

CUSTOMS HAS REQUESTED WE ADVISE YOU OF THE FOLLOWING, IN THE INTEREST OF MINIMIZING SECURITY THREATS UNDER OUR CUSTOMS BROKERAGE C-TPAT PROGRAM. YOU SHOULD EXPLORE THE BENEFITS OF C-TPAT FOR YOUR INTERNATIONAL TRADE OPERATIONS.

Container Security - OCEAN

You should ask your carriers or consolidators to ensure that all contracted service providers have procedures in place to maintain container integrity. Container integrity must be maintained to protect against the introduction of unauthorized material and/or persons. At point of stuffing, procedures must be in place to properly seal and maintain the integrity of the shipping containers. A high security seal must be affixed to all loaded C-TPAT importer containers bound for the U.S. All seals must meet or exceed the current PAS ISO 17712 standards for high security seals.

Container Inspection

Procedures must be in place to verify the physical integrity of the container structure prior to stuffing, to include the reliability of the locking mechanisms of the doors. A seven-point inspection process is recommended for all containers:

- Front wall
- Left side
- Right side
- Ceiling/Roof
- Inside/Outside doors
- Outside/Undercarriage

Container Seals

Your carriers' and consolidators' written procedures must stipulate how seals are to be controlled and affixed to loaded containers. Their procedures must be in place for recognizing and reporting compromised seals and/or containers to U.S. Customs and Border Protection or the appropriate foreign authority. Only designated employees should distribute container seals for integrity purposes.

Container Storage

Your carriers' and consolidators' containers must be stored in a secure area to prevent unauthorized access and/or manipulation. Procedures must be in place for reporting and neutralizing unauthorized entry into containers or container storage areas.

Container Security - AIR

Your airlines' or air consolidators' cargo container integrity must be maintained to protect against the introduction of unauthorized material and/or persons. At point of stuffing, their procedures must be in place to verify cargo containers are properly secured.

Container Inspection

Airlines and air consolidators procedures must be in place to verify the physical integrity of the cargo containers prior to stuffing. An inspection process is recommended for all containers:

- Top
- Bottom
- Inside
- Outside
