

# COMMERCIAL CUSTOMS OPERATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## One U.S. Government at the Border Subcommittee Executive Summary – Trade Progress Report July 2016

### 1. Background:

The Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC) determined to carry on the work from the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Term COAC One US Government at the Border Subcommittee. The Mission of the Subcommittee is to implement the January 15, 2013 COAC 12<sup>th</sup> Term Recommendation:

*That CBP pursue interagency partnership programs following the principles and standards set forth in the One US Government Master Principles Document and progress toward completion can be measured via CBP reporting quarterly back to COAC on progress being made to implement programs that align with these principles, principally through the Border Interagency Executive Council (BIEC).*

**Trade chairs:** Susie Hoeger, Scott Boyer, Amy Magnus

**Government:** Michael Walsh, Acting Executive Director, Trade Policy and Programs, Office of Trade; Debbie Augustin, Acting Executive Director, ACE Business Office, Office of Trade

### Outline of Work

The Subcommittee continued its work in promoting the One USG Master Principles document through the North American Single Window Working Group.

### 2. Summary of Work

#### North American Single Window Working Group

The North American Single Window Working Group (NASW WG) consists of importers, filers, software vendors, Canadian and Mexican trade partners, and CBP representatives. In April, the WG drafted a revised vision statement:

*Streamlining Imports and Exports in North America: A Single Window Approach*

*As Canada, Mexico and the United States advance their respective Single Windows, we commit to align our approaches in order to streamline processes and requirements to the greatest extent possible to foster fair and competitive trade in North America.*

The expected goals/benefits of a North American Single Window include:

- *Increasing trade and economic growth by aligning and simplifying Canadian, Mexican and United States import and export reporting processes which reduces the costs of doing business among the region.*
- *Facilitating compliance with and enforcement of trade requirements among Canada, Mexico and the United States.*
- *Minimizing the requirement for paper forms in the import and export process by allowing commercial traders to electronically submit information to comply with Customs and other government regulations for border-related decisions in the region.*
- *Promoting transparency and process predictability.*

The NASW WG has concluded its mapping exercise with both a swim chart and a narrative of the US, MX and Canadian import processes. The maps are at a very high level not including too much detail. The team has yet to begin discussions about opportunities for streamlining or eliminating redundancies, especially as it pertains to the various other government requirements.

The NASW WG has also started sitting in with the manifest working group to examine possible areas for further consideration as it relates to the duplicate information being provided to Canada for import manifest and the US for export to Canada manifest requirements.

### **Other Work**

The subcommittee continues to collect trade feedback on the ACE implementation, which will be summarized and presented in the committee's public remarks.

## **2. Next Steps**

The Subcommittee intends to continue its work with the North American Single Window Vision Working Group with the intent of providing formal recommendations at the November 2016 public meeting.

In addition, the subcommittee will continue to monitor CBP, PGA, and trade readiness as the ACE rollout continues, and will provide feedback to CBP and make recommendations as appropriate.

We conclude by reiterating our previous statement:

*It is imperative that the trade community and government agencies establish mutual understanding for the future of data exchange, engagement expectations and cooperate to achieve the appropriate risk based mitigation standards that secure cargo movement and facilitate trade at the speed of business.*