



**NCBFAA**  
The National Customs Brokers & Forwarders Association of America, Inc.

*Conference Updates*

## WESCCON 2014

**DAY 1: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2014**

### Opening Breakfast featuring PCC's Counsel Peter Freidmann's Exciting 'View from Washington'

WESCCON 2014 opened with Breakfast keynote speaker Peter Friedmann discussing current issues affecting trade, the West Coast Port Meltdown and a topic on everyone's minds - Ebola. While he touched on all these points, his main focus was on the West Coast Port Meltdown, which he noted is getting worse--not better. As an example - a dispute once again shut down the Portland port's only container terminal for two days this week.

### What Does Single Window Mean in October 2014?

How will it affect both import and export transactions? What is the status of PGA participation? WESCCON 2014's first session, which was moderated by John Leitner from W.J. Bynes & Co., looked to answer all those questions and more. It included information and updates from CBP's Brenda Brockman-Smith and David Dolan.

Assistant Commissioner Smith discussed how CBP is playing a leadership role in this project, and motivating other government agencies to join the single window concept. After all, ultimately 47 agencies will be involved in it. COAC, Trade Support Network, Border Interagency Executive Council and ITDS Board of Directors are all important partners in the Single Window concept.



There are three items which enable Partnering Government Agencies (PGA) to participate in ACE:

- Partner government agency message set
- Interoperability Web Services
- Document Image System (DIS)

CBP, along with the NCBFAA and other Partnering Government Agencies, are working hard to ensure the single window implementation is as easy and seamless as possible.



## Customs Broker Permit and Bona Fides 111: PCC, NCBFAA and COAC Perspectives

Many questions have arisen regarding the impending national permit, such as what will a national permit mean for our industry? And do we already have one with RLF? How do we make sure responsible supervision and control are exercised under a new permit? Should Broker Management be re-aligned? Is a change to 111 necessary in light of the new CF5106 data elements? COAC member Jeff Coppersmith and recently named COAC co-chair Vincent Iacopella spoke about the work done by COAC on these subjects, while

NCBFAA Vice-President Amy Magnus discussed what is being done by the association. Heather Litman, an attorney from the Los Angeles office of Grunfeld, Desiderio, Lebowitz, Silver & Klestadt LLP spoke about the legal aspects of the proposed changes to these programs, while Troy Riley, Executive Director, Commercial Targeting & Enforcement, spoke about the work being done by Customs.

## Highlights of the Day



(Left Picture) Carlo De Atougia, VP of Operations from Western Overseas, Peter Freidmann, Lindsay Hart LLC & Vern Hill, Federal Maritime Commission (FMC), discussing OTI regulations, P3/G6 ocean carrier alliances and how they affect NVOCC's, forwarders, and attendees' businesses. (Right Picture) Dr Barry Naughton, Chair of Asian Business/Chinese International Affairs, UC-San Diego making a case for why the growth of Chinese economy is unsustainable. Labor cost is going up, so the type of industry in China needs to change.

## DAY 2: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2014



## Breakfast with Commissioner Kerlikowske

Saturday started with a keynote breakfast featuring CBP Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske. He spoke about the Ebola epidemic, praising his workforce for the work they are doing to keep it contained. He also spoke about ACE implementation, which continues to be a hot topic on everyone's mind.

## FDA & PGA's within ACE

The One USG at the Border: How will PGA's change in ACE and will ACE bring new release authority to PGA's? What will change for FDA? This panel spoke about who is monitoring and managing these processes and the integration. **Judy Haggin**, J.L. Haggin & Associates, **Geoff Powell**, NCBFAA President, **Maggie Smith-Ranney**, Coppersmith Logistics, and **Domenic Veneziano**, Director of the Division of Import Operations, FDA, shared 11 recommendations for the FDA Working Group presented to COAC for consideration and endorsement.



## eBonds for Imports

Are they coming? Are you prepared? Do you understand the messaging? These questions and more were answered during this session. The panel, which was comprised of **Eduardo Acosta**, RL Jones, **Dan Meylor**, Carmichael International, **Celeste Catano**, Kewill, **Dave Jordan**, Roanoke Trade, and **Lisa Gelsomino**, Avalon Risk Management provide updates on the eBond program, including the scheduled implementation date for the Electronic Single Entry Bond -

January 3, 2015. This is another important step in ACE implementation, and the NEI will be holding a webinar on this topic early next month. Below are some important dates to keep in mind:

- January 3, 2015: eSTB required for all ACE entries and eContinuous bonds.
- November 1, 2015: Mandatory use of ACE for cargo release and entry summary
- October 1, 2016: Mandated use of ACE for all remaining portions of CBP cargo processing

## Highlights of the Day



(Left Picture) Congratulations to Maurine Cecil from Western Overseas who won the NCBFAA certificate raffle at WESCCON! She is pictured here with NEI Executive Director Kiko Zuniga and NCBFAA President Geoff Powell. (Right Picture) NEI Executive Director and NCBFAA President Geoff Powell pose with the Renata Rios, winner of the NEI raffle at WESCCON. Renata won a \$500 credit for the CCS/CES course!



During his lunch speech, keynote speaker Gene Seroka, Executive Director of the Port of Los Angeles, discussed port congestion issues. The NEI would like to congratulate the Pacific Coast Council on another very successful conference! As always, WESCCON was both enjoyable and informative, and we were excited to be a part of it. We would also like to commend all of our CCS/CES designees who attended and earned credit towards their annual requirement! We hope to see you at this event next year.