- First of its type in the world
- Ran for most of 2002
- 24 agencies participated (& 1 private sector corp)
- 1195 identities exchanged (presently over 3,200 on file)
- Initiated or enhanced over 500 investigations
- Detected over 1400 offences
- Some participating CW service delivery agencies matched 10 to 15% of IDs to existing clients

Questions, comments, further information.....

- www.crimecommission.gov.au
- National Fraud Desk on *ALEIN*
- Jeff Pope (Victoria Police) = ACC Head of Operation, ID Crime
- ACC Canberra: 02 6243 5666
- ACC Sydney: 02 9373 2100