

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory
Committee (COAC)
Rapid Response Subcommittee**

June 2022



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**Report of the Work of the COAC
Subcommittee on Rapid Response**

Co-Chairs

Brian Barber - Willson International, Inc.

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Rapid Response Subcommittee Members

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Background

CBP has combined the Broker Exam Modernization Working Group and the Continuing Broker Education Task Force, creating the Broker Modernization Working Group to cover all Broker issues. The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) remained on hiatus, however CBP is planning to reconvene the USMCA Working Group in the next quarter. The Domestic Manufacturing and Production Working Group was created this quarter.

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

Summary of Work

The Rapid Response Subcommittee has the responsibility of aligning Working Groups with CBP's Trade Strategy 2020. This strategy focuses on three areas aimed at modernizing import/export processes, improving trade intelligence, and maximizing efficiencies.

This past quarter, the Rapid Response Subcommittee held two meetings and received updates from the CBP co-chairs regarding the next steps for the Broker Modernization Working Group and the new Domestic Manufacturing and Production Working Group.

Broker Modernization Working Group:

Under the 16th term, the COAC has consolidated the Customs Broker Exam Modernization and Broker Continuing Education Working Groups with the previously active Title 19 part 111 Re-write Working Group into a newly formed Broker Modernization Working Group.

This newly formed group has met three times during the quarter during which we defined the group's purpose and reviewed the status of each of the focus areas. Both the continuing education and part 111 re-write topics are in NPRM and comment review status, the group is restricted from discussing but will continue work on each when authorized. The group has spent considerable time reviewing the results of this year's April customs broker exam, anticipates helping prepare for the October exam and has begun the process of reviewing previous COAC recommendations related to the working group topics covered.

U.S. – Mexico – Canada Agreement (USMCA) Working Group:

The USMCA Working Group has been on hiatus and is expected to reconvene in an upcoming quarter.

Domestic Manufacturing and Production (DMAP) Working Group:

This newly formed group has met five times during the quarter during which we worked to establish the group’s purpose and statement of work, and to raise topics to discuss for potential recommendations that involve trade enforcement issues that impact domestic manufacturers and producers. Several topics are currently being discussed and evaluated within the group.

As a priority topic, the DMAP Working Group discussed the harmful effect of counterfeit goods on domestic manufacturers. Manufacturers in the United States are deeply concerned about imports of fake and counterfeit products, which are estimated to cost the U.S. economy hundreds of billions of dollars, and hundreds of thousands of jobs, every year. CBP plays an important role in the effort to stop the importation of counterfeit goods, which is strongly appreciated by domestic manufacturers.

The DMAP Working Group will work together with the Intellectual Property Rights Process Modernization Working Group (IPRWG) to ensure these concerns are addressed either through a review and reminder to CBP of existing and open recommendations that address this topic, or through incorporation into the work of the 16th COAC term within the IPRWG.

Conclusion

The Rapid Response Subcommittee will continue to work closely with CBP on all issues related to Brokers and Domestic Manufacturing and will support CBP with reconvening the USMCA Working Group when appropriate.