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### SINGLE WINDOW ISSUE PAPER

#### OVERVIEW:

- Executive Order (EO) 13659 requires the implementation of the International Trade Data System (ITDS) Single Window by the end of December 2016.
- ITDS is being implemented through the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), the advanced trade processing system being built by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) via its component agency, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).
- The Border Interagency Executive Council (BIEC), has been established to develop policies and processes to enhance coordination across U.S. Government agencies to improve supply chain processes and improve identification of illicit shipments.
- To support implementation of the EO, DHS has established three deadlines by which the trade community must file transactions in ACE:
  - May 1, 2015: Mandatory use of ACE for all electronic manifest filing.
  - November 1, 2015: Mandatory use of ACE for all electronic cargo release and related entry summary filings
  - October 1, 2016: Mandatory use of ACE for all remaining electronic portions of the CBP cargo process.

#### BACKGROUND

- Executive Order (EO) 13659: *Streamlining the Export/Import Process for America's Businesses* established a December 2016 deadline for completion of the International Trade Data System (ITDS), the United States' version of a national "Single Window." The new capabilities to be delivered through this effort will simplify and speed-up cross-border commerce while reducing the costs of importing and exporting goods. In addition, the EO challenged the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and other agencies to find ways to better orchestrate operational processes at the border, streamline data needs, and take other concrete steps to achieve measurable improvements in trade facilitation and enforcement. Some specific examples of these improvements that the Border Interagency Executive Council (BIEC) is working to implement are new unified messaging capabilities from the government to filers regarding the status of a shipment, enhanced coordination of risk-management activities across agencies to speed review and decision-making processes, and improved alignment with global best practices and standards to enable future interoperability with other national Single Window systems.

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### Mandatory Dates - Status

- All capabilities needed to support the November 1, 2015 date was deployed July 11, 2015 and will be available for trade use August 19, 2015, CBP has been encouraging filers to begin preparing since early 2014.
- To provide the support and assistance that the Trade needs in order to be prepared for the upcoming mandatory dates, CBP has supplied the following:
  - CBP posted Implementation Guides (IGs) on May 12, 2015.
    - NMFS Implementation Guide version 6/15/15 was published to CBP.gov on June 15th
    - FDA Implementation Guide version 2.2 was published to CBP.gov on June 10th
    - TTB Implementation Guide version 6.0 was published to CBP.gov on June 10th
    - Access to all Implementation Guides on CBP.gov at [cbp.gov/trade/ace/catair](http://cbp.gov/trade/ace/catair)
  - CBP posted the first version of the ACE Cargo Release Business Process Rules Document on May 15, 2015.
    - CBP posted an updated version of this document on June 22, 2015.
  - CBP/PGA training webinars to ensure field readiness in preparation for upcoming pilots are extensive and occurring.
  - CBP is encouraging certification testing by software vendors for the Trade. PGA functionality was made available in the certification testing environment on May 20, 2015.

### Status of Work with Partner Government Agencies (PGAs)

- CBP is actively working with all PGAs to integrate them with these capabilities.
  - CBP is deploying 14 PGA Single Agency Pilots on August 19, 2015, with aggressive expansion phases in August and September to both validate the PGA capabilities and prepare CBP and PGA field resources.
  - These pilots will initially be deployed in the first pilot phase at 12 ports of entry.<sup>1</sup>
  - Complete PGA Single Pilot Schedule available at:  
[http://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/PGAs\\_Pilot\\_schedule%204-3-15%20v2.pdf](http://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/PGAs_Pilot_schedule%204-3-15%20v2.pdf)
  - Three (3) Cross-Agency Pilots are tentatively scheduled to start in mid-September 2015
    - Medical Devices Pilot
      - Participating USG agencies: CBP and FDA
      - Commodities: Medical Devices
    - On-Road Motorcycle Pilot
      - Participating USG agencies: CBP, EPA, NHTSA
      - Commodities: On-road Motorcycles
    - Electronics Pilot
      - Participating USG agencies: CBP, FCC, FDA and CPSC

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<sup>1</sup> The 12 Ports of Entry (POEs) at which the 14 Single Agency Pilots will initially operate are Baltimore, Philadelphia, Louisville, Chicago, Detroit, Port Huron, Laredo, Los Angeles, Long Beach, JFK, Newark, and Otay Mesa.

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- Commodities: computer hardware for home, business and automobiles, cell phones and various electronic devices

### Status of Trade Onboarding

- CBP is working with Trade to assist with and help to insure readiness to file in ACE by November 1, 2015, but recognizes that there is a lot of work ahead to reach the mandatory deadlines.
  - At the end of January 2015, CBP completed publication on the ACE website of the system implementation guides for ACE functionality (other than PGA) mandated for use on November 1, 2015.
  - CBP has been conducting extensive outreach to ensure that the trade community is aware of and ready for the transition to ACE on November 1, 2015
    - Monthly calls with the trade community;
    - An extensive series of ACE and Single Window specific webinars
      - FDA webinar on Single Window occurred on March 24, 2015
    - Site visits to every CBP field office to discuss with local trade communities;
    - Trade Support Network (TSN) conference planned for September 2015
    - Software Developer Conference planned for September 2015
  - CBP is actively contacting each of the top 200 filers to assist them with transitioning to ACE. Port personnel are also reaching out to their smaller, local filers, who may not be engaged in large trade organizations, to ensure their knowledge of and readiness for mandatory use of ACE.
  - BIEC EEC Outreach
    - CBP looks to expand this outreach to address critical risk factors, including Partner Government Agency readiness and Trade readiness. As such, CBP has proposed a summer “port tour” of 20 top ports. The purpose of this outreach will be to further drive home readiness in advance of the upcoming November 2015 and December 2016 milestones.
      - Port visits determined by where the major imports that are regulated by the PGAs enter the United States
      - Broker Associations will host the events
      - Most events will be held locally, supported by ACE Ambassadors and local PGA personnel for questions about local port operations
      - Headquarters (HQ) experts will give the main presentation via webcast and will answer technical questions
      - Port visits at Los Angeles, Long Beach, Miami, NY, Detroit, and Laredo will have PGA presence in person
      - First port visit was in Tacoma, WA on May 28, 2015 with additional port visits planned for July 2015