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Washington, DC has settled firmly into another hot summer, and things are as busy as ever within the Office of Trade. In June, I traveled to the World Customs Organization in Brussels, Belgium to support the Deputy Commissioner in policy commission meetings and to discuss cross border e-commerce. Representatives from the Office of Trade and I also participated in the American Association of Exporters and Importers 98th annual Conference in Washington, DC. In early July, we held the first annual Office of Trade Executive Assistant Commissioner Awards Ceremony to recognize the incredible work done by OT employees. The month of July will see additional impactful announcements, so continue to monitor our twitter account, @CBPTradeGov, for real time updates and information on Office of Trade activities.

-Brenda Smith, Executive Assistant Commissioner, Office of Trade

First Annual Office of Trade Executive Assistant Commissioner Award Ceremony



On July 11, the Office of Trade held the first annual Executive Assistant Commissioner Awards (EAC) at the Department of Commerce auditorium in Washington, D.C. Bradley Hayes, acting assistant commissioner for Congressional Affairs, was the host for the occasion, and introduced the color guard, pledge of allegiance, and invocation by Gloria Cruz.

EAC Brenda Smith welcomed the awardees and their families to the ceremony and began by expressing her desire that this becomes an annual tradition for the Office of Trade. EAC Smith stressed the importance of taking time, in a ceremonial manner, to pause and recognize the work OT does, along with some of the unique personal endeavors employees have outside of work.

Recipients of the 2017 CBP Annual Commissioner Awards in the Trade and Facilitation category were recognized first. At the time, this team successfully implemented 10 presidential proclamations affecting imports of solar cells, solar panels, large residential washing machines, steel mill products, and aluminum products, and worked to further implement the trade remedies and communicate with trade stakeholders.

The EAC Awards have five categories: the Agility Award, Collaboration Award, SMART Award, Empowerment Award, Innovation Award, Leadership Award, and the EAC Recognition Award. After the ceremony, the awardees and employees were welcomed back to a reception at National Placeto celebrate the accomplishments of the Office of Trade.



New on @CBPTradeGov

- 🐦 6/20/19: #CBPTradeGov's own Director Vincent Annunziato has written an article for @EPSecurityMag on @CBP's blockchain proof of concept and the technology's potential use to facilitate legitimate trade. Check it out: [bit.ly/2RoqbRf](http://bit.ly/2RoqbRf)
- 🐦 6/26/19: The agenda, FAQs, and exhibit information for #TradeSymposium19 can now be found on the @CBP website! We hope to see you in Chicago July 23-24! #CBPTrade [bit.ly/2IvEzpk](http://bit.ly/2IvEzpk)
- 🐦 7/12/19: Traveling this summer? Check out @CBP's #TruthBehindCounterfeits campaign at Chicago, Dallas, New York, Las Vegas, Fort Lauderdale, Boston, Baltimore, and Pittsburgh airports. To view the campaign online, visit [bit.ly/2yDGkds](http://bit.ly/2yDGkds)

CBP Trade in the News

- ◆ [USTR Announces List 3 Exclusion Request Process and Other US-China Trade Developments](#) – National Law Review – 6/26/19
- ◆ [E-commerce and Type 86 pilots coming soon](#) – American Shipper – 7/1/19
- ◆ [U.S. and China reach temporary trade truce. What does it mean for the markets?](#) – Yahoo – 7/1/2019

The Trade News Snapshot is a monthly newsletter from the Office of Trade highlighting important programs, information, and updates for our trade partners and the public.

## CBP and Underwriters Laboratories Working Group

Underwriters Laboratories (UL) contacted CBP to reiterate its support in combatting counterfeits, to ensure the United States has a stronger trade posture in the enforcement of intellectual property (IP) theft and the importation of illicit products. UL has sought an active dialogue to identify challenges and opportunities for collaboration on future IP enforcement efforts. Hosted by CBP's Office of Trade, attendees of the roundtable hosted at National Place included Deputy Executive Assistant Commissioner Cynthia Whittenburg, Senior Vice President and Chief Legal Officer Jacqueline K. McLaughlin of UL, and representatives from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), CBP's Office of Field Operations (OFO), the Office of Trade-Commercial Targeting and Analysis Center (CTAC), the Office of Trade-National Threat and Analysis Center (NTAC), and more. As a step towards understanding those challenges, the group provided an overview of the current trends of risk for health and safety. Those in attendance also developed recommendations on how UL can continue to support requests for product authenticity from CBP Officers, Import Specialists, and other necessary CBP personnel.



## CBP Trade at the American Association of Exporters and Importers 98th Annual Conference

Executive Assistant Commissioner Brenda Smith, Executive Director for Trade Policy and Programs John Leonard, and Director of Intellectual Property Rights and E-Commerce Division Laurie Dempsey participated at the 98th annual American Association of Exporters and Importers (AAEI) Conference held on June 26-28 in Washington, D.C. EAC Smith gave the luncheon keynote on June 28 where she addressed more than 400 association members and conference guests. EAC Smith assured those in attendance that despite the current challenges facing CBP, the agency has not lost sight of the future and the need to evolve trade processes to adapt to the 21st Century.



Director of Intellectual Property Rights and E-Commerce Division Laurie Dempsey participated in a panel discussion titled, "Digital Data and e-Commerce: Securing Data with the Increasing e-Commerce Environment," which consisted of both industry and government representatives. Executive Director for Trade Policy and Programs John Leonard contributed to the Customs Framework in the 21st Century panel where he discussed the five pillars of the 21st Century Customs Framework Initiative, which seeks to address and enhance numerous aspects of CBP's trade mission to better position the agency to operate in the 21st century trade environment.



## 21st Century Customs Staff Visits three US Ports of Entry

The 21st Century Customs Framework (21CCF) team traveled to Cincinnati and Louisville, Kentucky, June 11-13 to visit the UPS and DHL express consignment hubs. The purpose of the trip was to have follow up discussions with UPS and FedEx staff on public comments received centered on the future of CBP processes. The team wanted to better understand ECCF operations, challenges, and possible future information sharing opportunities that would further facilitate 21st Century trade. While there, the team met with ECCF CBP personnel to understand their views about future CBP operating procedures.

## EAC Smith at the World Customs Organization in Brussels, Belgium

On June 24, EAC Smith traveled to Brussels, Belgium to participate in meetings held by the World Customs Organization's (WCO) Policy Commission. The WCO Policy Commission is the dynamic steering committee that examines strategic issues and guides the work of the organization from an executive viewpoint. While at the WCO, EAC Smith participated in substantive discussions on e-commerce, centered mainly on the WCO's Cross-Border E-Commerce Framework of Standards. EAC Smith reported that there was firm commitment among the member countries present to continue the close collaboration on e-commerce issues via the Permanent Technical Committee and Enforcement Committee.

### Latest Trade Federal Register Notices

- ◆ 84 FR 27641: [Agency Information Collection Activities: Importers of Merchandise Subject to Actual Use Provisions](#)
- ◆ 84 FR 30211: [Agency Information Collection Activities: Holders or Containers Which Enter the United States Duty Free](#)
- ◆ 84 FR 30212: [U.S. Customs and Border Protection 2019 Trade Symposium](#)

### New Cargo System Messaging Service Updates

- ◆ #19-000329: [ACE CERTIFICATION CQ Query Deployed this morning, June 27, 2019](#)
- ◆ #19-000332: [GUIDANCE: Fifth Round of Products Excluded from Section 301 Duties \(Tranche 1\)](#)
- ◆ #19-000334: [GUIDANCE: Exclusion of Particular Products from Section 201 \(Solar Products\)](#)
- ◆ #19-000336: [Initiation of AD/CVD Investigations: Collated Steel Staples from the PRC, Korea, Taiwan](#)

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