INTERCONNECTION SECURITY AGREEMENT

March, 2008

U. S. Department of Homeland Security
Customs and Border Protection
INTERCONNECTION SECURITY AGREEMENT

The intent of the Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA) is to document and formalize the interconnection agreement between Customs and other non-Customs organizations.

1. INTERCONNECTION STATEMENT OF REQUIREMENTS.

a. The requirements for interconnection between the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and your company is for the express purpose of the following:

   • Provide your company with VPN tunnel connectivity to CBP for the purpose of allowing your company to send/receive data, to/from CBP, via MQ Client/Server.
   • If providing Stow Plans or Container Status Messages (CSMs) as part of a Security Filing, then this ISA supports the use of e-Mail and Secure File Transport Protocol (SFTP) for Stow Plans as well as SFTP for CSMs sent from your organization to CBP only.

b. No other services are authorized under this agreement. Other than the passing of data stated in paragraph 1a, only communication control signals typical of Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) and MQ Client/Server will be permitted.
   • SFTP and eMAIL for filing of Stow Plans and CSMs only are supported.

c. Data transmitted between your designated end-point system and CBP will be protected (encrypted) in accordance with the guidelines of the Privacy Act, Trade Secrets Act (18 U. S. Code 1905), and Unauthorized Access Act (18 U. S. Code 2701 & 2710). Transaction data returned to your system remains protected (encrypted) until transmitted through the layer-3 VPN tunnel connected to your system, at which point the data is decrypted (open and unprotected) for final transmission into your system. Your company is responsible for providing any further protection measures for your company data when resident in your computing environment, as necessary.

2. SYSTEM SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS.

a. General Information/Data Description. The interconnection between your company and CBP is via the public Internet, over an FIPS 140-2 Approved Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) 256 bit protected VPN tunnel. Authentication will be via CBP provided user ID and password and/or pre-share keys.

b. Services Offered. The security of the information being passed on this layer-3 IPSEC VPN connection uses either Cisco VPN hardware or software.

c. Data Sensitivity. The sensitivity of all data filed is Sensitive But Unclassified (SBU).

d. FIPS-199 Security Categorization. All associated CBP applications are security categorized as High.
e. **User Community.** All CBP employees with access to the data are U. S. citizens with a valid and current CBP Background Investigation.

f. **Information Exchange Security.** The connection with CBP is via the public Internet, over a AES 256 bit protected VPN tunnel.

g. **Trusted-Behavior Expectations.** The CBP system and users are expected to protect this data in accordance with the Privacy Act, Trade Secrets Act (18 U.S. Code 1905), and Unauthorized Access Act (18 U.S. Code 2701 & 2710).

h. **Formal Security Policy.** Policy documents that govern the protection of the data are CBP (Customs) CIS HB 1400-05C and Department of Homeland (DHS) –4300A Sensitive Systems Policy.

i. **Incident Reporting.** All security incidents that have any effect on the security posture of CBP must be reported to the CBP Computer Security Incident Response Center (CSIRC) located at the CBP NDC (tel: 703-921-6507). The policy governing the reporting of security incidents is CIS HB 1400-05C.

j. **Audit Trail Responsibilities.** CBP maintains an audit trail and employs intrusion detection measures to maintain security and system integrity.
3. **TOPOLOGICAL DRAWING.** The two systems are joined via an encrypted VPN tunnel. The CBP NDC facility maintains a 24-hour physically secure facility where access is controlled using restricted access and all visitors are escorted. The lines of demarcation are as illustrated in the following drawing:\(^1\):

\(^1\) Diagram was updated on August 24, 2010 by DHS/CBP Network Engineering Team
4. **SIGNATORY AUTHORITY.** This ISA is valid upon electronic acknowledgement of receipt of an agreement from your designated corporate approval authority. The ISA will be reviewed, validated, stored, and tracked for periodic renewal by CBP. This agreement may be terminated upon 30-days advanced notice by either party or in the event of a security exception that would necessitate an immediate response.

**DOCUMENT SIGNED IN MARCH 2008 BY:**

Ken Ritchhart  
Acting Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Information and Technology  
Customs and Border Protection

THE ORIGINAL SIGNATURE MAY NOT BE POSTED ON-LINE, BUT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW UPON REQUEST.