



CBSA Today: Commercial News for Stakeholders

Issue No. 1, Summer 2011



Welcome to the inaugural issue of *CBSA Today: Commercial News for Stakeholders*! Its purpose is to provide you, between the meetings of the Border Commercial Consultative Committee (BCCC), with updates on the commercial programs and

services of the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and its stakeholders.

In this first issue, you will find important news on CBSA commercial programs such as eManifest, Partners in Protection, and importer and exporter programs. For future issues, we encourage you to submit ideas for articles since this newsletter is intended to keep you informed on the CBSA commercial programs which most concern you. Please e-mail your suggestions to the BCCC Secretariat at BCCC-CCACF@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca.

Thank you.

Cathy Munroe, Chair
Border Commercial Consultative Committee

eManifest – Preparing highway carriers

Highway carriers are the first client group to participate in the CBSA's [eManifest](#) program. A key way the CBSA is informing carriers, in particular

small- to medium-sized businesses, about eManifest requirements is by offering online presentations.



A [highway carrier presentation](#) providing information about eManifest border processes is available for viewing on the [CBSA Web site](#) as a Cisco WebEx audio-visual presentation and a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation. Highway carriers can also [register](#) for a live Webinar presentation by following the instructions in the [eManifest section](#) of the CBSA Web site.

In addition, the [eManifest Portal](#) will be available to all highway carriers to transmit their pre-arrival information to the CBSA through the Internet. Carrier companies planning to use the Portal should apply now for the [Shared Secret](#) needed to

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register for the eManifest Portal the first time. The CBSA will issue the Shared Secrets once the Portal becomes available. Please consult the [eManifest section](#) of the CBSA Web site regularly for updates or subscribe to the [eManifest RSS news feed](#).

Partners in Protection – Harmonizing border and trade chain security



[Partners in Protection \(PIP\)](#) is a CBSA program that enlists the cooperation of private industry to enhance border and trade chain security, combat organized crime and terrorism and help detect and prevent contraband smuggling. Canada and the United States (U.S.) have agreed to harmonize the CBSA's PIP program and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) programs. The objective is to streamline processes, where possible and desirable, and to align the programs for the benefit of program applicants, members, and both organizations.

Canada and the United States are taking a phased-in approach to implementation. The first phase began in January 2011 to test the common application process and identify risks and best practices. This phase has since been completed, and the programs are in the process of welcoming the first four harmonized members. The second phase, the harmonization of highway carriers, is scheduled to begin in fall 2011. Under Phase II, applicants will be able to apply to both the PIP and C-TPAT programs using a single application and have a single site validation performed on their operations rather than one performed by each program. Look for more information on Phase II of the implementation of PIP in the next issue!

Import Programs – Securing cargo movement in Canada

The CBSA has made three major [import program](#) changes to secure the movement of cargo in Canada.

The changes are focused on the [harmonized system \(HS\) codes](#) at the time of release; [electronic data interchange \(EDI\)](#); and elimination of the Post Audit Carrier Program.

The mandatory HS Code policy change is to increase the requirements of five HS Codes to all HS Codes at the time of release. The requirements are being phased in with a temporary safety valve until eManifest is fully implemented. Safety valve guidelines will be communicated in the near future. For more information, see [Customs Notice 11-005](#).

The mandatory EDI policy change is to require importers to transmit release requests electronically from 100 lines to all lines within system capacity for the phased-in date of 2012. For more information, see [Customs Notice 11-004](#).

The Post Audit Carrier Program will be eliminated effective July 31, 2014. Following that date, the post audit carrier privileges will only be available under the [Customs Self Assessment carrier program](#). For more information, see [Customs Notice 11-008](#).

Export Programs – Enhancing export reporting

The CBSA is reviewing one of its four [export reporting](#) methods – Summary Reporting – which enables approved exporters to report their export data on a monthly basis to Statistics Canada, after the goods have left Canada. The review includes a reassessment of all participants' eligibility in the Summary Reporting Program (SRP) based on the existing Bulk or Homogenous criteria.

In preparation for the reassessment, the CBSA is developing an electronic, fillable SRP application form, which will be shared with industry early this fall in the consultative phase of the review. Exporters who wish to apply to the CBSA for approval to report their exports on a monthly basis will need to complete the form. In addition, existing participants will need to complete a [new](#) application to enable the CBSA to determine whether they continue to meet the requirements of the program. Once approved, the SRP application will be

available in the [Forms section](#) of the CBSA Web site.

Courier Low-Value Shipment Program – Providing secure expedited service



As announced at the June 7 and 8, 2011, BCCC meeting and in the June 22, 2011 Moratorium Update, the CBSA will be introducing three additional eligibility requirements for participation in the [Courier Low-Value Shipment \(LVS\) Program](#). In addition to the existing requirement for participants to be bonded carriers, companies must:

- be approved as [PIP](#) bonded carriers or couriers;
- allow the CBSA to use their proprietary systems for reporting, release and risk assessment purposes; and
- transmit pre-arrival cargo data to the CBSA as companies already do for high-value shipments. (This requirement will come into force at a later date.)

The new eligibility requirements will ensure that the Courier LVS Program is harmonized with other CBSA import streams and World Customs Organization international standards, continues to provide an expedited service within a secure environment, and operates within the CBSA mandate by providing a proper balance between facilitation and security.

The deadline for participants to indicate their intention to withdraw or remain in the Courier LVS Program has been extended to **October 15, 2011**.

Participants should e-mail Wendy Guard, Manager, Courier LVS Program, at Wendy.Guard@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca or Vincent Millar, Senior Program Advisor, Courier LVS Program, at Vincent.Millar@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca.

CBSA Assessment and Revenue Management – Improving service delivery

The CBSA Assessment and Revenue Management (CARM) initiative, a major Crown project with an eight- to nine-year timeline, was launched in 2010 to implement much-needed improvements to how the CBSA delivers services to its commercial clients, manages and reports its revenues, and modernizes the way the CBSA administers its trade programs.

The first BCCC Sub-Committee on CARM was held in May 2011 and focused on the Accounts Receivable Ledger (ARL) project, the first phase of CARM. Discussion topics included harmonizing payment dates, alignment of billing periods and accounting timeframes. The next CARM Sub-Committee meeting will be held on August 30 and 31, 2011. Key topics scheduled for discussion include ARL scenario walkthroughs, unique client identifiers and the future state of CARM.

You can look forward to a new CARM section on the CBSA Web site in fall 2011. In the interim, please e-mail questions to [CBSA-ASFC CARM-GCRA](#).

Your BCCC Secretariat

The BCCC Secretariat forms an integral part of the Agency's Stakeholder Engagement Unit, under the CBSA's Partnerships Division. The Unit manages the formal and informal relationships and activities with external stakeholders. The strategic advice and guidance provided by the team helps ensure that the CBSA is responsive to its trade and traveller stakeholders. If you have any questions on the CBSA's stakeholder engagement activities, please contact Susan Savriga, Manager, Stakeholder Engagement Unit, at 613-948-8569 or Susan.Savriga@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca.