U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Intellectual Property Rights

Enforcement Update
May 2017

CBP Seizes Over \$14 Million in Counterfeit Goods during operations in first half of FY 2017

As a result of four operations conducted at five ports in the first half of FY 2017, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) seized:

- 821 shipments of counterfeit goods
- With an estimated Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) of over **\$14 Million.**

Operations were led by CBP's Mobile Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement Team (MIPET). MIPET is a special task force comprised of top IPR enforcement experts including CBP officers, import specialists, international trade specialists, and paralegal specialists from a variety of offices within the agency including the Apparel, Footwear, and Textile; Automotive and Aerospace; Consumer Products and Mass Merchandising; Electronics; and Machinery Centers of Excellence and Expertise; and IPR National Targeting and Analysis Group. The team performs IPR enforcement operations on the front lines to prevent the entry of counterfeit goods into the U.S.

In November 2016, Charge-Up, a joint operation with Hong Kong Customs was conducted at the express consignment facility in Cincinnati and focused on seizing IPR violative electronics and bearings.



(MIPET members at Charge Up)

In December 2017, Bad Gifts III was conducted at the International Mail Facility (IMF) at Chicago and focused on handbags, watches, sunglasses, apparel, and footwear.



(MIPET members at Super Fake III - Cincinnati)

In January 2017, Super Fake III, was conducted at the express consignment facility in Cincinnati and Houston Air Cargo targeting Super Bowl apparel and footwear.



(MIPET member at Super Fake III – Houston)

In March 2017, Operation New York, was conducted at the express consignment facilities at JFK and focused on auto parts, handbags, watches and sunglasses.



(MIPET members at Operation New York)

The enforcement of IPR is a CBP <u>Priority</u> <u>Trade Issue (PTI)</u>. PTIs represent high-risk areas that can cause significant revenue loss, harm the United States economy, or threaten the health and safety of the American people.

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