

## **To automobile exporters:**

**As of 1 July 2005, automobile export must be cleared through formal cargo export procedure at Customs.**

### **1. Background**

The rapid increase of exporting stolen automobiles has become a serious problem in Japan, and Customs is involved in a nation-wide effort to suppress the illegal activities.

### **2. Revision of Road Vehicles Law**

The recent revision of the Road Vehicles Law stipulates that as of 1 July automobile exporters must submit the "Certificate of Export Approval" issued by the local Land Transportation Office, when an export declaration is filed.

### **3. Revisions of Customs Formality:**

Effective 1, July 2005, a formal export declaration must be filed for ALL automobiles exported including those that were previously declared as "personal effects".

Background information: Automobiles exported as "personal effects":

- Prior to July 2001: Only an oral declaration was required.
- Effective July 2001: A written declaration was required.
- Effective July 2005: The new regulation does not allow automobiles to be classified as a "personal effects" item.

**REMINDER: A CERTIFICATE OF EXPORT APPROVAL IS REQUIRED TO BE SUBMITTED WITH YOUR EXPORT DECLARATION.**

For further information, please contact the following offices.

**About passenger processing:**

**Control and Permission Section (Phone 078-333-3048)**

**About export clearance:**

**Customs Counselor's Office (Phone 078-333-3100)**

**Kobe Customs, Ministry of Finance, Government of Japan**