

Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee Rapid Response Subcommittee

December 2023

The logo for the Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC) features the letters 'COAC' in a large, bold, serif font. The 'C' and 'A' are blue, while the 'O' and 'C' are red. Below the letters is a horizontal line consisting of a blue top bar and a red bottom bar.

COMMERCIAL CUSTOMS OPERATIONS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC)
December 2023**

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

Co-Chairs

Brian Barber - Willson International, Inc.

Julie Pojar - Kohler Co.

Rapid Response Subcommittee Members

Angela Cook, David Corn, John Drake, Jose D. Gonzalez, Tom Gould, Kerry Novak, Stephen Simmons, Jodi Swentik, John Van Wallaghen, Erika Vidal-Faulkenberry, Brian White, and Kathy Wilkins.

Background

The following working groups make up the Rapid Response Subcommittee:

- 1) Broker Modernization Working Group, co-chaired by Brian Barber and John Van Wallaghen
- 2) U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Working Group, co-chaired by Kerry Novak and Kathy Wilkins

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.

The Rapid Response Subcommittee met twice since the June 2023 public meeting. This past quarter, the Rapid Response Subcommittee received updates from the CBP co-chairs regarding the progress and next steps for the Broker Modernization Working Group and the U.S. – Mexico – Canada Agreement (USMCA) 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 Rewrite Working Group and formed the Broker Modernization Working Group (BMWG).

This group met four times this quarter. The BMWG continued discussing certain aspects of the final rule relating to the Modernization of the Customs Brokers Regulations and offered input to CBP. The Continuing Education rule for Licensed Customs Brokers has officially been published allowing the team to discuss thoughts specific to implementation. CBP met with the private sector to accept proposals for continuing education content and expects to publish an RFI

shortly. Additionally, the group focused significant attention on discussing results from the October customs broker examination and how to continue improving the experience for future examinees.

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

The USMCA Working Group completed the in-depth review of Chapter 7, the Customs Administration and Trade Facilitation provisions of the US - Mexico - Canada Agreement (USMCA). The US-Mexico CEO Dialogue team remained engaged with members representing both Mexico and Canada, and the working group discussions on each Article contained within. The working group expects to have two recommendations for the December 13, 2023, Public Meeting. The working group expects to begin wrapping up the focused review of Chapter 7 provisions of the USMCA and provide focused feedback and a final report of the key areas of impact to industry.

Conclusion

The Rapid Response Subcommittee will continue to work closely with CBP on all issues related to Customs Brokers and USMCA as appropriate.