



## CBSA Today: Commercial News for Stakeholders

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The Bi-national Commercial Town Hall in February 2012 was an opportunity to not only highlight how the initiatives of the Beyond the Border Action Plan will enhance the security and prosperity of Canada, but also to highlight how they align with the

other key priorities of the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA). In fact, some of the Action Plan initiatives have been long-standing commercial priorities for the Agency, and a key benefit of the Action Plan will be to accelerate our progress in implementing improvements to the Agency's commercial programs. As always, we remain focused on our goal to deliver high-quality client service excellence in border management.

The news in this issue includes updates on a number of improvements to our commercial programs, such as electronic reporting for exporters, modernization of cargo control and sufferance warehouse programs and the introduction of a new service standard.

To enable us to give you the information you want, we encourage you to submit ideas for newsletter articles. Please e-mail your suggestions to the BCCC Secretariat at [BCCC-CCACF@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:BCCC-CCACF@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca).

Cathy Munroe, Chair  
Border Commercial Consultative Committee

### What's Inside

- *Electronic Reporting for Exporters*
- *Summary Reporting Program Review*
- *Cargo Control and Sufferance Warehouse Modernization*
- *New Fumigant Service Standard*
- *Radiation Detection Program*
- *Customs-related Trade Facilitation*
- *CBSA Assessment and Revenue Management*

### Electronic Reporting – Saving exporters time and money

The CBSA is making a major change in how exporters declare their exports. This is being undertaken to align the exporting program with the overall direction of the CBSA towards electronic transactions and to meet the commitment made to external stakeholders.

As of April 1, 2012, the CBSA began to phase out the manual reporting paper B13A form for exporters, and is revising the *Reporting of Exported Goods Regulations* to reflect the change. A transitional period will be in effect until the regulations are revised, which is expected by December 2014.





Mandatory electronic reporting will benefit exporters and the exporting community in general by reducing the risk of administrative monetary penalties being issued for incomplete information on the manual form. Service providers should see cost savings in time and money when electronic export reporting is fully implemented, as the existing requirement to stamp manual forms at a CBSA office will no longer apply.

Two options are available to report electronically: the Canadian Automated Export Declaration (CAED); and the G7 Export Reporting Electronic Data Interchange (G7-EDI). The CAED software is downloadable and available free of charge on the Statistics Canada website at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/exp/index-eng.htm>. The G7-EDI option provides a direct link to the CBSA's [ACROSS system](#) and requires a greater investment. Please go to <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/eservices/menu-eng.html> for more information.

Exporters not yet registered for an alternate electronic reporting method are urged to do so as soon as possible. Please contact the CAED/G7 helpline at 1-800-257-2434 to register or if you need more information on how to report goods electronically using CAED or G7-EDI.

### Summary Reporting Program Review

As announced at the Border Commercial Consultative Committee (BCCC) meeting on June 7-8, 2011, and reported in the Summer 2011 issue of this newsletter, the CBSA is reviewing its [Summary Reporting Program](#) (SRP). The SRP is an export reporting method that allows authorized exporters of bulk or homogenous goods to submit a monthly summary of their exports after the goods have been exported.

The SRP Review was initiated in Fall 2011 and consisted of the reassessment of existing participants against current program regulations. The CBSA is pleased to announce that it is nearing the completion of this phase of the review and has, to date, re-approved 242 applicants to the SRP. Program participants will need to reapply in five years or update their file should their company information change.

The CBSA extends a special thanks to the exporting community for the overwhelming support it has received regarding the SRP review process.

### Launch of Cargo Control and Sufferance Warehouse Modernization (CCSWM)

The CBSA is modernizing its cargo control and sufferance warehouse programs to achieve greater efficiencies for both trade and the Agency. Modernization will ensure consistency in the application of the relevant policies, and establish better and smarter controls of unreleased cargo while supporting the CBSA's examination program.



Legislative and regulatory changes are required to address program issues and leverage other changes in the Commercial Program.

The inaugural meeting of the BCCC CCSWM Sub-Committee took place on March 20, 2012, and a subsequent meeting was held with the Canadian Highway Sufferance Warehouse Association on April 5, 2012.

The key benefits of a modernized process will be:

- a simplified and more modern cargo control regime;
- a more efficient and effective business flow;
- simplified warehouse types;
- cost savings for industry; and
- a reduced environmental footprint for industry and the CBSA.

Over the next six to 12 months, the CBSA will:

- submit legislative and regulatory changes that affect modernization;
- contact sufferance warehouse owners/operators to advise them of program changes;
- solicit input from industry to determine the best course of action;
- seek advice from internal stakeholders; and
- consult with other government departments.

Please forward any questions to Sharon Crawford, Manager, Cargo Control and Sufferance Warehouse Modernization Unit, at tel: 613-954-6884 or [Sharon.Crawford@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:Sharon.Crawford@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca).

### **New Fumigant Service Standard – Minimizing examination delays**

In line with recommendations made by the Office of the Auditor General, the CBSA is developing new service standards which will further support and monitor its programs while providing enhanced border operations. As of April 2012, the CBSA announced the completion of a new service standard to be implemented at all CBSA marine container examination facilities with respect to the processing of fumigated containers. This service standard has been defined as follows:

*When the presence of fumigants is identified within a marine container, the CBSA strives to ensure the container is not delayed for longer than three days in the ventilation process. This three-day period does not include weekends, statutory holidays, or containers which pose an extreme danger to health.*

The new Fumigant Service Standard will minimize delays under the CBSA's Marine Container Examination Program, which will help reduce the associated costs to CBSA stakeholders while help ensuring the economic competitiveness of Canada. The CBSA will continue to develop and implement other service standards to promote program efficiency and improve service delivery though program monitoring.

### **Radiation Detection Program – Enhancing global security**

Marine terminals are an integral part of the Canadian economy, where efficient and effective security activities can be put into place to protect Canada and its citizens.





Radiation detection equipment adds another layer of security at marine ports. The CBSA's radiation detection equipment contributes to the worldwide effort to address potential nuclear and radiological threats. Working with other countries, industry stakeholders and other government organizations, the CBSA is taking important steps to protect the well-being of the public while allowing Canada's economy to grow and prosper.

Radiation detection portals are strategically positioned at Canada's major marine ports. As shipping containers are unloaded from the vessel, they are scanned through radiation detection portals to identify elevated readings. Any shipping containers that generate an alarm undergo a risk assessment and further radiation examination to determine the cause and extent of the radiation.

Shortly after the natural disaster that occurred in Japan in 2011, the CBSA portals detected an influx of containers contaminated with radiation, originating from Japan. Upon investigation, the majority of the containers were deemed safe to be released in Canada. Shortly after, 19 containers of goods originating from Asian markets triggered higher than usual levels of Cobalt-60 radiation. Cobalt-60 is a man-made radioactive source used in industrial applications.

The CBSA works closely with the [Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission](#) and other law enforcement partners to prevent radioactive goods from entering Canada. The Agency has developed detailed procedures and identified service standards for the treatment of containers that trigger alarms for man-made radiation. The CBSA strives to work closely with industry partners to minimize the delays and address any outstanding issues. For more information on the CBSA's radiation detection equipment, please visit <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/security-securite/detect/rad-eng.html>.

### **Canada's Free Trade Agreements – Customs-related trade facilitation**

Recently, the Government of Canada engaged in exploratory discussions, joint studies and formal negotiations towards Free Trade or Economic

Partnerships Agreements with several diverse economies, including the European Union, India, Japan and Thailand. While the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT) leads these initiatives, the CBSA participates when necessary.

A key area of CBSA involvement is trade facilitation. This component deals primarily with customs and border procedures which are designed to reduce transaction costs while maintaining appropriate security measures. The provisions seek to maximize efficiency, transparency, cooperation and consultation between the parties.

The CBSA seeks to promote trade facilitative measures which enhance customs cooperation in areas, including:

- exchanging best practices;
- cooperating in international fora, such as the [World Customs Organization](#), to achieve mutually recognized goals;
- enforcing respective customs-related laws or regulations;
- harmonizing trade documents and standardizing data elements; and
- developing effective mechanisms for communicating with trade and business communities (e.g. the BCCC is held up as an example of how Canada engages its stakeholder community).

The CBSA also seeks to reduce trade barriers by adopting technologies to expedite the release of goods, advance rulings for tariff classification, and strong governance surrounding the right to review and appeal decisions made by customs authorities. Ultimately, by successfully concluding agreements with its international partners, the Government of Canada seeks to expand trade, open doors for Canadian exporters, encourage economic growth and create jobs.

### **Financial and Account Security Programs Review**

The [CBSA Assessment and Revenue Management](#) (CARM) Project will modernize the Agency's

revenue management programs, systems and processes, including the administration of financial security programs. As such, over the next several months the CARM Project team will be undertaking consultations with stakeholders as part of the review of these programs. You are encouraged to contact your BCCC CARM Sub-Committee representative for further information.

### **Your BCCC Secretariat**

The BCCC Secretariat forms an integral part of the Agency's stakeholder engagement activities, under the CBSA's Partnerships Division. If you have any questions, please e-mail the BCCC Secretariat at [BCCC-CCACF@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca](mailto:BCCC-CCACF@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca).