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Russell my father recently passed away and he has left me his reloader and all of the components that go with it. He had been a reloading enthusiast for over two decades. Over the past two years with the cost of lead escalating and with less reloadable hulls available at gun clubs I am starting to think its no longer worth the time and effort. Firstly can you give me an idea on what you believe the cost difference is between reloading and buying new shells and secondly can anyone reload shot shells as good as the major manufacturers?

Brian Wood, Ascot Vale, VIC

Hi Brian, I am sorry to hear about the passing of your father. He was a wonderful character around the gun clubs. Having no idea of what components you are using or the price you are buying them for I would ask you to use the following reloading calculator that is available from this website; <http://www.ewrg.org/sscalc.html>. It asks for imperial measurements. You will have to make the conversions before entering the data. As far as quality is concerned then I guess that is a very subjective question and can only be answered the same way. My honest opinion on quality is no you can't expect the same quality out of a \$1,000 reloading press with used hulls, questionable shot and so on. I would expect generally better quality from a multi million dollar shot shell manufacturing facility that constantly tests for quality control and ballistic changes.

I am astounded on how much we pay for new shotguns here in Australia compared to what the price they are advertised on web sites in the United States. Is there any law getting someone with a dealers license importing a gun from overseas into Australia for me?

Name and address withheld.

There is certainly no law stopping a licensed firearm dealer importing a permissible use firearm into Australia. Be aware of the hidden custom and duty costs and above all remember this. If you are importing a firearm into another country that is already represented in that country by a company then you will generally not be covered by any warranty conditions for that firearm with the local agent. If there needs to be some warranty work you will have two options. Paying for it yourself with a local gun smith or having to send the gun back to the factory where it was manufactured. That will become a very costly and time consuming exercise.

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