Customs in the 21st Century
New generation

› INTERVIEW
100% scanning

› COUNCIL SESSIONS
New orientation

› ENFORCEMENT
Operation Drug Stop
because trucks and containers can be guided weapons

Containers and trucks can carry weapons, explosives, drugs and people. Yet less than 1% of them are inspected as they travel between countries.

Heimann CargoVision X-ray inspection systems by Smiths Detection are built to help Customs, Security Organizations and Border Authorities fight against terrorism and contraband.

With over 50 years’ experience, and more than 190 Heimann CargoVision units in use worldwide, Smiths Detection offers the ideal solutions to all of these challenges.

Stationary, relocatable and mobile systems designed by Smiths Detection are highly efficient, cost-effective and perfectly adaptable to all security environments. They will guarantee you fast and efficient inspections without disruption the traffic flows.

Smiths Detection has the most comprehensive range of detection technologies in the world today.

Thanks to our flexible approach, we adapt our systems to your specific needs and present the best possible solution to your requirements.

36 rue Charles Heller
94405 Vitry sur Seine Cedex. France
Tel: 0033 1 55 53 55 55
Fax: 0033 1 55 53 55 35

www.smithsdetection.com
Calendar 2
Editorial 3
Flash Info 4
Special report 9
Our members world 26
Close up 35
• Paraguay Customs Administration

In conversation 36
• Interview with Frédéric Carluer, Professor at the University of Le Havre (CIRTAI) and Research Associate at the Normandy Business School, about the study on the global impact of the US 100% scanning legislation
• Interview with Michel Danet, WCO Secretary General

Point of View 42
• WCO SAFE Framework of Standards: BASC pilot project for small and medium sized enterprises, by Mayra Hernández de Cavalier, Executive President of the World BASC Organization
• Jordan Golden List Programme, Customs/Private Sector Partnership

Events 48
• WCO Conference on the future of 100% scanning of maritime cargo containers prior to loading, Brussels (Belgium)
• PICARD Conference 2008, Shanghai, (China)
• 1st WCO/Interpol International Conference on illicit cash couriers, Lyon (France)
• Training course on WCO trade facilitation, Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic)
• International Conference on combating counterfeiting and piracy, Halkidiki (Greece)
• Operation « Vice Grips », anti-counterfeiting operation involving 6 principal ports in North and West Africa
• WCO Global Forum 2008 on the application of rules of origin, Brussels (Belgium)
• High Level Working Group on « Customs in the 21st Century », Durban (South Africa)

Acknowledgements: The Editorial Team wishes to express its sincere gratitude to all who contributed to this publication.

Pictures: Our sincere gratitude also goes to all who kindly provided photos, logos and drawings to illustrate this issue.
## Calendar of Events

It should be noted that these meetings are mentioned for information purposes and are not all open to the public. Training Workshops are devoted to Private sector. Unless otherwise indicated, all meetings are held in Brussels. **Please note that these dates are indicative only and may be subject to change.** This document is regularly updated on the WCO Members’ web site, under the “Information for delegates” section, and on the WCO public web site: www.wcoomd.org

### October 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>International Donor Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 10</td>
<td>Regional Seminar on Combating Counterfeit and Piracy, Kashiwa (Japan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 - 14</td>
<td>Private Sector Consultative Group Business Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 - 17</td>
<td>Data Model Project Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 - 15</td>
<td>Training Workshop on Harmonized System General Interpretative Rules (Private Sector)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - 16</td>
<td>SAFE Working Group (3rd Meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 - 17</td>
<td>Training Workshop on Harmonized System for High-Tech Products (Private Sector)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 - 24</td>
<td>Technical Committee on Customs Valuation (27th Session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Finance Committee (86th Session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 - 29</td>
<td>Working Group on Publications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 - 30</td>
<td>Training Workshop on Rules of Origin (Private Sector)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 - 31</td>
<td>SECURE Working Group (4th Meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 – 02/11</td>
<td>13th International Anti-Corruption Conference IACC, Athens (Greece)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date to be confirmed**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional Seminar on Combating Counterfeit and Piracy, Beirut (Lebanon)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### November 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 - 6</td>
<td>Administrative Committee for the Customs Convention on Containers, 1972 (11th Session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - 11</td>
<td>Revised Kyoto Convention Management Committee (5th Meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>WCO/ICAO/IATA API Working Group (3rd Meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 - 14</td>
<td>Permanent Technical Committee (183rd/184th Sessions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>WCO/UPU Contact Committee (29th Meeting), Berne (Switzerland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 - 28</td>
<td>Harmonized System Review Sub-Committee (38th Session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 - 25</td>
<td>Training Workshop on Customs Valuation &amp; Transfer Pricing (Private Sector)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 - 26</td>
<td>Regional Office for Capacity Building – ROCB (3rd Meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 - 27</td>
<td>Training Workshop on Rules of Origin (Private Sector)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 - 28</td>
<td>Integrity Sub-Committee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### December 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - 3</td>
<td>Global RILO Meeting (7th Meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - 5</td>
<td>CEN Management Team, CENMat (8th Meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Private Sector Consultative Groupe, Buenos Aires (Argentina)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 – 11</td>
<td>Policy Commission (60th Session), Buenos Aires (Argentina)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### January 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 - 15</td>
<td>Scientific Sub-Committee (24th Session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 - 20</td>
<td>Data Model Project Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 - 21</td>
<td>Working Group on Commercial Fraud (4th Meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>UCR Correspondence Group (4th Meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 - 23</td>
<td>Information Management Sub-Committee (56th Session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>International Customs Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 - 30</td>
<td>Technical Committee on Rules of Origin (27th session)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Events 2009 coming soon:**

- **4 - 5 February:** Training Workshop on WCO Data Model (Private Sector)
- **10 - 11 February:** Training Workshop on Harmonized System General Interpretative Rules (Private Sector)
- **12 - 13 February:** Training Workshop on Harmonized System for Chemical Products (Private Sector)
- **18 – 19 February:** EastWest Institute Worldwide Security Conference (6th Meeting)
- **22 - 24 April:** IT Conference and Exhibition, Marrakesh (Morocco)
Dear Reader,

The 2008 Council Sessions are now behind us, and they proved to be a key moment in the Organization’s history as a new Secretary General was elected. Kunio Mikuriya, the current Deputy Secretary General with whom you are very familiar, will take over when my term of office draws to a close on 31 December 2008. There have been a number of changes within the WCO’s working bodies, as the Chairperson of the Council, along with some other colleagues, has stepped aside to make way for the new Chairperson, Martyn Dunne, New Zealand’s Customs Comptroller. I also believe that a new generation of young Directors General will bring fresh ideas and approaches to the Organization. This issue’s Special Report focusing on the Council Sessions includes an introduction to these newcomers.

As I said in my previous editorial, we are facing a turning point for the WCO and the international Customs community. If we want globalisation to serve as a positive force for all, then countries must be able to rely on modern Customs services in order to meet society’s expectations. With that in mind, there is still much to be done.

Based on the assumption that Customs in the 21st Century must promote growth and development through trade facilitation and enhanced border security, new strategies must be devised to rise to these challenges, whilst innovative and forward-looking responses are required.

These new strategic approaches call for the establishment of an international Customs network; more highly co-ordinated activities by border services; risk management and assessment of risks based on intelligence and information sharing; a heightened Customs-Business partnership; modern working methods and techniques coupled with the use of effective tools and technologies, such as the CEN; an appropriate legal mechanism; a professional service culture; sustainable capacity building; greater awareness of environmental issues; and a high level of integrity to establish and lend credibility to this blueprint.

Customs must keep pace with the new international trade environment if it wishes to maintain its position and role. It has to be able to adapt to the requirements of a world in which rapid changes and developments are the order of the day.

Nothing can be achieved without everyone’s determination; your commitment is vital for our future success. You have shown me what was possible during the ten years I have spent in your company. I know that together with the new Secretary General you will pursue and further develop the work already done to strengthen the universal nature of the WCO in the interests of our Customs administrations.

I wish you all the best for the future. I feel extremely emotional about leaving the WCO, as the task with which you entrusted me has taken up every day, week, month and year of the past ten years. The time has just flown by. The work you have enabled me to do has been fascinating and has also changed me as a person, and I wish to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

May our administrations develop peacefully and work in the best interests of the citizens of our planet, which we are duty-bound to serve. We have our work cut out for us!

Michel Danet
Secretary General
The European Customs Union is celebrating its 40th anniversary – an opportunity to reflect on the role of Customs in society and how it is evolving. The “slogan” chosen for the anniversary takes up this idea, and is intended to give the general public a better understanding of Customs missions and reaffirm shared European values.

The European Customs Union, established on 1 July 1968, is the cornerstone of the European edifice. Its advent signaled the end of Customs duties between Member States and the introduction of a Common Customs Tariff which applies to the import of goods from outside the EU. Fifteen years later, the Single Market heralded the free circulation of goods, capital and persons, and the lifting of Customs barriers within the Member States.

In the framework of the French Presidency of the European Union, Eric WOERTH, France’s Minister for the Budget, Public Accounts and the Civil Service, presided over a ceremony celebrating this anniversary at Bercy (Ministry of Finance - Paris). The ceremony was attended by Mr. László KOVÁCS, European Commissioner for Taxation and Customs Union, the Directors General of Customs of the 27 Member States of the European Union, and of Turkey and Croatia, representatives of the European Commission and members of the French and European Parliaments.

The Declaration of Paris, on the future role and new challenges of European Customs, was officially adopted during the ceremony which took place on 4 July 2008. This Declaration (see below for link) sets shared, strategic objectives for EU Customs authorities, allowing them to meet the challenges of a constantly-changing economic environment. In an increasingly risk-intensive context, Customs’ inspection of goods must strike a balance between the safety of citizens and the facilitation of trade in support of the competitiveness of firms.

Mr. Eric WOERTH and Mr. László KOVÁCS inaugurated an exhibition in the Ministry’s “hall d’honneur”, which traces the history of Customs from 1968 to the present. The exhibition was opened to the public during the European Heritage Open Days.

For more information
www.douane.finances.gouv.fr
www.wcoomd.org
http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/40customs/customs_general_info/paris/index_fr.htm
Published
The WTO has published the World Trade 2008 Report: Trade in a Globalizing World. Trade and globalization have brought greater prosperity to hundreds of millions as well as greater stability among nations according to the report. It is devoted to an examination of the gains from international trade and the challenges arising from high levels of integration.

www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres08_e/pr534_e.htm

What’s new?
A New National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center opens in Northern Virginia (US) that will help maximize member agencies’ authorities and resources to counter the global threat of intellectual property rights violations opened in July 2008. The Center will host the restructured partnership of its components, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection, with the Department of Commerce, Health and Human Services’ Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Justice’s Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

IPRCenter@dhs.gov

For your diary!
On 26 January next, International Customs Day will be devoted to environmental protection, the flagship theme for 2009 for the international Customs community.

www.wcoomd.org

News
Study by Le Havre University: Global Logistic Chain Security: Economic Impacts of the US 100% Container Scanning Law. The study, commissioned by the WCO, was put together by Frédéric Carlier in collaboration with Yann Alix and Olivier Joly.

www.wcoomd.org

Welcome
On 4 July 2008 the WCO welcomed Bosnia and Herzegovina into the international Customs family. The WCO now has 174 Members*.

www.wcoomd.org

Appointments
Recent appointments of Directors General of Customs:
Mr. Gagik Khachatrian (Armenia); Mr. Hristo Koulichev (Bulgaria); Mr. Marino Vieira de Andrade Jr. (Cape Verde); Mr. Ahmed FARAG SEOUDE (Egypt); Mr. Hiroshi FUJIOKA (Japan); Mr. Ibro Salifou Dodo (Niger); Mr. Hamman Bello Ahmed (Nigeria); Mr. Carlos Vidal Rios (Paraguay); Major General Seif Eldin Omer Suliman (Sudan), Mr. Yailym Berdyev (Turkmenistan); Mr. Ardeshr Mohammadi (Islamic Republic of Iran).

Love it!
To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the European Customs Union, a Customs journal relating the development of Customs from 1968 to the current day has been published in comic book format. Five themes have been dealt with: Borders past and present; Customs officers on a mission; Resources past and present; Customs and Excise one profession, several areas of expertise; and the Customs and Excise Department of the future. These bilingual (French/English) comic books are clear, give the overall picture and are well-thought out; they are available on the French Customs website.

www.douane.gouv.fr/page.asp?id=331

Buy online!
The WCO has set up an online bookshop, so all our publications are just a click away. You can pay online or by bank transfer.

http://publications.wcoomd.org/index.php
publications@wcoomd.org

Accession
On 23 July 2008, Cape Verde became the 153rd Member of the WTO. It started negotiations for accession in 1999 and ratified all the official texts on 23 June 2008. In accordance with WTO rules a country becomes a Member 30 days after national ratification has taken place.

www.wto.org

News
Mauritius acceded to the Revised Kyoto Convention on 24 September 2008 and became the 59th Contracting Party to the Convention.

www.wcoomd.org

* European Communities are not a WCO Member but they have, as an interim measure, rights akin to those of a WCO Member for matters falling within their competence, pending the entry into force of the amendment to the CCC Convention.
The primary objective of Operation Athena was to share information between Customs administrations, to establish breaches of regulations in force regarding the requirement to declare assets upon entry to and exit from EU territory, to seize (in accordance with the legislation) ready cash that might be the proceeds of crime, and to flesh out the assessment of the threat by analysing the trends highlighted during the Operation.

Operation Athena, which targeted individuals entering and exiting the EU by air and land (including ferries), ran very smoothly and generated 65 Information and 250 seizure messages making it possible to identify new smuggling routes and methods. A number of investigations were expedited on the basis of the findings made during the Operation. The final results will be published in the CEN at a later date.

More information
www.wcoomd.org
pierre.bertrand@wcoomd.org
Global “Drug Stop” Operation

On 26 June, the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, all Directors General of Customs were invited to implement enhanced controls aimed at combating illicit trafficking in narcotics and chemical precursors.

The administrations participating in this Operation were given access to the WCO’s secure and encrypted communication system, the CENCOMM (specially adapted for this purpose), to permit secure input of data on seizures made as well as secure information sharing between Members.

60 countries took part in this Secretariat initiative, together with eight (8) Regional Intelligence and Liaison Offices (RILOs). Some hundred or so users connected up to the CENCOMM simultaneously to input data on seizures made and to share information over the course of 26 June.

A total of 118 seizures were reported by thirty or so countries, mainly involving the postal items and express courier sectors. Over 300 kilograms of drugs were seized by Customs services on 26 June; cocaine, cannabis (herbal and resin), opiates (heroin and opium), khat, ecstasy and amphetamine tablets as well as GBL (gamma-butyrolactone).

This Operation further demonstrated that the Customs community as a whole, which is responsible for 65% of drug seizures worldwide, is highly mobilized in the drug enforcement domain and has sized up the challenge by moving from an understanding of the threat to action in the field.

More information
www.wcoomd.org

Plus three!

In the past ten months, three countries have acceded to the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS). The number of Contracting Parties has increased from 131 to 134. The WCO welcomes the Syrian Arab Republic, Tanzania and Cape Verde.

More information
www.wcoomd.org
While on a trip to the Asia/Pacific Region in July 2008, Mr. Kunio Mikuriya paid a visit to the Minister of New Zealand Customs, Mrs. Nanaia Mahuta*, and to the Chief Executive of New Zealand Customs, Mr. Martyn Dunne, who was recently elected Chairperson of the WCO Council.

This meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the strategy the WCO has undertaken to implement based on clear objectives and to sketch out a programme of work for the transitional period up to 31 December 2008.

More information
www.wcoomd.org

* Mrs. Nanaia Mahuta is also the Minister of Youth Affairs, Minister of Local Government, Associate Minister for the Environment and Associate Minister of Tourism.
Customs in the 21st Century
New generation

The 111th/112th Council Sessions, held from 26 to 28 June 2008, represented a landmark for the international Customs community. Alongside the rich and wide-ranging discussions on topical themes and key issues, Directors General had the task of choosing, from among nine candidates (see WCO News Issue 56, June 2008), a new Secretary General who will take office on 1 January 2009, with current Secretary General Michel Danet completing his term on 31 December 2008.

In this Special Report the WCO News editorial team has done its best to capture, in words and pictures, the flavour of three action-packed days at the meeting.
The 111th/112th Council Sessions: discussions and decisions

These highly important, and historic Council sessions took place at WCO headquarters in Brussels from 26 to 28 June 2008. The main issues addressed related to policy matters, elections and appointments, and a variety of other topics.

Policy matters
The primary focus here was on the topics discussed at the Policy Commission’s 59th Session:

• Supply Chain Security and Facilitation
In the course of its deliberations, the SAFE Working Group has strongly endorsed the concept of risk management, with particular reference to its importance in the area of security. Several amendments to the SAFE document were adopted, namely a model Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) appeal procedure for businesses which have been refused AEO status or have had their AEO status suspended or revoked, the transfer of the data elements from the SAFE document to an Annex, and the introduction of four new data elements.

The Council formally approved the Joint Resolution of the Policy Commission (58th Session) and the Private Sector Consultative Group concerning the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards and the United States legal requirements for 100% container scanning at export.

A study on the United States 100% scanning legislation, carried out by the University of Le Havre (France) at the WCO’s request, was the subject of a presentation by Professor Carluer. The preparation of this study posed two challenges: firstly, collecting as much information as possible and staying in contact with the players in the scanning field, such as scanner manufacturers and users, and secondly, complying with the time limits set. This study, begun in October 2007 and completed within eight months, is the first of its kind. The problems associated with 100% scanning were described, and an analytical account of what was happening in the global trade environment was presented.

This study is a good starting-point for analysing operational environments strategically. While it does not actually describe the dynamics of world trade, it does emphasize the need for a strategic analysis of the current trade environment.

• Combating of counterfeit and pirated goods
In the light of the current status of the Provisional SECURE Standards document, the Council decided to refer it back to the SECURE Working Group for further action and development. The Policy Commission will receive a report on this in December 2008.

• Customs in the 21st Century
The paper on Customs in the 21st Century, entitled “Enhancing Growth and Development through Trade Facilitation and Border Security”, is the culmination of a long process which began in 2002. Various draft papers on the future of Customs have been drafted since then, but it the vision had to take account of the new developments that Customs must contend with. Therefore, in June 2007 the Council requested a concise, high-level paper on this subject.

This paper reflects the content of earlier drafts, as well as contributions in various forms from 19 Members and ideas drawn from several studies. The paper identifies ten strategic building blocks, namely: global Customs networking, co-ordinated border management, intelligence-driven risk management, a better, more structured partnership between Customs and the private sector, the use of modern working methods reflecting the technological and legislative developments occurring around
the world, the deployment of technology to support a globally-networked system, strengthening Customs officers’ powers to enable them to carry out their duties more effectively, a new professional service culture, sustainable capacity building and, finally, Integrity, which represents a permanent challenge. To complement the paper, there is a Resolution setting out the various tasks to be accomplished in order to translate the vision embodied in the Customs in the 21\textsuperscript{st} Century paper into effective action. These two documents adopted by the Council are available on the WCO Web site.

- **Customs Capacity Building**
In this area it was recognized that there is a need to redefine and clarify the capacity building operational strategy. On the basis of the work done by the High Level Working Group on Capacity Building, Training and Technical Assistance, and the experience acquired from the activities conducted to date, a document setting out the conditions for an operational strategy has been prepared. Its purpose is to rationalize the relations between the Capacity Building Directorate, the Regional Offices for Capacity Building and the Regional Training Centres around the world, and it formalizes the strategy on the technical, pedagogic, human, administrative and financial levels. Sizeable amounts of funding will be available, and donors will receive reports on the use, and equitable allocation, of those funds. It is also important to be able to verify the proper use of the funding.

The progress made with the Columbus Programme was presented through the experiences of eight Members: South Africa, Guatemala, Argentina, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Mongolia, Nigeria and Morocco. In most of these countries a new Customs philosophy has been developed, followed by a strategic plan and an operational model.

- **Strategic Plan**
The Strategic Plan for the years 2008/2009 to 2010/2011 incorporates certain innovations in the groupings of the projects, thus facilitating a comparative analysis of the results achieved. The objective is to have a planning process and documentation that are workable and permit adequate reporting. A modified

---

**2009 WCO IT CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION**

**Single Window: Delivering Business Advantages**

... linking all parties operating at the border in the most effective manner

- **Explore** new ways that Customs might interact with other border regulatory agencies as a result of new information and communication technology
- **Review** the elements of coordinated border management and the way each element might be enhanced through effective use of modern IT solutions
- **Analyse** relevant international standards and their critical importance to border management in the 21\textsuperscript{st} Century
- **Take a glimpse** of what the future promises and where the major influences lie for Customs and other border stakeholders
- **Meet** key IT partners in one place

*This event will provide an ideal opportunity to exchange views on global IT developments, see demonstrations of the latest IT technologies, and meet a variety of professional associates.*

Share your views and experiences: be part of a dynamic solution

To sponsor, exhibit, register...
visit our web site [http://events.wcoomd.org](http://events.wcoomd.org) or contact [event@wcoomd.org](mailto:event@wcoomd.org)
format of the Strategic Plan, accommodating the further evolution of the recommendations and incorporating actions stemming from the work on Customs in the 21st Century, will be presented to the Council in June 2009.

**Trade facilitation and regional trade agreements**

There is important work going on in the WTO Trade Facilitation Negotiating Group. It is essential to ensure that the work of the two Organizations, which is very harmonious, remains complementary. As the WCO Secretariat is unable to be represented in the negotiations themselves, Member Customs administrations are invited to involve themselves to the greatest extent possible in their governments’ work in this area, and in the negotiations taking place in Geneva, in order to ensure the best possible outcome.

The WCO Secretariat and certain Members which are providing substantial assistance to the WTO Needs Assessment Workshops will continue to conduct missions of this kind, in conjunction with other international organizations.

In order to improve the administration and management of preferential rules of origin and improve the understanding and proper application of rules of origin by the trading community, an Action Plan approved in June 2007 has been developed. The Plan consists of five key elements:

- establishment of a database on preferential rules of origin. The Secretariat has developed a prototype in which some 200 trade agreements are recorded. This database is scheduled to be released towards the end of 2008.
- comparative study of rules of origin. This study is currently being developed.
- seminars and training. Several workshops and seminars, and an international Conference on rules of origin, have been organized by the WCO; further activities of this kind are scheduled.
- management of rules of origin. The last two elements of the Action Plan pose a number of technical, organizational and financial resource problems. A feasibility study on the prospects for moving from the passive database towards an interactive database will be carried out in the near future.

**Elections and appointments**

**Secretary General**

Mr. Kunio Mikuriya (Japan) was appointed Secretary General for a five-year term of office to begin on 1 January 2009.

**Other**

The other outcomes are shown in a summary table (See page 21).

**Other business**

**Yolanda Benitez Trophy**

The award of the 2008 WCO Trophy for Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy - the Yolanda Benitez Trophy - is the subject of a separate article (See page 14).

**60th Session of the Policy Commission**

The Council accepted a proposal from the Delegate of Argentina to host the 60th Session of the Policy Commission in Buenos Aires from 9 to 11 December 2008.
WCO Secretary General honoured by the French Republic

His Excellency the Ambassador of France to Belgium, Mr. Dominique Boché, bestowed the Insignia of Officer of the “Légion d’Honneur” upon Michel Danet on Friday 27 June 2008, during the annual Council Sessions.

After briefly retracing Mr. Danet’s career, the Ambassador referred to Michel Danet’s election to the post of Secretary General of the WCO in June 1998 as the crowning achievement of his exceptional career. He added that Michel Danet had led the WCO with conviction and determination for five years (1999-2003), and that his commitment and taste for professional challenges had earned him the recognition and trust of Member administrations who had re-elected him for a further five-year term in June 2003. In an era of globalisation, he had constantly endeavoured to strengthen the universal nature of the Organization.

A top-ranking civil servant, his brilliant career led to his appointment as a Knight of the “National Order of Merit” in 1989 and subsequently as a Knight of the “Légion d’Honneur” in 1992. His current promotion within the Order of the “Légion d’Honneur” is the jewel in the crown of his illustrious career and recognition of his unstinting commitment to serve France and the development of international Customs co-operation.

On behalf of the President of the French Republic and by virtue of the powers vested in him, the Ambassador presented Mr. Danet with the Insignia of Officer in the National Order of the “Légion d’Honneur”.

This highly emotional ceremony ended with the Council congratulating the Secretary General with a warm round of applause.

More information
www.legiondhonneur.fr/flash/findex.asp
Italy wins the 2008 Trophy for combating counterfeiting and piracy

At the June 2008 Council sessions, the WCO’s Yolanda Benitez Trophy for combating counterfeiting and piracy was awarded for the third year in succession.

24 countries competed for the Trophy: Algeria, Argentina, Chile, China, Equador, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Kuwait, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Montenegro, Mozambique, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Togo, United Arab Emirates (Dubai), United States and Uruguay.

This year’s winner of the Yolanda Benitez Trophy was the Italian Customs Administration. This Administration has made a great many seizures of counterfeit goods. It follows the WCO’s work in this area closely, and provides vital support to the WCO Secretariat by providing experts to conduct anti-counterfeiting and anti-piracy training in the field.

A special award was presented to Italy’s Guardia di Finanza, which is committed to the fight against organized crime in Italy and throughout Europe, as demonstrated in particular at the international level by its secondment of two highly-skilled officers to the WCO. The excellent co-operation that the Guardia di Finanza has developed with all the institutions involved in intellectual property rights issues is also noteworthy.

Four other administrations also received awards:

- **Algeria** received the 1st Certificate of Merit for the introduction of new IPR legislation and some exceptional seizures of counterfeit goods, as well as the implementation of a co-operative process involving all players at the national level.

- **Equador** received a special award for setting up appropriate structures for combating counterfeiting, for its active and dynamic participation in a specific action organized by the WCO, and for the convincing results obtained in terms of seizures.

- **Slovenia** received a special award for the number of seizures made, the quantities of counterfeit goods intercepted, and especially for an outstanding haul of 9 million bottles of counterfeit perfume.

- **The 2nd Certificate of Merit went to the Russian Federation** for its excellent seizure results and the significant efforts made with anti-counterfeiting legislation.

- **Equador** received a special award for setting up appropriate structures for combating counterfeiting, for its active and dynamic participation in a specific action organized by the WCO, and for the convincing results obtained in terms of seizures.

- **Slovenia** received a special award for the number of seizures made, the quantities of counterfeit goods intercepted, and especially for an outstanding haul of 9 million bottles of counterfeit perfume.

The WCO has dedicated this trophy to Mrs. Yolanda Benitez, a Customs official at the Cuidad del Este Customs terminal in Paraguay, who was shot dead by traffickers for combating the illegal importation of several container-loads of CD-ROMs.

Congratulations to all the winners.

More information
www.wcoomd.org
Election of the Secretary General in pictures
On 28 June 2008, during the 111th/112th Council Sessions, the Directors General of Customs elected to the post of Secretary General, by acclamation, WCO Deputy Secretary General Mr. Kunio Mikuriya.

After being congratulated by current Secretary General Mr. M. Danet and by all the Heads of Delegation and observers, Mr. Mikuriya assured the WCO’s Members and partners of his total and full commitment to making the WCO a truly effective Organization which takes the lead in international co-operation, trade facilitation and security, and Customs capacity building.

Before taking up his post officially on 1 January 2009, Mr. Mikuriya gave us some thoughts on his vision of the WCO.

WCO News: During your campaign, you presented and developed a programme setting out your priorities. What will be the first of these priorities?

Kunio Mikuriya: For me, an essential and urgent priority will be to put in place a programme of institutional improvement for the WCO, aimed at promoting good governance by strengthening Members’ participation in the WCO decision-making process, by applying the principle that sharing information, rather than withholding it, is the source of the Secretariat’s power, by ensuring transparency and accountability, by reviewing the Secretariat’s structure and by applying an equitable staff recruitment policy, in order to address transparency, communication and language issues so as to better serve the Members. These will be key features of my management of the WCO, as will my determination to lead by example.

W. N.: Which priorities, in order of importance, will you turn your attention to next?

Kunio Mikuriya: All the priorities I have identified must be pursued in parallel, albeit not necessarily with the same timescale, however difficult and demanding this may be. So, I wish to set up a Capacity Building Centre mobilizing all the Secretariat’s resources and the regional structures, as well as the network of development partners, in order to address the real needs of Members and regions, and most importantly to secure the necessary funding. Capacity building assistance must take into account revenue-related issues, thus demonstrating the WCO’s responsiveness and flexibility in the face of the development challenges confronting Customs administrations world-wide. In order to develop and broaden Members’ human resource potential, I envisage launching a WCO internship programme to enable interns to gain valuable work experience at the Secretariat over a six-month period, or in the Regional Offices for Capacity Building (ROCBs). Finally, I will create a Centre of Excellence in Customs Matters, supported by research-based expertise, especially in the area of emerging issues such as regional integration, environmental protection and border agency co-operation. This will enable Customs to further develop its role as the...
leading agency for border management and address its expanding responsibilities in close dialogue and co-operation with public and private stakeholders.

W. N.: What do you hope to accomplish during your term of office?

K. M.: I will strive to lead the WCO in an exemplary fashion, making it a dynamic and effective Organization which serves the Members and is responsive to their needs. I will work to enhance their participation in the decision-making process at the WCO, and to promote good governance by employing an inclusive management approach based on flexibility, transparency, accountability, fairness and corporate integrity.

W. N.: What is your vision for the future of the WCO?

K. M.: Customs administrations play a central role in improving the investment climate by facilitating and securing trade. A well-functioning Customs is essential for dealing with international trade issues and integrating developing countries into the world trading system, as this will encourage economic and social prosperity and alleviate poverty. However, Customs is confronted by new challenges, including the growing trade in counterfeits and environmentally hazardous goods. Through re-energized co-operation, Customs can jointly improve its competencies and assure the consistency and overall efficiency of trade procedures. The priorities I mentioned earlier will enable me to implement cutting-edge transformation and ensure that the WCO takes the lead in these projects. I will personally follow through by implementing and monitoring these key initiatives.

W. N.: After the exhausting election campaign and the first few demanding weeks of the new financial year were you able to take time out to go on holiday with your family?

K. M.: The election is over but this is just the beginning. I took advantage of the summer break to prepare the new strategy I wish to implement right from the outset in collaboration with the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairs. Since my arrival in Brussels six years ago, I haven’t really been able to spend long holidays with my family. My wife and I therefore decided to take our children to Japan, their country of origin, to get back in touch with Japanese culture and enjoy a family reunion.

Biography

Before taking up the post of WCO Deputy Secretary General which he has occupied since 1 January 2002 (elected in June 2001 and re-elected in June 2006), Kunio Mikuriya spent 25 years with Japan’s Ministry of Finance. During his career with the Ministry of Finance, Kunio Mikuriya occupied a variety of important posts, which have given him broad experience in the fields of Customs, trade development, budget, and financial policies. He served as Director of International Negotiations, Director of the Enforcement Division, and Director of the Research and International Affairs Division in the Tariff and Customs Bureau. He also served as Director of the Salary and Allowances Control Division and as budget controller in the Budget Bureau. He was a Counsellor at the Japanese Mission in Geneva and participated in the Uruguay Round negotiations; this experience enabled him to acquire an excellent knowledge of trade-related issues. Since January 2002 he has been leading an effort to co-ordinate the work of the WCO Secretariat with other international organizations such as the WTO, with financing bodies such as the World Bank, IMF and with the private sector.
Eurocustoms funds capacity building

Eurocustoms, an association of European Union (EU) Member states, was established 17 years ago to implement contracts assigned by the European Commission focusing on providing technical assistance in the capacity building domain for Customs administrations primarily, but not exclusively, in Europe.

The Association, of which the Director General of the French Customs administration is the Chair, is in the process of being dissolved and the question has therefore arisen as to what should be done with its surplus funds. As the raison d’être of Eurocustoms has been international capacity building, it seemed appropriate to work towards a solution where the surplus funds could be used for that purpose.

On behalf of all EU Member states, the delegates of France and Italy presented the WCO Secretary General with a Eurocustoms cheque for 2,900,000 Euros; this money will be used for the WCO’s Customs capacity building programme.

The WCO thanks the EU Member states for their generosity.
Dear Colleagues,

The past few years may well be characterised as a period of great interest in many respects. The intensifying economic globalisation and the interdependence of individual countries have led to a continuous growth in the flows of trade and goods, entailing both positive and negative repercussions. From a positive perspective, the globalisation and growth of trade has in many various ways promoted societal and economic development. Concurrently, the negative vein of the development has brought many challenges to logistic efficiency, side effects to trade, and security problems inherent in increasing flows of illicit goods.

In the new millennium, Customs administrations which control goods flows are playing roles still more important than earlier within global governance. To meet the challenges brought about by globalisation, Customs administrations have to strive for comprehensive national, regional, and international cooperation. The primary goal of international cooperation is to create a network which reaches beyond borders. Particularly important for the development and maintenance of such a network is that all Member Customs administrations have capacities sufficient to implement and discharge their respective tasks. At the practical level, this is going to require continued investments in capacity building as well as contributions towards the development of technical infrastructure and information networks.

The challenges of globalisation and the new operating environment faced by Customs administrations have been discussed extensively within the WCO during the past few years. The joint effort of WCO Members resulted in a high-level strategic document, which the 2008 Council accepted and which specified the roles of both Customs administrations and the WCO in the 21st century. The objectives and principles formulated in the document are a good starting point for the new Secretary General, who will be faced by the challenge of putting them into practice.

I would finally thank all and everybody for the warm welcome and firm support accorded to me during my term as Chairperson of the Council. That was both memorable and unforgettable. I would also extend my thanks to all those parties which I had the possibility to work with in the course of the past two years. May I express the hope that our good cooperation continues even in the future.

Cordially,

Tapani Erling
Director General
National Board of Customs
FINLAND
NUCTECH, Creating a safer world!

NUCTECH COMPANY LIMITED (NUCTECH) is a prestigious high-tech company originating from Tsinghua University. Based on its core radiation imaging and linear accelerator technologies, NUCTECH can provide comprehensive security product series and system safety solutions for customs, aviation, railway, ports, public security and etc. NUCTECH patents all core technology and owns the intellectual property rights to its products.
## 2008/2009 ELECTIONS FOR COUNCIL WORKING BODIES AND THE SECRETARIAT

**COUNCIL**

**POLICY COMMISSION**
- **Members:** Council Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Russia, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, United Kingdom, United States.
- **Observers:** Belgium Delegate, Chairperson of the Finance Committee
- **Chairperson:** M. Dunne (New Zealand)

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**
- **Members:** Australia, European Communities, France, Gabon, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, Kenya, Panama, Paraguay, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States.
- **Chairperson:** P. Ndong Ngouema (Gabon)

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**
- **Members:** Belgium, Canada, Ghana, Lesotho, Morocco, New Zealand.
- **Chairperson:** A. Jolicoeur (Canada)

**PERMANENT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**
- **Chairperson:** K. Subramanian (India)

**INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE**
- **Chairperson:** A. Sahu (India)

**ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE**
- **Chairperson:** P. Campbell (New Zealand)

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON RULES OF ORIGIN**
- **Chairperson:** L. Ping (China)

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON CUSTOMS VALUATION**
- **Chairperson:** I. Cremer (United Kingdom)

**HARMONIZED SYSTEM COMMITTEE**
- **Chairperson:** E. Hurni (Switzerland)

**HS REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE**
- **Chairperson:** R. Mäntymaa (Finland)

**SCIENTIFIC SUB-COMMITTEE**
- **Chairperson:** I.S. Reese (United States)

**SECRETARIAT – SECRETARY GENERAL**
- **Secretary General:** K. Mikuriya (Japan)

---

**Key:** Ch : Chairperson, VC : Vice-Chairperson, WP Ch : Working Party Chairperson
Rapiscan – The Cargo Inspection Leader for Ports, Borders and Customs

When improving security, revenue collection and operational efficiency is critical, top customs, military and terminal operator customers turn to Rapiscan Systems.

Rapiscan’s mobile, gantry and portal inspection systems detect a wider range of threats and offer an unmatched combination of image quality, reliability and throughput. Our new Eagle® M4500 Series, a family of mobile high energy X-ray cargo inspection systems capable of traveling on public roads, is the latest example of our commitment to high performance.

With 15 years experience, a global installation base and a worldwide service and support network, Rapiscan Systems can meet your most demanding requirements – on time and on budget.

To learn more or to schedule a demonstration, contact us at +1 310-978-1457 (Americas) or +44 (0) 870-7774301 (EMEA).

Rapiscan Eagle® M4500 Series
M4507 European model shown.
An Unified Vision of the Future

Prior to being elected chairperson of the World Customs Organisation (WCO), I said one of my top priorities was to establish a unified view, among member states, of “the WCO of the future”.

In June the Council adopted the “Customs in the 21st Century” policy document. That puts us in a strong position to bring that view to fruition. I am very keen to see the visionary themes outlined in the document form the essence of WCO strategy and become working policy.

For this to happen and be effective into the future, I believe the WCO’s work programmes have to be much more closely connected to and driven by strategies that cover the issues of all members. We will need to address issues around current business practices at the WCO Secretariat and look for a much higher level of collaboration and coherence as an organisation.

I have already had extensive discussions with my colleague the Secretary General-designate, Kunio Mikuriya. We are excited about the opportunities in front of us and will work closely together to help members develop the dynamic role for Customs that the rapidly changing 21st century environment demands.

Another priority I talked about before my election to this position was the benefit of meaningful and positive discussion and debate among members. That is how we will get the unified view we need and with that, a more effective organisation.

I would like the “Customs in the 21st Century” document to be at the centre of such a discussion so that having adopted its themes as our strategy, that strategy can be truly owned by all of the members.

The themes at the heart of “Customs in the 21st Century” herald a new era in Customs-to-Customs cooperation - in the global coordination of border management, in partnership with trade interests, and in the deployment of ever more sophisticated intelligence and technological capabilities.

This is an exciting time and I look forward to the challenges before us.

Biography

Martyn Dunne has been the Comptroller of Customs and Chief Executive of the New Zealand Customs Service since September 2004. He has focused on developing a professional Service prepared for the challenges of border management in the 21st century. He is a champion of collaboration across agencies, seeking better border management through collective effort.

Martyn’s previous experience has involved working in both developed and developing countries, in operational and leadership roles relating to major security and public service initiatives.

As a participant in numerous international partnership Forums, he has worked alongside business delegations in the trade and economic environment, gaining a full appreciation of issues important to business.

Martyn has been an active member of WCO Council and other WCO Forums since 2005, enhancing the global contribution for which New Zealand has been highly regarded for many years. Through this, he has gained a deep understanding of the challenges that face WCO members today.

Martyn was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 2000 following his military service in East Timor. He holds an MA in Strategic Studies from La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia.
Background

In today’s society acts of terrorism must involve at some stage the illicit trafficking either of explosives, chemical agents, nuclear materials and/or humans. To counter these acts, society must rely on an effective anti-trafficking infrastructure which encompasses responsible authorities, competent field personnel and appropriate networks.

Recently a great deal of effort has been spent on developing the “smart border” concept: border management systems that keep pace with an expanding trade while providing protection from the threat of terrorist attacks, illegal immigration, illegal drugs, and other contraband.

The use of advance technology to track the movement of cargo, and entry and exit of individuals is essential to the task of managing the movement of hundreds of millions of individuals, conveyances and vehicles. The maritime container control system will be an essential building block of the “smart border” concept.

Old control measures slow down the flow of traffic as they are time consuming and inefficient. Croatia being an EU border state and on the crossroads of many illicit trafficking routes needs to control its border. Enhanced border control enables economic benefits to be gained from the faster flow of goods and people at checkpoints, and acts as a shield from potential terrorist activities and the illegal transport of goods and people. Croatia is obliged to make its border safe. This is mandated by EU and UN resolutions.

Current status of technology

Maritime transport represents a very important issue in international trade because nowadays approximately 95% of world trade is transported by sea, with more than 250 million containers moving between large world ports every year. These huge volumes generate significant risk: the misuse of a container for carrying contraband or for purposes of launching a terrorist attack. It is therefore imperative that authorities charged with protecting the security of ports and combating contraband check the content of any suspicious container as soon as possible.

Croatian Customs’ local office in Rijeka, which controls goods and containers at the country’s largest maritime container port, uses modern computer equipment for risk analysis and x-ray devices for scanning containers.

Brajdica container terminal, Port of Rijeka, Croatia

Port of Rijeka: total turnover of TEUs from 1999-2007
Modern cargo inspection systems for people, parcels, vehicles and cargo use non-intrusive imaging based on nuclear analytical techniques. These inspection systems use penetrating radiation (gamma and x-rays) to scan objects in order to detect any radiation being transmitted or produced in the investigated sample.

Fast scanning of standard containers - from a few minutes to less than 1 minute - is performed using hard x-rays (300 or more) or gamma-rays from radioactive sources (137 Cs and 60 Co with energies from 600 to 1300 KeV). These scans provide Customs officers with a high resolution radiograph of the load.

Unfortunately, this information is non-specific in that it gives no information on the nature of objects that do not match the transport documents and are not recognized by a visual analysis of the radiographic picture. Moreover, there are regions of the container where x and g-ray systems are “blind” due to the high average atomic number of the objects irradiated which appear as black spots in the radiographic image.

New Scanning Technology : Tagged Neutron Inspection System (TNIS)

The development of a neutron scanning device for controlling container traffic is envisaged. Neutron scanning technology offers capabilities far beyond those of conventional inspection systems. This highly sophisticated equipment with its unique automatic material-specific capabilities to detect terrorist threats can significantly increase port security, including the security of domestic transportation infrastructure which could also be a potential urban target. In other words, it can protect infrastructure wherever it may be located.

This new generation cargo inspection system is based on the tagged neutron technique using small electrostatic accelerators providing results on the performance of the system with respect to the detection of explosives and other threatening materials inside containers and commercial payloads.

The bombardment of an object with neutrons generates limited nuclear reactions which result in the emission of neutrons, gamma or x-rays inherent in the chemical element exposed to radiation.

Since the issue of recognizing material such as explosives, drugs, chemicals etc. is restricted only to identifying concentrations of chemical elements, limited nuclear reactions induced by neutrons are needed to discover chemical elements, their concentrations, their concentration ratio, and multilateral maps.

TNIS technology non-destructively analyses chemical composition of problematic objects recognized by radiography.

Due to all the mentioned shortcomings related to container scanning when using conventional x-ray methods, a consortium of five countries and ten European scientific institutes decided to develop a device which could recognize or “read” what types of goods are contained in a container. During the construction phase of the project, known as “EURITRACK” (European Illicit Trafficking Countermeasures Kit), a prototype was constructed and installed at the Port of Rijeka container terminal. It is experimentally used by Rijeka Customs officials for controlling containers on export, import or transit through Croatia.
Knowledge Beyond Borders

Proud to announce the opening of the CCES Middle East and North Africa campus

Graduate and Vocational Programs

For further information please contact:

Canberra campus: lorraine.o’brien@canberra.edu.au

Kenya campus: creck.buyonge@canberra.edu.au

Kuwait campus: john.howard@canberra.edu.au

Thailand campus: rob.preece@canberra.edu.au

Maldives campus: mustho@customs.gov.mv
Inspection of containers is performed in several phases. While a container ship is sailing towards its port of destination, risk analysis of documents is performed based on the submitted cargo manifest. A list of containers which should be controlled is then drafted. When the ship enters the port and unloading begins, the containers identified for control by Customs officials from the risk analysis section are sent to x-ray control.

During the first stage of control, officials seek to determine by comparison with the submitted data from the cargo manifest whether the picture obtained from an x-ray device corresponds to the facts. If a certain part of the container cargo is still suspicious, it is sent for secondary control i.e. the TNIS, where only the specific and marked part of the content is scanned for purposes of obtaining detailed data on the chemical content of the goods. If doubts persist that illegal or contraband goods may be present, the container is sent for detailed examination.

“EURITRACK” raises the quality of control to a higher level in terms of security, thus reducing the risk of using a container for transporting contraband or goods that may potentially be used in a terrorist attack.

More information
darko.kihalic@carina.hr

The author is Head of the Department for Reporting and Operational Techniques at Croatian Customs Headquarters in Zagreb.
In Finland Customs has a very long history and rich heritage unlike most other state authorities in the country. It is therefore of crucial importance to preserve some of it for future Customs generations and for others as part of the national history and cultural heritage of Finland. This heritage must of course be accessible to an international audience.

The Finnish Customs Museum was founded in 1930 and has since then been part of the National Board of Customs. Since 1992, it has been located in the 18th Century fortress island of Suomenlinna, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, located near the capital city of Helsinki. The building itself was built between 1753 and 1783. Because of its location (there are regular ferry connections to the island) and weather conditions the exhibitions are open to the public in the summer season only.

Tasks of the Museum
According to the latest (1993) statutes of the museum, the task of the Museum is to collect items, documents and other material to illustrate the history and development of Customs and its position in society. The Museum has to maintain a permanent exhibition as well as organize temporary exhibitions set out in a fixed plan of action.

During the 700 years when Finland was part of the Swedish Kingdom, the collection of taxes and duties was crucial to the building of the state apparatus. After annexation as an autonomous state within the Russian Empire, Finland retained a separate Customs area and also received its own Customs administration in 1812. When Finland became independent in 1917, the Customs, as one of the supporting pillars of an independent state, was readily available. Until 1930 Finnish Customs was also in charge of coast guard functions. The alcohol prohibition and its enforcement against extensive smuggling in the years 1919 to 1932 was another milestone experience in the history of Finnish Customs.

The introduction of the declaration procedure during the 1960s and 1970s meant another, truly revolutionary change in the work of Customs. The previous system was based on concrete “control” of goods by the Customs authorities through keeping watch, weighing and carefully inspecting all foreign
consignments. The change also meant a starting point for computerized Customs processes as well as other more refined forms of law enforcement and the protection of society.

European integration has already made Customs less visible to most people living in the Customs area. But the importance of national Customs administrations as carriers of the Customs Union is not diminished, quite to the contrary. In the future, fewer and fewer people will be regularly in close personal contact with Customs, therefore, by making history visible, the Museum is able to give people a broader idea and widen their perspective about the essence of Customs work.

A special section is devoted to present-day issues, such as counterfeits or species in the CITES convention. There is also general information about Customs regulations available in the exhibition rooms.

Collections of the Museum
The Finnish Customs Museum accepts objects from individual donors or by collecting them mostly from Customs Posts and Customs Houses under abolition.

The most typical objects in the collections are confiscated items, smuggling methods, scales, weapons, uniforms, signs, special instruments and other technology. The main part of the objects collection is held in a joint warehouse used by different special Museums in the proximity of Helsinki while only a minor part of the items are on display in the actual Customs Museum.

Harnessing the knowledge of Customs veterans
Another, quite new field of activity at the Museum is the integration of retired persons into the work of the museum. They provide memory data as well as important background information on historical items and photographs. Regular co-operation has for this purpose just been established with a pensioners’ association called “the Customs Veterans”.

Theme exhibitions
The Museum has annually changing theme exhibitions. In 2007 the theme was the “100th Anniversary of the Finnish Customs Laboratory” while this year’s exhibition is titled “Women at Finnish Customs”. The theme in the year 2009 will be the international side of Customs’ work, concentrating on memorabilia and business gifts given or received by Finnish Customs. The aim of the exhibition is to tell the story and the actual reasons behind international co-operation which may be difficult to grasp by the general public.

The international dimension of Customs history
The Museum’s statutes also determine that it should cooperate internationally with other Customs museums. In this regard, there is a long tradition of co-operation between the Nordic countries in this field among others. In 1991 the Nordic Customs Museums Council (NTMR) was formally established with the basic idea to host joint exhibitions which have been done on several occasions.

The Finnish Customs Museum was also one of the founding members of the International Association of Customs Museums, IACM, officially founded in Denmark in 1993. Today the IACM has 18, mostly European, member countries. There are also new members from outside Europe such as New Zealand. There is also a project underway for establishing a Customs Museum in the US. The main importance of IACM is the establishment, maintenance and promotion of an international network of Museums situated in different countries.

More information
Janne Nokki,
Director of the Customs Museum
Janne.nokki@tulli.fi

From the 2008 theme exhibition “Women at Finnish Customs”
In recognition of its active efforts to protect the environment particularly with respect to the elimination of ozone-depleting substances, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) presented its 2008 Ozone Layer Protection Award to the WCO Asia Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB) at a glittering ceremony that was held in Washington DC on 19 May 2008.

Environmental matters are considered one of the priority activities for the Asia Pacific ROCB. Since July 2005, the ROCB has worked closely with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP); assisting UNEP’s Montreal Protocol obligations by enhancing awareness and capacity building on environmental protection among Customs administrations in the Asia Pacific region. Not only does the ROCB promote the inclusion of environmental issues in regular Customs training curricula, it also sends experts to regional “Green Customs” workshops and seminars, and has jointly organised train-the-trainer workshops in cooperation with UNEP.

Ms. Yoko Odashima, the Deputy Head of the ROCB, attended the ceremony and received the prestigious award on behalf of the Asia Pacific ROCB.

The WCO congratulates the Asia Pacific ROCB on having received such an award and acknowledges the importance of its environment protection activities which will hopefully be replicated by other regions around the world.

More information
rocb@rocbap.org

The celebrations held in Bercy to mark the 40th Anniversary of the European Customs Union provided an opportunity for Mr. Eric Woerth, the French Minister with responsibility for Customs, to solemnly return some 50 vases dating from the 3rd and 4th Centuries BC to the Italian authorities.

These artefacts had been unearthed during clandestine digs and were seized by Customs officers in Perpignan from a private vehicle about to enter Spain from France.

These antique vases, with an estimated value of 77,000 Euros, were from southern Italy and most were manufactured in the northern part of Puglia (formerly known as Daunia).

The batch of artefacts handed back to the authorities in Italy included dishes decorated with red illustrations of faces and Greek gods; small and large vases; drinking vessels; vessels used to store and pour wine; miniature vases decorated with scenes of children’s games (given to children during the Festival of Athens), goblets, cups, small jugs and bowls.

French Customs already returned some 273 antique ceramics to Italy on 23 November 1999.

This repatriation of works of art to Italy illustrates the effectiveness of Customs’ activities to safeguard French and international treasures and cultural goods.

French Customs made 31 seizures in 2007, comprising a total of 1,200 works or objets d’art, valued at 6.5 million Euros.

More information
www.douane.gouv.fr
International Day against Drug Abuse and illicit Drug Trafficking: Sri Lanka Customs activities on 26 June 2008

1. A banner raising awareness about the International Day Against Drug Abuse and illicit Drug Trafficking was displayed at the international airport (both terminals) and at the Customs Head Office in Colombo.

2. Posters with powerful anti-narcotics messages were placed on the counters at the international airport.

3. A sticker with the logo of the Customs Narcotics Branch was worn by all staff at Customs Head Office as well as all staff at the international airport including airline, bank and other airport personnel - stickers were also placed on passengers using the terminals.

4. Customs staff deployed at the international airport were addressed on the importance of this special day to highlight efforts against drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking.
A new invention in Customs IT automates what previously had to be done by hand, processes thousands of documents blazingly fast and makes world of customs paperless.

In a world of conflicts, customs offices are on their own front lines. Growing global economy means more traders. More traders means more illegal shipments; weapons smuggling and drug trafficking are on the rise. It means more tax fraud. It means more work for customs officials and more difficulties in monitoring the movement of goods – and more criminals rightly hoping they can fly under the radar. It’s also a world where business is taken to places that provide the quickest, easiest service.

Customs Engine is software that is built to adapt to this world. It automates what previously had to be done by hand. It can process complex customs declarations, summary declarations, TIR vouchers, export notices, and more. And in some cases, Customs Engine can process a document without human intervention, speeding up the lodging of customs documents and making the system easier to use for traders. Customs Engine integrates customs processes such as risk analysis, tax calculation, guarantee management, and work order management.

**The paper.** Can you imagine the world without it? The earliest recorded forms of paper were in use in Egypt in around 3500 BC, made from the papyrus plant. True paper is believed to have originated in China in approximately the 2nd century AD Wood based paper caused a major transformation of the 19th century economy and society in industrialized countries. With the introduction of cheaper paper, schoolbooks, fiction, non-fiction, and newspapers became gradually available by 1900.

Paper-based declarations and documents have always been essential part in everyday work of customs. Customs Engine collects data from traders already in electronic form. All additional information like information about permits and licenses, guarantees etc is checked electronically by collecting data from other sub-systems instead of presenting it in paper form. Could you imagine your life without paper documents? Well, now CuE revolutionizes the customs world by making it paperless.

To read more about the software that is already changing the world of customs, visit www.customsengine.eu.

use in Egypt in around 3500 BC, made from the papyrus plant. True paper is believed to have originated in China in approximately the 2nd century AD Wood based paper caused a major transformation of the 19th century economy and society in industrialized countries. With the introduction of cheaper paper, schoolbooks, fiction, non-fiction, and newspapers became gradually available by 1900.

Paper-based declarations and documents have always been essential part in everyday work of customs. Customs Engine collects data from traders already in electronic form. All additional information like information about permits and licenses, guarantees etc is checked electronically by collecting data from other sub-systems instead of presenting it in paper form. Could you imagine your life without paper documents? Well, now CuE revolutionizes the customs world by making it paperless.

To read more about the software that is already changing the world of customs, visit www.customsengine.eu.

fast, Customs Engine is ready for trade volumes of the 21st century. Customs Engine is modular and highly configurable with minimal country-specific issues – a system that adapts, rather than one that needs adapting to. Customs Engine is also extensible, helping customs authorities to implement newest security measures.
Paraguay National Directorate of Customs

Mission
The National Directorate of Customs is an autonomous institution based on the principles of legality, good faith and transparency, and is charged with applying Customs legislation, facilitating international trade, controlling goods traffic efficiently, preventing, suppressing and sanctioning illicit Customs activities, protecting society, and generating important resources for the State.

Legal framework
With the introduction of a new Customs Code which began to be applied from January 2005, Customs acquired autonomy. The Code is a legal tool that allows Customs to exercise its legal authority effectively, having made possible the creation of a new institutional structure and a flowchart adapted to current requirements.

Quality certification
Import and export processes (ECO1) possess ISO 9001:2000 quality certification which was granted by the Swiss company SGS to ten Customs offices.

Sure exports
Non-intrusive export controls have been implemented by means of x-ray scanners within the framework of the “Paraguay Exports Assurance”.

Authorized Economic Operator (AEO)
The implementation of the AEO concept in Paraguay is one of the main priorities of the Paraguayan Customs management. To promote the concept, a Regional Conference organized by the WCO and Paraguay’s National Directorate of Customs was held from 5-6 June 2008 in Asunción.

Fight against piracy, counterfeiting and smuggling
The implementation of concrete actions to protect intellectual property and to efficiently fight against the counterfeiting, piracy and smuggling scourge is reflected in the creation of DETAVE; an integrated multidisciplinary force consisting of Customs, the Police and the National Navy. In acknowledgement of Paraguay’s commitment in this regard, the annual WCO anti-counterfeiting and piracy award is named in honour of Paraguay’s Customs Administrator “Yolanda Maria Mercedes Benítez Ferreira” who was murdered in 2005.

International cooperation
Programmes of cooperation have been consolidated with international organisations, among them the Inter-American Development Bank (BID) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) who are allies in institutional transformation and the strengthening of Customs administrations.

Pillars
Cooperation agreements have been signed with Customs administrations in other countries, with the private sector and with governmental Services. In addition, an agreement has been signed with Paraguay Transparency and the Council for the Promotion of the National Integrity System, that controls directly the Customs bidding.

Training
An agreement was signed with the Customs Agents Centre for the creation of a Customs Administration University within the framework of the WCO PICARD Programme. An agreement has also been signed between the WCO and the Paraguay National Directorate of Customs on 28 March 2008 for the implementation of the WCO E-learning Programme.

Quality policy
To provide an efficient, agile, sure and transparent service to users and other stakeholders linked to international trade, characterised by rapid and effective service, availability of information and user support, client service, use of advance technology, and more efficiency in collections.

Main aims
To be a modern Customs administration, constantly being updated and proud to belong to an institution offering efficient, transparent, predictable, effective and credible services for the country’s development and well-being.

Contact
National Director
Mrs. Margarita Díaz de Vivar
Appointed 8 October 2003
Total staff
900
Official Address
Paraguay Customs
El Paraguayo Independiente & Colon Street
Asunción-Paraguay

Official Date of Establishment as an autonomous Public Institution: 30 July 2004

General Contact point
Mr. Jorge Silva
Secretary
Tel: (59521) 4162100 / 2302 / 2106
Fax: (595 21) 416 2305
Email: jsilva@aduana.gov.py
Web Site: www.aduana.gov.py

International Conventions signed by Paraguay relating to Customs matters
COMALEP – WTO – INTERPOL – BID – WCO - MERCOSUR

More information
www.aduana.gov.py
Always look on the bright side of life!

The Secretary General of the WCO, Michel Danet, will officially leave the Organization on 31 December 2008 after two five-year terms of office. Rather than simply ask Mr. Danet to reflect on his time in office, WCO News has opted for a more personal approach by taking the time for a free and frank chat with him.

Despite what we may think, we often know little about the people with whom we spend time on a daily or regular basis. Mr. Danet agreed to step out from behind his functions, role and position as Secretary General to offer us a more intimate glimpse into his personality.

WCO News: Are you sure you want to retire after so many years spent serving the international Customs community?
Michel Danet: Yes I am, but my new life hasn’t begun just yet.

WCO News: Would you have liked a third term of office?
M. D.: In all honesty, no.

WCO News: If you could have chosen another career, what would it have been?
M. D.: I would have liked to have been an Ambassador, as that most closely reflects what I like doing and is the role that would suit me best.

WCO News: What has been the highlight of your career over the past ten years?
M. D.: Apart from the emotion of being elected in Marrakesh in 1998, I think my most moving memory must be the opening of the Fourth Global Congress on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy that was held in Dubai (United Arab Emirates) in February 2008. I felt a shiver run down my spine when I took to the dais in the vast conference room, with some 1,200 participants from all parts of the globe in attendance.

WCO News: If you could turn back the time and change things, what would you have done differently in terms of your career?
M. D.: If truth be told, I wouldn’t change a thing. I was incredibly fortunate to enter this profession at the age of 21, and French Customs welcomed me with open arms at a difficult period in my life.

WCO News: What makes you get up in the morning?
M. D.: The belief (or hope) that I will have a pleasant day by trying to make the most of every moment.

WCO News: What do you whistle in the shower?
M. D.: “A regarder la mer” by Alain Barrière, a 1960s French singer (listen to this song at http://fr.youtube.com/watch?v=8TBdSeBvQ).

WCO News: Are you planning to leave Belgium, or would you rather stay here?
M. D.: I will be dividing my time between France, Belgium and Lithuania; not a bad plan, wouldn’t you agree?

WCO News: Now for the last word: If it were 31 December 2008, what would be the final sentence of your farewell speech?
M. D.: I will miss you all terribly.
WCO News: And now for a few subsidiary questions in the “Proust Questionnaire” style. We will start off with the questions “If I say...” and “If you were...” suggesting a one-word answer expressing a choice, followed by questions about your personality traits.

▶ If I say music
  Tchaikovski

▶ If I say painter
  Sisley

▶ If I say writer
  Frédéric Dard, for his “San-Antonio” adventures

▶ If I say famous man
  François Mitterrand

▶ If I say wine
  Mercurey (a Burgundy wine) as it reminds me of my youth

▶ If I say sport
  Football

▶ If I say film
  “Apocalypse Now” and “Les Tontons flingueurs” (“Crooks in Clover”)

▶ If you were a colour
  Blue

▶ If you were an animal
  A goldfinch

▶ If you were a flower
  A yellow rose

▶ If you were a famous woman
  Ursula Andress

▶ If you were one of the senses
  Sight

▶ If you were an object
  A rare stamp

▶ If you were an actor
  Alain Delon

▶ Your main attribute
  I can’t think of any. You’d have to ask others what they think.

▶ Your main fault
  I can be pessimistic on a day-to-day basis and stubborn in my private life.

▶ What do you prize most among your friends
  Loyalty and steadfastness.

▶ Your motto
  Always look on the bright side of life!
In Conversation

The WCO approached the University of Le Havre to research the impact on international trade of the recently adopted US law on 100% scanning of maritime containers before loading.

The University of Le Havre is an independent body with which the WCO has signed a Memorandum of Understanding under the framework of the Picard programme. It produced the study under the guidance of Frédéric Carluer, with the collaboration of Yann Alix and Olivier Joly.

Starting from the hypothesis that the 100% scanning law will actually enter into application on 1 July 2012 as planned, the aim of the study was to determine the best possible approach to applying that law without obstructing international trade, and to assess what it might involve in terms of cost, human resources and logistics.

The WCO News Editorial Board met Professor Carluer at the Conference hosted by the WCO on 10 and 11 June 2008 with the theme "What future for 100% scanning?", and asked him for his views on the US law and whether he believed its implementation was feasible in light of the research carried out and the data available within the framework of the study.

WCO News: At the Press Conference you said that 100% scanning does not mean 100% security. As things stand, following the security measures imposed by the United States, less than 1% of containers entering the US are scanned. In addition, no containers entering US territory have been found to contain weapons of mass destruction or dirty bombs to date. What possible additional benefit could be provided by a law imposing 100% scanning if, with a control rate of just 1%, imports already appear to be secure?

Frédéric Carluer: If the 100% scanning law does enter into force, it will not be before 2012. While the conditions, in particular the logistical and financial requirements, for implementing the law are not yet satisfactory, the legal framework is clear and binding precisely because it is a law. Swiftly adopted by the US Congress on 4 August 2007, on the back of a Democratic amendment, it reflects the security concerns of US citizens. The debate, and the fundamental question of whether or not the law can effectively be applied, is, therefore, not so much economic or financial as psychological. I believe that US public opinion will be the decisive factor. Or, more precisely, US public opinion, and US public opinion alone, could conceivably do an about-turn, effectively quashing the decision adopted by its legal representatives, as Congress must rule in 2012 whether or not to defer application of the Law for two years. Now, from a pragmatic standpoint, the combination of the CTPAT and Megaport initiatives, CSI and AEO certification, the SAFE Framework of Standards and the "10+2" rule, accompanied by effective risk analysis, appears to have delivered some tangible results. This is helping to chip away at the feeling of insecurity, but this sentiment remains widespread in the US post 9/11. 100% scanning, or SFI, should therefore be interpreted as an additional provision which overlaps the others without cancelling them out.

W. N.: Are we not, with the introduction of this imposing security measure, witnessing a race towards new technologies which will directly benefit those private companies able to propose sufficient material and services, at the risk of consolidating their dominant position on the international market?

F. C.: Setting a deadline – 2012 – for the entry into force of this law is like giving a starter signal. Validating the measure in the shape of a law is a formidable technological booster as it reduces the uncertainty for market players, who regard it as an incentive to invest in research and development with limited risks of backtracking. Since the market is oligopolistic, there should be a consistent return on investment. Of the some 1 300 scanners currently operational throughout the world, Smiths Detection has a market share of approximately 30%, Nuctech and SAIC 25% each, ASNE 10%, Rapiscan 6% and other companies 4%. The markets for the big three are highly geographically targeted at their continent of preference, albeit less and less so, and Nuctech and SAIC remain extremely attached to their nation state. As for service suppliers, 95% of scanners are currently operated by national Customs, although SGS, Cotecna and Bureau Veritas are also flourishing in a supportive capacity or independently. My prediction leans towards greater competition leading to a substantial drop in prices between scanner manufacturers, ahead of potential mergers and acquisitions, and polarization between the three service providers which are making their way onto the market. Only an offensive Customs
training policy, in particular through the WCO, would reduce this dependence which has been strengthened by the complexity of the materials used.

W. N.: The law makes no provision for financing the measures necessary to implement it. And so it takes no great leap of the imagination to viewing the 100% scanning law as transferring the cost of US security requirements to its trade partners, does it?

F. C.: Napoleon said that we spare our enemies but betray our brothers. This unilateral American initiative, which transfers both the cost and the risk to its partners, and its partners alone, evokes this outmoded historical situation. It is undoubtedly the privilege of “those who call the shots”, i.e. the leading world economy. The major developed and developing countries are only too happy to find an outlet for their products, and are prepared to make adjustments if not concessions. This is “Realpolitik” and strategy at the same time. It is not by chance that the United States has financed, to the tune of 15 billion US dollars, the first three SFI pilot ports (Southampton, Port-Qasim and Puerto Cortés) and selected the four ports to be included in the second test group: Singapore, Hong-Kong, Pusan and Salalah. Clearly, we are now entering a full-scale operational phase: the top five world ports are all involved, and the technological standards have been known since last June, specifying in particular the required performance: penetration of 300 mm of steel, source strength of not less than 6 MeV for a fixed scanner and 3.8 for a mobile system, scanning of 75 and 30 containers per hour respectively, N-25 image transmission format, dedicated team 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, etc.

W. N.: Mr Danet spoke of the introduction of this Law and the reactions of the different players involved as akin to “a game of bluff”. Do you share this opinion?

F. C.: You need at least two players to play a game of bluff! The Americans are currently on their own, both in legal terms (the force of the law adopted last year, and Article 21 of the GATT allowing them to apply a discriminatory measure if key national security interests are at stake) and from a programmatic standpoint, as:

- the European Commission, despite a few protests, has not raised any counter-arguments other than of a financial nature;
- China is putting up a show of opposition while playing the “Nuctech” card as much as possible by dedicating the University of Tsinghua to R&D (research and development) for its national champion;
- and world public opinion, in other words you and me as end consumers likely to see an impact on our purchasing power, is inert.

So, is this a game of bluff? Yes, in the sense that US policies have initiated a measure which goes beyond them and which is, moreover, contested by CBP (the US Customs and Border Protection agency), which would be seriously inconvenienced if the principle of reciprocity were to apply). Europeans are passive and the strategies of the port actors such as Rotterdam or Southampton conflict with the official positions, and that there is no doubt that the European Union will apply the SFI in the medium term if the Americans impose it.

W. N.: If we were to take our thinking a little further and extrapolate on the macro-economic analysis of flows, could it not be said that the United States is imposing 100% scanning under the official pretext of security while unofficially aiming to stem the tide of Chinese, or Asian, imports without being accused of creating obstacles to trade and returning to protectionism?

F. C.: The key figure to emerge from our research, which most surprised us, and particularly the Americans, is the overwhelming predominance of China in US maritime trade, accounting for more than 50% of the 18 million US-bound containers in 2006. These 9 million Chinese containers correspond, moreover, almost exactly to the US deficit. Don’t forget that this trade balance was in equilibrium less than ten years ago!. According to the scenarios elaborated in the study, this share could reach as much as 78% in 2012 (93% for Asia as a whole), although economic arguments point to a share remaining around the current level, particularly in view of the slowdown in world growth
Bureau Veritas, your Trade Facilitation Partner

Bureau Veritas solutions, **SMARTLane** - **VeriNET**
where facilitation and security come together

- You are facing the challenge of Customs technological evolution, and
- You need a global solution to encompass all your risks and
  bridge the partnership with the trading community,

**The Solutions meeting your expectation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>BV Programmes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RMS</td>
<td>BV Risk Management System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NII</td>
<td>BV Non Intrusive Inspection (Cargo Scanner Operations &amp; BOT programmes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMS</td>
<td>BV Customs Management System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Window</td>
<td>BV Interconnected Single Windows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCS</td>
<td>BV Cargo Community System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEO</td>
<td>Authorised Economic Operator (AEO, C-TPAT, ISO 27000 &amp; 28000 Certification &amp; audits, GPS Trucks &amp; Containers Tracking)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SMARTLane**
- Descriptive data analysis and predictive models
- Targeting, selectivity and random selection
- Integrates to multiple database sources
- Data Mining
- Full integration to all Customs Management Systems
- Modular system includes customs management port and cargo community, bank and payments
- Supports ports development
- Latest technology N-Tier, SOA
- Access to established BV services: Customs Classification and Valuation services
- Full project support pre and post implementation
- WTO & WCO compliance

**VeriNET**
- Government Services & International Trade
  - www.bureauveritas.com
  - +33 (0)1 55 24 77 52
  - gsitf@bureauveritas.com

**CONTACT US**

**Move Forward with Confidence**
In Conversation

(+0.2% for containers in 2007 against over 10% on average over the past decade), the evolution of China itself (development of the tertiary sector) and the rising Yuan (+7% against the dollar since January 2008). Hence, behind the legitimate motive of reinforcing security, there is in all probability a covert protectionist measure. The Americans are, it seems, ‘killing two birds with one stone’. But, on balance, this does nothing to change their deficit because:
- The relative trade imbalance vis-à-vis Asia will only become more marked, regardless of the world economic situation, as the springboards for growth are in South-East Asia;
- China has taken the initiative as regards 100% scanning: the new port of Yangshan 32 km south of Shanghai, SFI tested in Hong-Kong, not to mention “Nuctech”;
- The other big Asian ports such as Singapore, Pusan, Dubai (8 new scanners this year) and even Manila (30 operational scanners) have made substantial investments, in anticipation.

More information
frederic.carluer@univ-lehavre.fr

Biography

Frederic CARLUER
Professor in Territorial Management
Member of the CIRTAI at the University of Le Havre
Director of the Master "Customs & Logistics"
Associate Researcher at the Normandy Business School

Frederic CARLUER is currently a Professor in Territorial Management at the University of Le Havre, Associate Researcher at the Normandy Business School, and Expert consultant for the European Community.

Former scholar of the High Normal School and holder of a doctorate in Economics from the University of Paris I-Sorbonne, his previous works focus on strategic analysis of the investments and location choices, and on the understanding of the key factors of regional convergence at the European level (Research Director).

Author of numerous books and scientific articles, his recent publications examine the impacts of the new information and communication technologies on the enterprises and the territories, but also the dynamics of competitive poles, and the Supply Chain Management in a globalized environment, as scientific Director of SEFACIL Research Institute (Logistic Campus of the University of Le Havre).

• PICARD: Partnership in Customs Academic Research and Development. The WCO PICARD Programme is a framework for cooperation between Customs and the academic world in the field of Customs research and training.

• Frédéric Carluer, Professor of Management at the University of Le Havre (CIRTAI), Associate Researcher at the Normandy Business School and Scientific Director at the SEFACIL Research Institute.

• Yann Alix, Professor of Port Management at the Normandy Business School and Director of IPER (port teaching and research institute) – Head of Logistics Section.

• Olivier JOLY, Associate Professor of Land-Use Planning at the University of Le Havre.

Authors of:
Increasing SME participation in AEO programmes

...a worldwide challenge

Introduction

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) have gained greater importance due to the impact that they are having on different economies around the world. According to the Small and Medium Enterprise Development Authority (SMEDA), SMEs comprise approximately 90% of all firms in the world and account for an average of 40% to 50% of countries’ GDP. In the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) region for example, SMEs account for over 80% of all businesses and employ as much as 60% of the workforce.

SMEs have consistently shown an interest in Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) programmes, recognising them as a competitive factor at the moment of negotiating with economic partners, when competing in the world market, and in order to participate in an efficient and secure supply chain. But, should SMEs be participating to a greater degree?

In this sense, an innovative global strategy needs to be developed in order to encourage a much higher level of SME participation in AEO programmes. To achieve this goal, certain factors should be considered: SME definitions; costs and benefits; security standards and mutual recognition; and pilot projects.

SME definitions

Globally speaking, the definition of the term SME is by no means standardised within countries. In the European Union, the greatest number of employees that would still permit a company to be designated an SME is 250 employees. In Australia the limit is 300, while in the United States the limit is 1000 employees.

What is of greatest concern is that different definitions exist even between countries within the same region! In South America, for example, the definition for SMEs ranges between 1 and 500 employees; however, in Chile and Colombia the range goes from 11 to 200 employees. While in Mexico, a company with 500 employees is still considered a SME.

Each country needs to determine their limits based on their economic situation; however the possibility of creating a general parameter of company-size definitions in country regions might possibly work in a positive manner towards an overall strategy to boost AEO programmes.

Some governments have already seen the need to harmonise the definition of SME and some are already working on it; to name a few, the European Union and the MERCOSUR region (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay), which adopted a model on which to base a common classification for SMEs in the Asuncion treaty in 1991. Universally speaking, standardisation efforts have provided countries with an initiative to help their individual economies by promoting micro enterprises and improving their access to capital, and research and development.

Costs and benefits

Benefits are considered one of the main factors affecting the level of satisfaction from companies towards these programmes. It would be interesting to develop a set of basic global benefits applicable to all AEO programmes worldwide that would fulfill members’ expectations. Different surveys and research have identified a series of benefits that companies are willing to pursue through participation in AEO programmes and that may have influenced their companies’ decision to join the programme.

It is of great importance for large businesses and SME’s to perceive the tangible payback from investments in security programmes. The above referenced global strategy could make an emphasis on the required investment costs having a direct relationship with the company size; the investment should be relevant to whether the company is large or small.

The cost-benefit relationship within companies is very difficult to measure with research showing differing points of views: While a
C-TPAT Cost/Benefit Survey shows that businesses reported significantly higher average costs than small businesses, a study with BASC members, of which 60% are SMEs, shows that there is no clear relationship between cost and the effectiveness of investments. In fact, many low cost investments produce higher level improvements in security effectiveness. The most effective requirements may not be achieved through technology; on the contrary, the majority is based on human resource investments.

Security standards and mutual recognition
As Michel Danet, Secretary General of the World Customs Organization, stated in June 2007, the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards is a unique international guide for a safer world trade regime, offering a new approach to working methods and partnership for both Customs and business.

A mutual recognition arrangement would allow the companies of one supply chain security programme to receive benefits similar to those conferred to companies participating in another country or trading community’s programme. Conceivably, the integration of security standards and benefits worldwide would generate a global network of “trusted traders.”
SGS GIVES YOU ALL THE REASONS TO BE CONFIDENT

YOU CAN RELY ON SGS 100%.

With customized solutions, experienced specialists and state of the art scanning technologies, SGS can help you to comply with international security laws and give you a competitive advantage. SGS are present wherever you need experts in remote image analysis, scanner filter, risk management, cargo scanners, transit tracking, radiation detection, trace detection systems and on site lab solutions. SGS is also the only company to work with all the scanner manufacturers and operates cargo scanners using all energy sources.

For more information, visit www.scanner.sgs.com or contact us at sgsscanner@sgs.com
security standards, however, it could be argued that the evaluation process is a better place to take into consideration company size. It is during this process that an auditor, using judgment and experience, can more effectively evaluate the overall adequacy of a company’s security posture vis-à-vis the range of risk factors facing it. Adopting this approach would require, of course, a higher degree of auditor training, professionalism and management oversight, in order to ensure an objective evaluation.

Pilot projects focused on SMEs in South America to promote the SAFE and AEO concepts, confirm this interest. These projects have been encouraging the entry of smaller players into the global market, working to bring capacity building assistance in the form of training, technology, methodologies and overall security infrastructure. This has been achieved in cooperation with BASC, the WCO, the private sector and national Customs administrations.

The security landscape has continued to evolve: efforts increasingly focus on the need for universal security standards and cross-border recognition of both public and private investment in the secure movement of goods. The most important issue is to establish strategies that facilitate SME participation in AEO programmes, as these programmes have turned out to be an important engine for global commerce.

Under the SAFE Framework of Standards, Customs administrations should not burden the international trade community with different sets of requirements to secure and facilitate international commerce, however, the question that arises in many fora is whether SMEs have the economic ability to implement all the required security standards under such programmes; yet, studies done by organisations such as the World BASC (Business Alliance for Secure Commerce) Organization (WBO), show that it is feasible for SMEs to meet the security standards under those programmes; nonetheless, in certain regions, SME participation is not as high as we would like.

Preserving the same set of security standards for all companies, regardless of size, should remain one of our guiding principles. At the same time, the economic limitations of SMEs should be taken into account by Customs administrations in assessing a SMEs conformance with AEO standards. Rather than lowering

Potential implementation costs for all businesses. Source: C-TPAT

Pilot projects focused on SMEs in South America to promote the SAFE and AEO concepts, confirm this interest. These projects have been encouraging the entry of smaller players into the global market, working to bring capacity building assistance in the form of training, technology, methodologies and overall security infrastructure. This has been achieved in cooperation with BASC, the WCO, the private sector and national Customs administrations.

The security landscape has continued to evolve: efforts increasingly focus on the need for universal security standards and cross-border recognition of both public and private investment in the secure movement of goods. The most important issue is to establish strategies that facilitate SME participation in AEO programmes, as these programmes have turned out to be an important engine for global commerce.

More information www.wbasco.org

Ms Mayra Hernández de Cavelier is the President of the World BASC Organization, a private sector/Customs partnership that was established to promote the security of international trade in cooperation with governments and international organisations. It is a non-profit organisation, constituted in the State of Delaware (USA), with over 2000 member companies in 16 countries throughout South and North America. Its purpose is to secure and facilitate global trade by developing and administering security standards and procedures applied to the international supply chain, in partnership with governments, Customs administrations, enforcement agencies and bodies representing international business.
Jordan Customs Golden List Program

The Golden List Program (GLP) is considered a new era of establishing a joint business-customs partnership. Jordan Customs (J.C) encourages all supply chain companies (importers, exporters, qualified industrial zone companies, customs agents, warehouse operators and transport operators) to voluntarily implement state-of-the-art customs due diligence and supply chain security standards. Doing so will enable these companies to qualify for GLP status and benefit from the facilities offered by J.C.

J.C believes that "good" companies that pose minimum risk with respect to their customs transactions must be rewarded.

Objectives of the Golden List Program

The GLP of J.C is expected to achieve a number of desirable objectives including:
1. Enhancing and protecting the income of the Treasury.
2. Improving customs processing procedures at border crossings by focusing on high risk cargo shipments.
3. Expediting customs processing procedures and goods release for low risk shipments.
4. Facilitating Jordan's trade with other countries.
5. Upgrading customs work to meet international best practices.
6. Improving the mechanisms of collecting customs duties and other taxes.
7. Encouraging companies to implement international best practices in general and with respect to their customs transactions in particular.
8. Supporting the economy of Jordan via a viable and strong trade sector, and making Jordan an attractive environment for foreign investments.
9. Creating mutually rewarding relationships and partnerships with foreign Customs Services so that cargo information may be transacted beforehand.
10. Creating mutually rewarding relationships and partnerships with foreign Customs Services so that customs knowledge, especially with respect to risk management techniques, can be transferred.
11. Enhancing "early" customs control mechanisms with respect to cargo shipments.
12. Enhancing J.C ability to cope with international trade challenges.
13. Enhancing supply chain security on international cargo shipments.
14. Reducing the costs of cargo processing at border crossings.
15. Enhancing the competitiveness of Jordan’s trade community in international markets.

How Companies Benefit from Voluntary Disclosure

1. Companies improve, and thus expedite, their transactions with customs when they undertake self-compliance audit because they discover their own mistakes and remedy them.
2. Self-compliance audit to discover a company’s own mistakes and remedy them improves the company’s chances to attain Golden List status.
3. The company saves time and money through smoother transactions with customs by avoiding higher penalties when the mistakes are discovered by J.C.
4. J.C may waive, or charge the minimum level of fines/penalties when the mistakes are disclosed by the company itself.

Golden List Program benefits / incentives

The GLP aims at enhancing the Jordanian trade community’s self-compliance with customs requirements and supply chain security best practices. However, these enhancements would
Annually, J.C will declare the best three companies on the GLP and will recognize these companies during a celebratory event.

J.C will continue to negotiate additional benefits with all GLP member companies on a one-to-one basis. (Note: The J.C will take care of one-to-one benefits to recognize the advantages of tailoring customs services to the needs of clients whilst maintaining a transparent process.

What kind of business may apply for Golden list status?

The Golden list program is available for the following business types:
- Importers
- Exporters
- Qualified Industrial Zone Companies
- Customs agents (brokers)
- Warehouse operators
- Transport operators

More information
www.customs.gov.jo/English/default.shtm

المقايضة الذهبية الجمارك الأردنية

Golden List Jordan Customs
100% scanning issue

The conference hosted by the WCO on 10 and 11 June, “What future for 100% scanning?”, was an opportunity to relaunch the debate on the law adopted by the United States Congress in 2007 which mandates scanning of each of the 18 million containers destined for the US prior to loading at the port of origin by 1 July 2012.

Debate largely centred on the impact which the US law might have on WCO instruments and on commercial trade itself, and the feasibility of implementing such a provision given the technologies currently available or in the process of being developed.

“The leading world ports will be unable to apply 100% scanning by 2012” declared Frédéric Carluer, University of Le Havre Professor responsible for a study on this subject published by the WCO, the results of which were released at the conference.

While scanning technology is expected to be up to the challenge by 2012, the cost of infrastructure and equipment, port risk management implementation, hiring and training skilled staff, and the ability to monitor, interpret and assess every image in a timely manner are but a few of the areas identified by the study as problematic.

“While some major or relatively new ports such as those in the Gulf States and China will be able to purchase and operate the required technology, other smaller ports or those with decaying infrastructure will not be able to make this kind of financial investment,” he added.

Asia, where 75% of US imports originate, will be most affected. Countries in Asia have therefore reacted more strongly than those in Europe, notes Mr Carluer. “The Philippines, for instance, has bought 15 scanners and ordered a further 15, while France has just five.” One of the scenarios put forward by the academic envisages a club of “ultra secure” ports comprising the leading European and Asian ports along with a number of other avant-garde ports which wager on becoming a regional hub by investing massively in scanning technologies, as in the Philippines.
As well as the technical and organizational difficulties, the conference also raised the issue of reciprocity of this procedure for containerized traffic leaving the US for main ports in other countries.

The analysis also revealed positive impacts: heightened confidence in container transport and port reorganization could well translate into greater profitability. The introduction of 100% scanning could also stimulate technological research and development, facilitating the market entry of new suppliers and resulting in advances which could benefit all sectors of the supply chain.

Michel Danet, WCO Secretary General, said “there is no question that we are all determined to find the best practical solution; one that will provide the United States with the added security it seeks to prevent any act of terrorism from being carried out using international shipping channels, but which will not burden global trade unnecessarily”.

“We hope that logic will triumph over emotion” concluded Michael Schmitz, Director of Compliance and Facilitation at the WCO.

More information
www.wcoomd.org

A few key facts
Source: “GLOBAL LOGISTIC CHAIN SECURITY: Economic Impacts of the US 100% Container Scanning Law”
University of Le Havre Study commissioned by the World Customs Organization

✔ Global traffic increased from 137 to 417 million containers between 1995 and 2006.
✔ The United States accounted for 11% of the global container traffic of around 417 million containers in 2006. The US imported 18 million containers, set to rise to 30 million by 2012.
✔ Over 50% of containers imported into the United States originate in China, with 75% coming from Asia as a whole (including China).
✔ Seven Asian countries rank in the top ten exporters to the United States, accounting for 60% of US container imports.
✔ Polarization in the United States is such that the top 25 US ports handled 99% of the traffic in 2006.
✔ Among the 23 key US ports, 14 have been designed as strategic ports in terms of commercial and military operations (8 on the East Coast, 2 in the Gulf of Mexico and 4 on the West Coast).
✔ The ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach handle 44% of all containers arriving in the United States (more than 8 out of the 18 million incoming containers in total).
✔ The ports of Oakland, Seattle and Tacoma handle an additional 2 million containers per year giving a total, for the West Coast as a whole, along with Portland and San Diego, of 58% of the containers entering the United States.
✔ To avoid the anticipated congestion problems and secure US territory, a number of Mexican and Canadian ports with rail links appear to present interesting alternative solutions.
✔ Ensenada has seen 100% traffic growth in the past two years (from 76,000 containers in 2006) and traffic in Lazaro Cardenas has grown by 200% in the same period (132,000 containers in 2006).
✔ Other sizeable imports from neighbouring ports come from Vancouver (in tenth place in terms of average growth or almost 2 million containers), Montreal (13th with 1.2 million containers), Manzanillo and Veracruz (16th and 19th respectively with 0.9 and 0.6 million containers in 2006).
✔ Puerto Rico and Hawaii are also particularly well placed (11th and 14th), handling 1.7 and 1.1 million containers respectively in 2006.
✔ 59 ports representing more than 85% of exports to the United States currently apply the "Container Security Initiative" (CSI), which obliges them to scan containers identified as "high risk".
Partnership in Customs Academic Research and Development

...the 2008 PICARD Conference

Over 100 delegates representing Customs administrations, the academic world, the donor community and others who have an interest in academic research into Customs matters met in Shanghai (PR China) from 14 - 16 May 2008 to attend the WCO 2008 PICARD Conference.

Co-organised by the WCO, the International Network of Customs Universities (INCU), the PICARD Advisory Group, and the Shanghai Customs College, the Conference focused on the pilot projects based on PICARD professional standards that were jointly developed by the WCO and INCU, recent academic research and existing educational programmes including future research capabilities related to Customs issues, research needs and areas identified by Customs administrations as necessary to achieve their strategic objectives, and increasing the knowledge and interest of donor organisations about Customs-related academic research projects. In addition, Guidelines establishing a process by which universities meeting the requirements of the Professional Standards for the Customs profession, established under the WCO PICARD Programme, may attain WCO recognition of their academic programmes were presented.

The Conference provided excellent networking opportunities and was complemented by a parallel exhibition by universities and other academic institutions showcasing their products and services.

More information
riitta.passi@wcoomd.org
www.incu.org

The WCO PICARD programme was launched in 2006 to provide a framework for cooperation between Customs and the academic world. In parallel, INCU was established to provide the WCO and other organisations with a single point of contact with universities and research institutes active in the field of Customs research, education and training. INCU also provides a global resource for governments and the private sector, and an educational source for students wishing to further their knowledge in the field of customs management and administration, and international trade and logistics management.
First WCO/Interpol International Conference on Illicit Cash Couriers

The laundering of the proceeds of crime is steadily increasing, at the same pace as crime itself and the funds it generates. Sophisticated techniques are being employed to reintroduce sums of money illegally obtained back into the formal economy. The use of cash couriers, people who physically transport cash and negotiable instruments payable to bearer across national borders, is one of the main ways in which criminals and terrorists move funds for laundering or to finance their activities.

This is a worrying problem of global concern and countries around the world have addressed the difficult issue of detecting suspicious financial flows amid the flood of international fund transfers. It follows that international cooperation between all the players involved is indispensable if the countermeasures taken against money laundering are to prove effective.

This was the objective pursued by Interpol and the WCO in jointly organizing the First International Conference on Illicit Cash Couriers. The Conference, which was held in Lyon (France) on 13 and 14 May 2008 and attended by more than 107 senior officials representing 47 countries and 4 international organizations, provided an opportunity for Police and Customs officials to discuss common challenges and work towards concrete solutions.

Speakers emphasized the importance of strengthened cooperation and the sharing of critical intelligence among law enforcement authorities worldwide in tackling the growing threat, as well as the need to make better use of existing technology to detect concealed currency and monetary instruments at strategic locations such as borders, where the illegal transportation of cash is concentrated.

Increased expertise is essential for law enforcement bodies to effectively combat illicit cash couriers in the field and to overcome the vulnerabilities exploited by criminal and terrorist organizations.

More information
kazunari.igarashi@wcoomd.org
Regional Training Centre in Santo Domingo now up and running

The WCO Regional Training Centre (RTC) for the America’s and Caribbean region, situated in Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic), held its inaugural training course in April 2008. Facilitated by officials from the WCO Secretariat, the training course focused on WCO trade facilitation tools and instruments.

Thirty-two participants from seven countries, namely, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, and Uruguay attended the seminar. Participants presented reports on the implementation status of the revised Kyoto Convention (RKC) and the SAFE Framework of Standards in their respective countries. In this regard, the Secretariat was delighted to note that several WCO Members attending the course had indicated that they were now in a position to accede to the RKC whilst the SAFE Framework was at various stages of implementation.

The RTC is located in a beautiful tropical Caribbean setting just outside the city centre of Santo Domingo, and not only boasts a state of the art training facility, but also newly constructed apartment buildings capable of housing 600 students. In addition, the RTC has a magnificent club with a swimming pool, basketball courts and well maintained grounds.

More information
procedures@wcoomd.org
**Events**

**Greece hosts IPR conference**

Halkadiki (Greece) was the venue for the International Conference on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy that was jointly organised by the WCO and the EU Customs 2013 Programme from 21-23 May 2008.

The aim of the Conference was to provide a secure and safe environment for all citizens, to enhance Customs border controls, to identify future challenges, opportunities and threats, to raise public awareness about the dangers of fake goods, to mobilise international players to further synergise their activities, and to intensify cooperation between the EU and the WCO.

The event was officially opened by Mr. Antonis Bezas, the Deputy Minister of Economy and Finance in Greece who was assisted by Mr. Nikolaos Vernadakis, the Greek Director General of Customs and Excise.

Delegates from around the world examined the real impact of counterfeiting and piracy on the social and economic well-being of world citizens, explored further ways and means in which cooperation can be strengthened and broadened amongst trade stakeholders, shared views and offered solutions to identified challenges and threats posed by the trade in fake products, and benchmarked best practices on combating counterfeiting and piracy.

The Conference which proved to be a great success was hosted by the Greek Customs administration with the support of the Greek Ministry of Economy and Finance.

**More information**

gd3-prosopiko-a1@ky.ypoik.gr
To give effect to its determination to take concrete action against counterfeiting and piracy and turn words into action, during June 2008 the WCO launched the first in a series of multi-country operations, in co-operation with local Customs administrations, aimed at countering the flood of fake goods heading for the marketplace.

With the health and safety of Africa’s citizens being threatened on a daily basis, its industrial growth being stunted, its artistic creativity being crushed, and its efforts to encourage economic development and social prosperity being destroyed by the counterfeiting and piracy trade, Operation “Vice Grips” saw Customs officials from Egypt, Ghana, Morocco, Nigeria, Tunisia, and Senegal voluntarily conducting simultaneous inspections of imported consignments over a one-week period. The officials targeted six principal ports in Africa known to be used by counterfeiters and pirates as destinations for their illicit goods; whether destined for the African market or in transit to other parts of the world: Damietta in Egypt; Thema in Ghana; Casablanca in Morocco, Lagos in Nigeria, Tunis in Tunisia; and Dakar in Senegal.

Building the capacity of Customs authorities to fight the trade in counterfeit and pirated goods more effectively and from a position of strength as its primary objective, Operation “Vice Grips” provided a platform for forty-seven maritime containers to be inspected by teams of Customs officials who had received specific training in risk analysis and targeting by WCO IPR specialists. These inspections resulted in the interception of several tons of fake goods totalling 1.4 million items. The fake products ranged from car accessories to clothing, from mobile phone batteries to soft drinks, from ink cartridges to gas filters, even products for maintaining a baby’s hygiene. No product or brand escaped unscathed!

Similar training activities and field operations will be conducted over the coming months at other ports in Africa and in other regions around the world that are under siege by organised criminal gangs who now control the global counterfeiting and piracy trade.

This illegal trade is estimated to be worth between 300 and 500 billion US Dollars per year!

More information
communication@wcomd.org
The two day WCO conference focusing on the application of rules of origin around the world took place in Brussels (Belgium) from 16-17 June 2008. With rules of origin now a prominent feature of today’s trading system given the plethora of regional trade arrangements that exist and those that are under negotiation across the globe, the issue has become more topical than ever. These rules enable preferential arrangements to be more effectively implemented; the positive benefits of which include the development of trade and the encouragement of foreign investment.

With the above in mind, the Conference provided an ideal forum for Customs administrations, the business world, international and regional organisations, and other global trade stakeholders to openly express their concerns, expectations and new ideas that would improve the administration and management of rules of origin. During the panel sessions and plenary discussions, delegates looked at rules of origin from various perspectives that included: rules of origin against the backdrop of globalization; how to deal with these rules and to better use the potential benefits of preferential trade arrangements; the real impact of the rules on international trade development and investment promotion; actual case studies illustrating the management and application of the wide range of rules taking economic realities into account; procedures for justifying goods origin; the numerous origin role-players; and origin best practices, particularly private sector companies who had already implemented solutions.

Aimed at “Getting to grips with origin”, the Conference proved to be a great success and has contributed positively to broadening understanding among global trade stakeholders about current and future developments in the field of rules of origin.

More information origin@wcoomd.org
When the Policy Commission undertook a detailed examination of the work carried out thus far on Customs in the 21st Century, it decided that a high level policy document would be useful in which the strategic priorities and concepts relating to the mission of Customs would be clearly defined. It was also agreed that a small high-level group of interested Members should meet to prepare a document which would draw from the different documents already drafted on this subject.

The meeting was held in Durban (South Africa) on 2 and 3 June 2008, at the kind invitation of South African Revenue Service.

The document "Customs in the 21st Century – Enhancing Growth and Development through Trade Facilitation and Border Security" is the result of the in-depth discussions of the group.

A resolution indicating the different steps to be taken to turn the vision of Customs into concrete action supplements this document. Both documents are available on the WCO Members website.

More information
www.wcoomd.org
MANAGING SECURE TRADE LANES & THE FUTURE OF FACILITATION

Navigating the seas of change

A forum enabling Customs and trade to undertake a critical dialogue on the implementation of global trade supply chain security and facilitation initiatives

- Examine real-world data on existing secure trade lanes and the likely future impact of national initiatives under the auspices of the WCO SAFE Framework
- Expand your understanding of advance data reporting initiatives and what they have in common, how they differ, and what it means to your business
- Learn about the WCO Data Model, its benefits for traders, and whether it could lead to a binding international regime for shipment-based cross-border regulatory filing
- Hear what governments are doing to advance government-to-government exchange of data, capacity building, and explore the WCO’s role in these processes
- Broaden your knowledge on bilateral and multilateral efforts to achieve the goal of a “Single Window”, and consider the likely effects on your supply chain

Benchmark best practices with top private sector role-players who have already implemented global programmes to meet the new requirements.

...Join us, your views can make all the difference!

Location
WCO Headquarters
Brussels, Belgium

Date
4 - 5 December 2008

Co-chairs
- Professor David Widdowson, University of Canberra
- Bryce C. Blegen, Trusted Trade Alliance
- Allen Bruford, World Customs Organization

To sponsor, exhibit, register...

Contact:
http://events.wcoomd.org of event@wcoomd.org
Intertek’s supply chain security consultancy puts you back in control

As world-leading supply chain security consultants, Intertek Government Services have the expertise to advise and assist governments, airports, customs organisations, port authorities and businesses on protecting themselves from all supply chain security risks.

**Intertek’s supply chain security consultants can advise and assist with:**

- Threat and risk assessment of your supply chain
- Security plan and procedure development and auditing
- Tailoring supply chain security solutions to your requirements
- Implementing port and airport cargo scanning facilities
- Supply chain security training for staff at all levels

If you would like one of our consultants to advise you on the best way to improve your supply chain security, visit www.intertek.com/government to find details of the offices closest to you.

Intertek are your international supply chain security team.

---

**For further information, contact us in the following ways:**

**UK** Academy Place, 1-9 Brook Street, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5NQ United Kingdom  
+44 (0)1277 223 400  info.government@intertek.com  www.intertek.com/government