

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory  
Committee (COAC)  
Next Generation Facilitation Subcommittee**

December 2019

**COAC**

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COMMERCIAL CUSTOMS OPERATIONS  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC)  
December 2019**

**Report of the Work of the COAC  
Subcommittee on Next Generation Facilitation**

**Co-Chairs**

Cindy Allen – FedEx  
Madeleine Veigel – Expeditors International  
Barry Baxter – Walmart

**Next Generation Facilitation Subcommittee Members:**

Luisella Basso, Celeste Catano, Amy Magnus, Erika Faulkenberry, Jose Gonzalez, Mike Young, and Alexandra Latham

Alternates: Amy Smith and John Van Wallaghen

**Background**

The following working groups make up the Next Generation Facilitation Subcommittee:

- 1) E-Commerce, co-chaired by Lenny Feldman, Cindy Allen and Luisella Basso
- 2) Emerging Technologies, co-chaired by Celeste Catano and Barry Baxter
- 3) 1USG co-chaired by Luisella Basso, Warren Hastings and Madeleine Veigel
- 4) 21<sup>st</sup> Century Customs Framework: Unifed Entry Processes Working Group (UEP), co-chaired by JD Gonzalez and Kathy Wilkins

All subcommittee objectives and scope are consistent with the official charter of COAC.

**Summary of Work**

The Next Generation Facilitation Sub-Committee has the responsibility of looking at opportunities to enhance the trade and government processes, policies and programs, enabling the trade and CBP to be better positioned for the future. Our Sub-Committee currently consists of four working groups. Each have had substantial tasks over the last few months and continue to work on recommendations.

**Emerging Technology:**

The Emerging Technology working group will continue to offer practical strategic approaches, solutions/suggestions and recommendations in areas related to new and emerging technologies related to Trade.

The Emerging Technology group completed their Proof of Concept (POC) on IPR Blockchain at the end of September. After completion of the PoC, the team involved in testing regrouped to discuss the overall experiences with the POC and shared best practices and future concerns. Additionally, a comprehensive survey was sent out the participants of the (POC) for both Trade and Government to provide detail insight on their experiences with a focus on KPI's. Results of the survey are being compiled and should be available shortly.

Also, the working group is in discussions on future projects including a Pipeline blockchain, Food Safety blockchain (CBP pitch-day winner) and using blockchain to track raw materials.

### **1USG (One United States Government):**

The 1USG (one United States government) working group has been established to collaborate with CBP on efforts between government agencies and industry stakeholders.

The 1USG held an in-person working group meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. During these meetings, the working group discussed the Global Business Identifier (GBI) Initiative. This initiative is driven by CBP's current manufacturer/shipper identification code (MID) which does not provide sufficient, unique identification of foreign entities, and has significant data quality issues. The MID comes from the customs invoicing party, which is insufficient for Partner Government Agencies (PGA)s concerned with identifying the manufacturers, assemblers, growers, harvesters, etc. The objective of this initiative is to develop a systematic, accurate, and efficient method to record foreign business entities, supply chain roles, and foreign addresses. This will enable One-U.S. Government (1USG) to use a "common language" and better focus on high-risk shipments. Based upon the information shared about the GBI initiative, the 1USG working group plans on providing recommendations to CBP during the December COAC meeting on the following themes discussed during the in person session: entity identifiers evaluation, GBI benefits, feedback on the GBI Evaluative Proof of Concept, scheduled to roll out some time in 2020. The working group also discussed areas of priorities for future engagement and work with BIEC, and solicited feedback from CBP on that end.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Customs Framework: Unified Entry Processes Working Group (UEP):**

The UEP WG has had 7 work group calls and 2 leadership calls to discuss and identify the pain points in the entry process as whole. The process is currently being reviewed from point of purchase through Entry Summary in order to identify data elements that are stable and rarely change, as well as those that frequently are incorrect from the beginning of the process and need correction either prior to Entry Summary or via Post Summary Correction (PSC). The WG has identified and CBP has charted the data elements and the availability of such by mode of transportation, as well as timing (Pre-Arrival, Arrival and Post-Arrival).

Having completed Session #7 on November 7<sup>th</sup>, the group will not meet again for Session #8 until December 12<sup>th</sup> due to schedule conflicts and the public meeting to be held in Washington, DC on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **E-Commerce:**

The e-Commerce working group is currently on hold. We look forward to reconvening the COAC e-Commerce working group in the near future to support this vital endeavor.

### **Conclusion**

The Next Generation Facilitation Subcommittee will continue to leverage the existing working groups and its many trade stakeholders to provide feedback on the various challenges facing CBP and the Trade and collaborate to help CBP achieve its dual goals of trade facilitation and enforcement.