Single Window Initiative

Foundations for Coordinated Border Management

WCO Council Panel Discussion
June 2009

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Changing border management environment

- Exponential growth of importation and exportation of new commodities
- Increased responsibility to protect our citizens from threats to safety, security and health
- Increased requirements by many government departments and agencies
- Growing need to balance security and economic prosperity via facilitated processes to ensure the free flow of known or low risk goods
- Need for predictable, consistent data for risk management and facilitation, leading to greater efficiency and productivity for government and trade
- Shift to paperless environment (e.g. full Electronic Data Interchange Customs interface)
For more than 10 years, Canada has been committed to the development of a more efficient, effective and integrated approach to collecting and consolidating all Government of Canada advance commercial information required on all imported goods.

- The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) will be the single entry point for the electronic submission of all Other Government Department (OGD) import requirements.
- Goal is to eliminate paper-based reporting and offer 7/24 service for electronic OGD release requests.

Single Window:
- Maintains consistency with the WCO Data Model and international standards.
- Benefits government and the trade community.
Our incremental approach started in 1997 with five departments

- Canadian Food Inspection Agency
- Foreign Affairs & International Trade Canada
- Natural Resources Canada
- Statistics Canada
- Transport Canada

In 2006, this grew to 10 departments representing 43 government programs
In 2008, the CBSA and its Single Window partners co-developed a Single Window Framework: E-Commerce Solutions and Partnerships to Facilitate Secure Trade:

- Collaborative vision of CBSA and its OGD partners
- Confirmed CBSA as the lead
- Describes long-term goals of Canadian border management in an electronic commerce world
- Provides a communication tool for OGDs to engage the trade community in business transformation
- Posted on WCO website
  - http://www.wcoomd.org/sw_overview.htm
  - http://www.wcoomd.org/fr/swfr_overviewfr.htm

- Provides strategic foundation to complete the Single Window vision
Supporting Efforts

- Needs assessment helped map out current and future state requirements, and readiness to implement
  - OGD business needs are not satisfied by CBSA information currently collected
  - Harmonised System (HS) code alone is insufficient for most OGDs to identify regulated goods
  - OGDs are at varying levels of “information” sophistication, technical capability and legislative readiness
  - Implementation must be phased to reflect OGD readiness

- Legislative and regulatory review
  - Ensures OGD laws and regulations permit electronic data collection and sharing
Features of Single Window Consistent with the WCO SAFE Framework

Advance Electronic Information
- The CBSA will receive all commercial data electronically in advance and make it available to OGDs for risk assessment and admissibility recommendations

Intelligent Risk Assessment
- The CBSA and OGDs will quantify risk through electronic assessment of advance electronic information

Pre-approval programs
- CBSA will encourage the expansion of programs supporting identification of low risk, legitimate trade chain participants and commodities before goods arrive at the border

Harmonized processes
- CBSA will continue to support the international harmonization of data and border processes within the WCO framework
Next Steps

- **Finalise legislative review**
  - Determine who will need legislative amendments to proceed and how long it will take

- **Confirm OGD needs assessment findings**
  - Data requirements, business process and technology needs
  - Schedule information technology build, testing and roll out
  - Continue phased implementation
Lessons Learned

- Program needs must drive Single Window development, not technology
- Take time to define requirements
  - Needs Assessments of OGDs:
    - Current Situation
    - Future State
    - Readiness to proceed
- Establish a strong governance structure and senior level commitment
  - Critical to issue resolution
  - Comprehensive approach to funding
- Ensure policy foundation in place
  - Legislative and regulatory review
- Obtain stakeholder buy-in
  - As early as possible
  - Meaningful, strong support from all parties is required
  - OGDs, trade, international institutions, etc.