

Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC)

Government Issue Paper:

1USG Working Group

March 2022



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection



Trade Policy and Programs, Office of Trade

1USG Working Group

March 8, 2022

Action Required: Informational

Background:

- In late July 2019, CBP stood up a new Commercial Customs Operation Advisory Committee (COAC) working group – the One United States Government Working Group (1USG WG) – which operates under and reports up through the Next Generation Facilitation Subcommittee.
- The 1USG WG serves as a key conduit to CBP and the Border Interagency Executive Council (BIEC) agencies on priority initiatives impacting CBP, its Partner Government Agencies (PGAs), industry stakeholders and international government entities – with a special focus on operational, technical, and policy and regulatory issues that involve more than one U.S. Government agency.

Issue:

- The 1USG WG creates opportunities for industry stakeholders to provide input to, and engage with, the BIEC, its member PGAs, and other agencies with equities and authorities at the U.S. border on pertaining to supply chain management, Single Window and trade data processing, process optimization, risk management and other areas of mutual interest.
- It builds upon previous and ongoing COAC, CBP, and interagency efforts; provides focused feedback; and formulates actionable recommendations that identify a 1USG approach toward coordinated strategic solutions.

Current Status:

- The 1USG WG kick-off meeting for the 16th COAC term was held on February 24, 2022. The COAC Trade Lead for the 1USG WG is Jose D. Gonzalez (Jose D. Gonzales C.H.B) and Craig Seelig (WiseTech Global). CBP Leads for the 1USG WG are Julie Stoeber (Office of Trade) and Valarie Neuhart and Latoria Martin (Office of Trade Relations).
- To date, the 1USG WG has collaborated on the following efforts:
 - Two-day “Deep Dive” on the Global Business Identifier (GBI), culminating in 17 recommendations made to the COAC in December 2019.
 - Working group review of the GBI proposed performance measures.
 - The GBI project and technical teams met with the COAC 1USG WG to obtain feedback on the technical buildout and enrollment process for the GBI Evaluative Proof of Concept (EPoC).
 - GBI Initiative Lead Jeremy Perez provided an overall GBI EPoC status update to the 1USG WG in February 2022
 - Engagement with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to support the April 6, 2020, reopening of the FWS message set pilot for commodities regulated by FWS.
 - Briefings by U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) on enforcement of harmonized tariff schedule code flagging for the APHIS Core message set, as well as other PGAs initiating process and regulatory changes impacting trade.
 - Spearheading exploratory conversations to strengthen and advance the integration of CBP’s and PGAs’ Trusted Trader and trade compliance programs.
 - Providing input and expertise regarding International Single Window initiatives and partnerships to explore the automated government-to-government exchange of data and interoperability of trade data systems.

- Virtual “Disclaim Workshop” on July 1, 2020, with participation from Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the National Highway Traffic Safety Association (NHTSA). The objectives of this workshop were to resolve confusion that persists among the trade community regarding the use of disclaim codes for goods subject to PGA regulation, refining PGA guidance on the use of disclaim codes and import requirements for PGA regulated commodities, and to increase trade compliance with federal import regulations.
- Collaborating with the BIEC agencies to better align trade industry priorities and practices with PGA priorities and practices.

Next Steps:

- To date, the 1USG WG has met twenty-five times.
 - The 1USG WG has held its 6th virtual PGA Trusted Trader Workshop on February 23, 2022, to discuss possible development of a PGA Trusted Trader program. Follow up discussions are being held with PGAs to chart a path forward for the creation of integrated, interagency Trusted Trader initiatives and/or reciprocity with Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT)
 - The GBI project team will continue to provide updates to the 1USG WG on upcoming GBI development and will reach out to the WG for additional feedback as needed.
 - Collaboration with industry and PGAs to develop a trade-facing “Disclaim Authorities Handbook” to clarify the use of declaration disclaim codes for shipments of PGA-regulated commodities, to be published to CBP.gov.