

CEEs: It's 2014 – Do you know where your entries are being reviewed?

MANAGING WORK IN THE CEEs, THE PORTS AND THE CUSTOMS BROKER'S OFFICE

Agenda

- Introductions: Mark Shacklette
- CBP: Todd Hoffman and Anne Maricich
- Broker Responsibilities: Karen Damon and Joe Trulik
- Q&A

CBP

- Todd Hoffman
- Anne Maricich

Centers of Excellence & Expertise

Update and Next Steps

Todd Hoffman

Acting Executive Director
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NCBFAA Annual Conference
April 9, 2014



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

Goals of the Centers

- Segment risk
- Industry knowledge and bi-directional education
- Focus and enhance enforcement

Benefits

- Centralized processing of post-release documentation
- Consistency and predictability
- Tailored support by managed account



Status and Next Steps

- 3 Centers will be assuming trade processing for all transactions associated with their respective industries:
 - Electronics
 - Pharmaceuticals, Health & Chemicals
 - Petroleum, Natural Gas & Minerals
- Internal Order to transfer certain trade functions and authority
- Temporary transition phase until changes to regulations
- Transition will last 12 – 18 months



Centers of Excellence & Expertise

Entry Processing

Anne Maricich

Assistant Director - Trade
Los Angeles Field Office
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U.S. Customs & Border Protection

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**U.S. Customs and
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Center Growth in Comparison

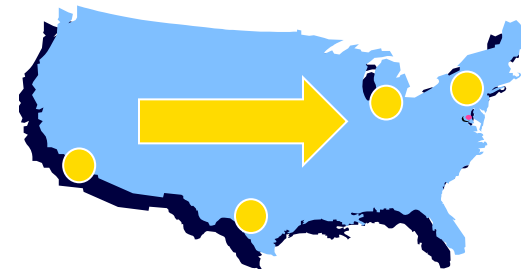
Growth by Volunteer

- Agriculture & Prepared Products
- Apparel, Footwear & Textiles
- Automotive & Aerospace
- Base Metals
- Consumer Products and Mass Merchandising
- Industrial & Manufacturing Materials
- Machinery



Growth by Field Office

- Electronics
- Petroleum, Natural Gas & Minerals
- Pharmaceuticals, Health & Chemicals



Entry Routing

- File 7501 via ACS or ACE
- When “Documents Required” message:
- Check the team number

0

#

7

Signifies CEE

Internal #

Identifies CEE

- If CEE team, stop print and submit documents via DIS, ACE portal, or industry CEE email
- If not, submit paper documents to port

- 1 Pharmaceuticals
- 2 Agriculture
- 3 Automotive
- 4 Apparel
- 5 Base Metals
- 6 Petroleum
- 7 Electronics
- 8 Consumer Products
- 9 Industrial Manufacturing
- 0 Machinery



Center Organizational Structure

- Partnership Division - contains multidiscipline teams that process the work of partner accounts and CEE volunteers. Teams are aligned by accounts.
- Validation and Compliance Division - includes multiple import specialist teams broken out by tariff assignments and separate entry teams to handle all other importers within the industry.
- Enforcement Division – multidiscipline teams that handle all enforcement issues for the industry (i.e. trademark, patent, health and safety, ADCVD)



CEE Entry Processing – Comparison of Accounts versus Transaction

Account Based

- For partner accounts and CEE volunteers
- Roll up IR numbers under one account
- Process all lines by one CEE regardless of HTS #
- All automated entry types processed by CEE
- Protests and inquiries should go to the CEE

Transaction by Transaction

- Tariff break out by scope of industry
- Control team = prominent HTS line on entry
- CBP will internally route other lines for review to appropriate team
- Protests can be submitted to control team
- Inquiries should go to supervisor of control team



CEE Processing in the Future

- Current Process
 - Centers accept volunteers and process work via account
 - Ports process all remaining entries via transaction
 - Contact with CBP via CEEs or Port Representatives
- 6 Months in Future
 - 3 Centers expand capacity
 - Increase in uniformity and transparency
 - Industry specific resource for small to medium sized importers
- 12 – 18 Months in Future
 - Remaining Centers plan to expand to 100% capacity
 - Entries filed via ACE – entry routing not an issue
 - Requests for documents only when needed
 - Contact with CBP via CEEs – at port locations



Information on the Centers

- CEE page on CBP.gov – contact info, basic information
 - <http://www.cbp.gov/trade/centers-excellence-and-expertise-information>
- CEE Trade Process Document – importers and brokers should review
 - <http://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Updated%20CEE%20Trade%20Process%20Document%20032814.pdf>
- Apply to Participate
 - <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-08-28/pdf/2012-21217.pdf>



Broker Responsibilities

- Karen Damon
- Joe Trulik

PREPARE: Identification of accounts assigned to Centers/CEEs

- Notification to broker by participating account
- Identification of participating account by assigned CST Team
- Expansion of Center team designation (CST Codes) CSMS# 14-000033
- Changes to HTS number assignments (FRN March 10th)
- Expansion of the CEEs (March announcement at Trade Symposium):
 - Pharmaceutical CEE
 - Electronics CEE
 - Petroleum CEE

ENGAGE with CEE-assigned accounts and the Centers/CEEs

- Develop a good plan for two-way communication
 - Issues CBP may raise: requests for entry information, trends for a particular CEE account, Post Entry questions/concerns
- Document submission: DIS, email
 - Create internal automation tools
 - Work with your internal IT groups or your software provider
 - Exercise caution over documents supplied
- Communication standards with CBP pursued by working group:
 - Email communication proposal: i.e. XXXCEE003@Broker.com
 - ACE Portal proposal: Add a section for Broker contacts for the CEEs
 - Request for CEEs to publish contact lists
- Develop internal management systems and processes

REFINE and IMPROVE process with customers and Centers/CEEs

- The “Trade Process Document” (formerly the “Test Guidelines”) will see frequent revisions so brokers must closely monitor
- Identify filer responsibilities and understand exceptions to centralization
- Close engagement with your CEE-assigned customers is important:
 - Initiate discussions with importer regarding understanding of the CEE concept
 - Ask to be included in conference calls held with CEEs
 - Offer advice and guidance based on experiences with other customers
- Outreach to participant prospects
- Create internal automation tools
- Close engagement with Centers to develop the relationships previously held with the local ports
- Continue to watch for changes (as seen with the March Symposium announcement)
 - Changes could come faster than anticipated

CONTINUE TO IMPROVE THE PROCESS

- Broker: encourage importers to apply to a CEE
- Work toward CEE uniformity with CBP and through local associations and NCBFAA
- Engage your NCBFAA Broker Working Group (BWG)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS