BIC - Bureau International des Containers

Use of advanced technologies in containerized trade and challenges associated with Customs’ treatment of container accessories

Permanent Technical Committee – 221st-222nd sessions
Enabling digital supply chain: Streamlining the Customs treatment of container accessories
Global systems for enhanced decision-making

- Flexibility, Transparency & Predictability
- Economic, Social and Environmental Competitiveness

Digital platforms

Smarter Containers

Integrity of Goods
- All container tracking, monitoring and security devices are container accessories
- Container accessories affixed or shipped separately are entitled to temporary admission when intended to be re-exported, and relieved from duties and taxes

+ Revised Kyoto Convention
+ ISCM
+ SAFE Framework of Standards, etc.
Inconsistency of global practices

- Customs Convention on Containers (1972) as at 21 October 2013
- Convention on Temporary Admission (Istanbul Convention) as at 3 July 2018
- Recommendation of the CCC concerning Customs formalities in connection with the Temporary Admission of Container Security Devices as at August 2015
- Customs Convention on Containers (1956) as at 23 October 2006
- Customs Convention on on the ATA Carnet for the temporary admission of goods (ATA Convention) as at 21 October 2013
Delays and costs at borders from Customs treatment of container accessories

Challenges persistently met:

1/ non-recognition of the devices as container equipment or accessories

2/ denial of temporary admission regime and associated duty exemption for devices to be shipped with a container in a timely manner

3/ case-by-case cumbersome documentary requirements
Testimonies:
- Import duties: ranging from 15% to 75% in some countries; 1 single container of tracking devices = several hundreds of thousands of USD
- Documentary burden: up to 4 months of delays at borders

Deployment campaigns delayed, down-sized or re-oriented

Impact:
- Economic
- Safety/Maintenance
- Environmental
- Quality of Service
1. Promoting the devoted UN and WCO instruments and expanding their implementation

2. Integrating the Business practices within the Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC) Review process

3. HS Classification Opinion: a pre-requisite for clear identification of tracking and monitoring devices as container accessories?

4. Easier recognition of container accessories by using ISO-6346 markings (“J”)?

5. Simplified standardized dataset to inform Customs?
High potential for mutual benefits:
- Security
- Interoperability
- Facilitation of legitimate trade

End-to-end supply chain visibility

Key to green lanes/AEO
B I C

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