



The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Trade uses innovative technology to protect American consumers from harmful and counterfeit imports by ensuring the goods that enter the U.S. marketplace are genuine, safe, and lawfully sourced. The CBP Office of Trade safeguards American businesses from unfair competition and protects legitimate brands, upholding American innovation and ingenuity.

### Blockchain

Blockchain is a digital ledger that provides a secure, tamper-proof and permanent record of transactions. Sensitive data such as Personally Identifiable Information and trade secrets are kept safe through the use of encrypted keys.

A recently completed proof of concept shows how blockchain technology can protect American businesses from intellectual property rights (IPR) theft.

Benefits include:



Secure and efficient data exchange between CBP, manufacturers, retailers, rights holders, and importers

Improved data collection through greater visibility into the supply chains, allowing identification of entities not listed on entries

Cost saving benefits by preventing illegitimate goods from entering U.S. commerce

Reducing physical import examinations getting consumers their packages with fewer delays

By leveraging state-of-the-art technologies, the CBP Office of Trade continues to enhance CBP's business intelligence capabilities for advancing the facilitation of trade, security, and enforcement objectives.

For additional details about CBP's innovation efforts, including full details of the IPR blockchain proof of concept, please visit CBP's Innovation page at <https://www.cbp.gov/trade/ace/whats-new-innovation>.

