



MEXICO MANUFACTURER AND PORT AUTHORITY PROGRAM

AT THE FOREFRONT OF US/MEXICO BORDER SECURITY TRENDS

In recent months, US Customs & Border Protection has increased its focus on companies with lax security practices who utilize the southern border. The result is significant delays and additional scrutiny of supply chains who do not participate in the C-TPAT program. Benefits of participation crucial to the southern border include simplified clearance procedures, fewer examinations, and access to the FAST lanes.

The US Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) was the first voluntary supply chain security program to be introduced by a national Customs authority in the wake of 9/11. Based on the success of this program, the World Customs Organization (WCO) published its SAFE Framework of Standards in 2005 to encourage its 174 member countries to develop similar programs.

The essence of these public-private partnerships is to provide tangible benefits to global traders who demonstrate compliance with recognized security standards and who undergo a validation process. Due to the historical relationship between Mexico and the US, manufacturers and port authorities based in Mexico supplying goods to customers in the US are eligible for C-TPAT status with US Customs & Border Protection.

With most major US importers already members of C-TPAT, another key benefit for Mexican manufacturers and port authorities is to avoid multiple security reviews by their US customers and thus maintain a com-

petitive edge in difficult economic environments.

REQUIREMENTS OF QUALIFICATION

Participation in the Mexican Manufacturer C-TPAT program entails the following aspects:

- 1.** Assessment of current processes against the program requirements
- 2.** Documentation of policies to show compliance
- 3.** Formal application to US Customs and Border Protection
- 4.** A formal validation (including a site visit) by Customs
- 5.** Ongoing internal training, reviews, and audits

By participating in C-TPAT, Mexican suppliers and port authorities have a unique opportunity to streamline their export operations while complying with the requirements placed upon them by their customers.



THE TTA ADVANTAGE

- ➔ Access to seasoned professionals who helped develop C-TPAT and were engaged since its earliest stages
- ➔ Extensive experience in conducting reviews of physical, business process, and documentation requirements and in preparing for US CBP site validation
- ➔ An integrated team able to operate equally well in Spanish and English, and familiar with both the Mexican manufacturing environment and the expectations of US CBP
- ➔ Development of a cost effective and compliant security program that incorporates your current operations and corporate culture





EFFICIENT COMPLIANCE AND SECURITY FOR YOUR GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN

TTA OFFERING

TTA specializes in achieving each of the program requirements and in facilitating qualification for C-TPAT status. We are uniquely qualified to advise clients regarding the intricacies of the C-TPAT program.

The team incorporates professionals who have worked closely with the

U.S. government and the trade community during the formation of the program in 2002 and have represented some of the earliest and largest companies to join the program.

We also utilize noted Mexican experts in supply-chain security who are versed in the local culture and language. As a result, we are well positioned to implement the C-TPAT

program while leveraging substantial knowledge of local operational realities and our in-depth knowledge of the Mexican supply chain environment.

In addition, TTA employs a team of seasoned trade professionals around the world with deep experience in the technical requirements of supply chain security programs.

OUR BEST ADVOCATES

Too often companies are advised to spend tremendous amounts of capital and human resources in order to comply with supply chain security programs.

The TTA team firmly believes that a properly designed program should be inexpensive to implement and may in fact result in operational efficiencies that save money and increase effectiveness.

Our clients agree:

I would like to thank you and the TTA team for your hard work, efforts and continued support, job well done. To date we have successfully completed Validation at ten of the twelve divisions in Mexico in 2009. CBP continues to be impressed with the depth and quality of the program, it has been a great success.

Jeff Gifford

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