FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S) FOR
THE C-TPAT STATUS VERIFICATION INTERFACE (SVI)

QUESTION What is the Status Verification Interface (SVI)?

ANSWER - The term "Status Verification Interface"(SVI) refers to a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Internet based user interface. The SVI is the point of electronic access to verify the C-TPAT status of another Status Verification Interface Participant (SVIP). The SVI allows consenting certified C-TPAT partners to verify the participation status of other consenting certified C-TPAT partners. Each party must have consented to the release of their company name within the C-TPAT membership. This is accomplished by properly executing the C-TPAT "Consent to Use Company Name" waiver to consent to the release your C-TPAT status to other consenting certified C-TPAT partners.

The C-TPAT SVI function is accessed via the C-TPAT Security Link Portal found on the CBP web site. Access is available in the C-TPAT Security Link Portal for C-TPAT Partners who meet the criteria to be Status Verification Interface Participants (SVIP).

QUESTION How do I access the Status Verification Interface?

ANSWER - Follow these instructions:

1. Access the C-TPAT Security Link Portal at https://ctpat.cbp.dhs.gov/. For information on the C-TPAT Security Link Portal, visit the www.cbp.gov C-TPAT web page:
    http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/import/commercial_enforcement/ctpat/
2. Go to the Status Verification section to Generate an SVI.
3. Read and accept the Consent to Use Company Name terms and conditions that appear on the introductory screen for the SVI. Active acceptance of the Agreement (*i.e.*, selecting the "I Accept" box) will be required to access the SVI.

QUESTION Who has access to the Status Verification Interface (SVI)?

ANSWER - In order to access the SVI, companies must meet the following criteria:
- The company must be an approved certified participant in the C-TPAT program; and
- Have accepted the "C-TPAT CONSENT TO USE COMPANY NAME" terms.

QUESTION Can I query multiple SVIP IDs simultaneously?

ANSWER - Yes. The SVI will now allow users to collect multiple SVIP IDs in the Status Verification Module of the **C-TPAT Security Link Portal**.
QUESTION What information will I receive when the SVIP ID is queried?

ANSWER - If the SVIP ID is valid, you will receive the following information:

1. Partner Name - The SVIP member/company name.
2. DBA "Doing Business As "- If the SVIP has a DBA it will be displayed.
3. Current C-TPAT Certification Status.
4. Business Type – The SVIP's C-TPAT certification category.

QUESTION Why can't CBP distribute a list of the C-TPAT partners?

ANSWER - C-TPAT is a unique partnership between CBP and the C-TPAT trade partner signatory. It is a voluntary program that is not regulated by law. For security and confidentiality purposes, CBP will not share any information regarding C-TPAT application or partnership status with anyone outside the company's authorized officials.

QUESTION Can I share my Status Verification Interface Participant ID (SVIP ID)?

ANSWER - Yes, the SVIP ID is yours to share with other C-TPAT partners so that they will be able to verify your membership status. It is the key to the verification of your status.