

Centers of Excellence and Expertise

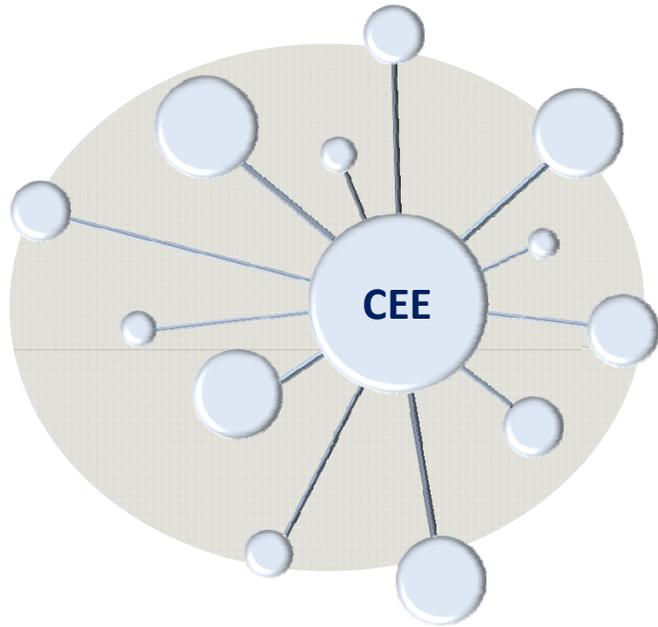
Overview

November 2012



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

What are Centers?



- Virtual organizations that leverage technology to bring work to the Center
- Coordinated from a strategic location
- Aligned by key industry sectors
- Bring existing expertise together to authoritatively facilitate trade
- Provide a single point of processing for participating importers
- Serve as resource to the broader trade community and to CBP's U.S. government partners



Goals of Centers

1. Facilitate legitimate trade through effective risk segmentation
 - Utilize account based methods to process trade
 - Expand partnerships - move more importers to trusted trader status
 - Develop and implement comprehensive strategies to manage risk
2. Increase industry-based knowledge within CBP
 - Advance bi-directional education to raise industry knowledge
 - Engage industry groups and key stakeholders
 - Bring all of CBP's expertise to bear on a single industry in a virtual environment
3. Enhance enforcement and address industry risks
 - Leverage industry to identify issues of mutual interest to provide CBP with targeting, enforcement, and/or intelligence information – Trade Intelligence
 - Coordinate enforcement efforts by industry to address unique risks



How Centers Operate



Previously

- ACME Electronics was importing into 60 Ports of Entry (POE), with 60 ports conducting reviews.



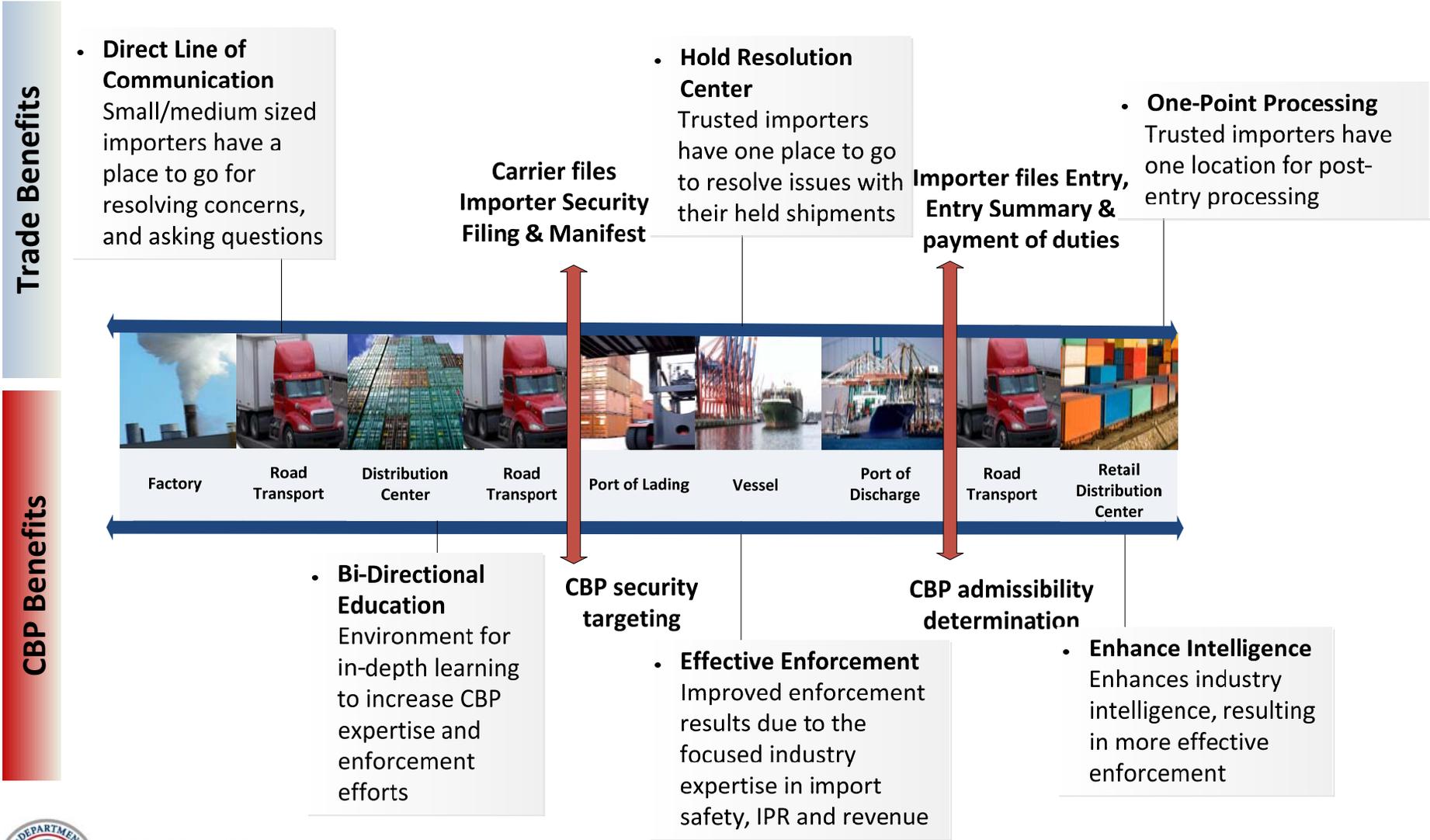
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Center Operations

- Instead of 60 ports making decisions on ACME Electronics entries, they are all reviewed by the Electronics Center of Excellence in coordinated from Long Beach, CA.

Benefits of Centers

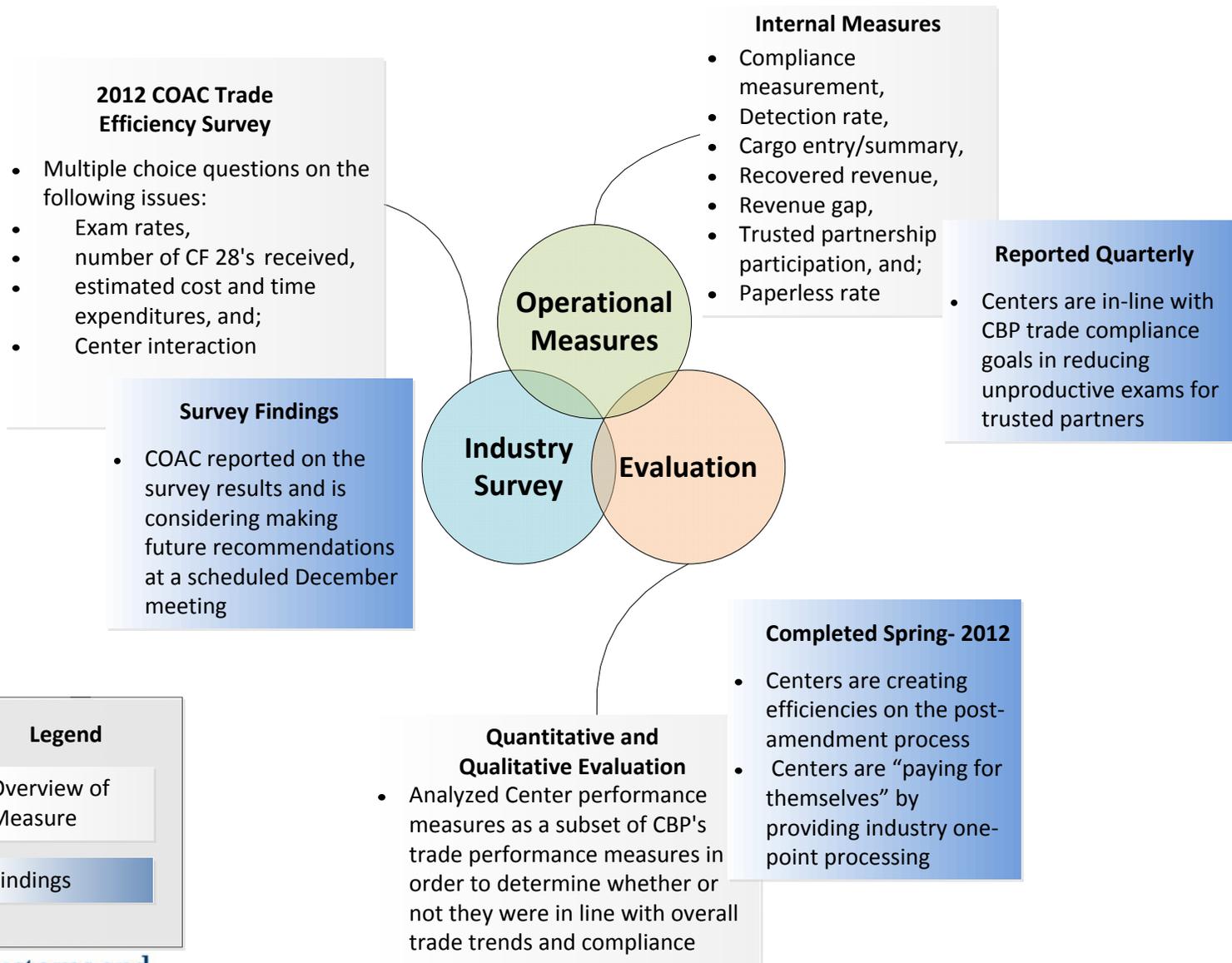


Centers Create Efficiencies for U.S. Business

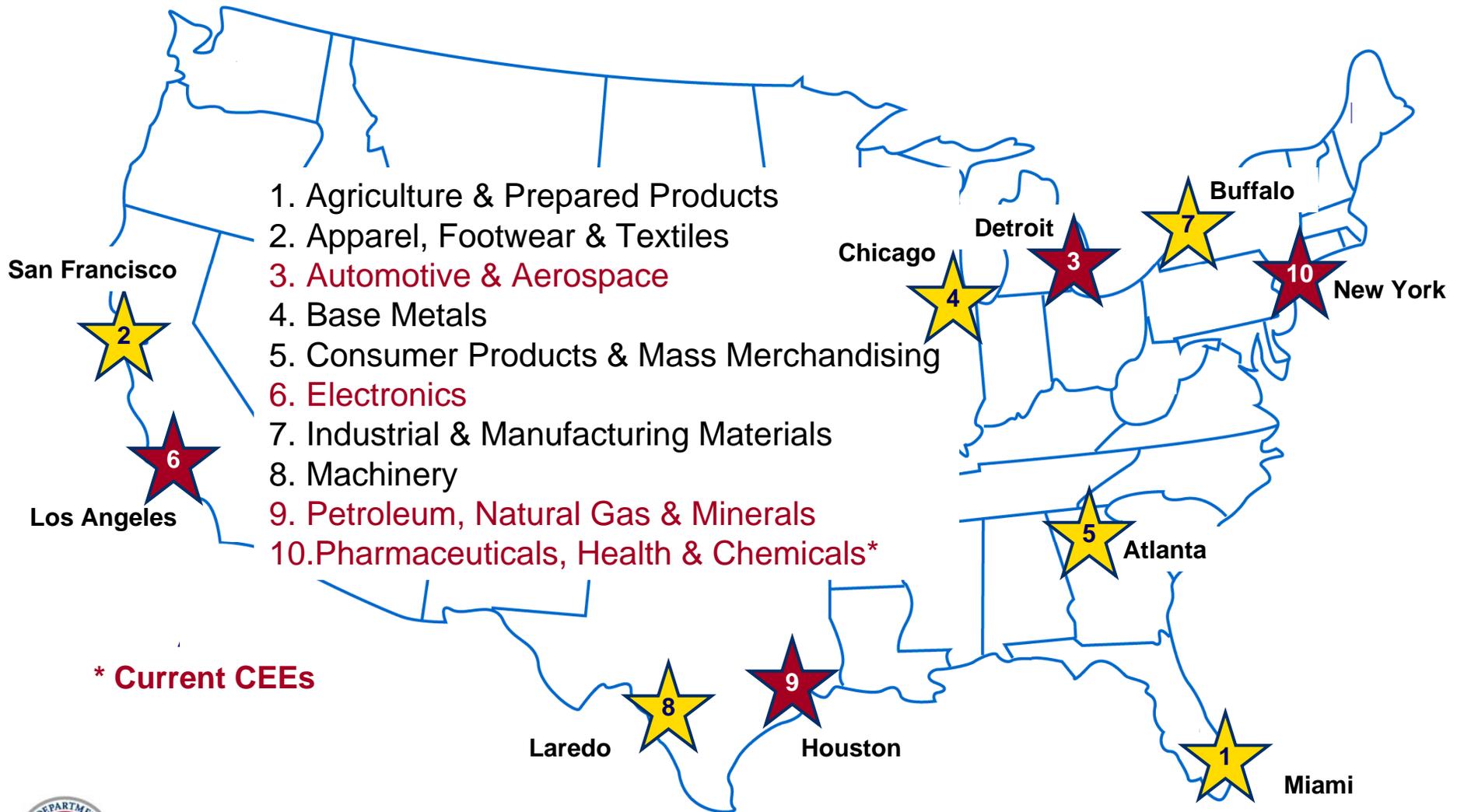
- Shipments of ACME Electronics microchips were being held by CBP in Laredo
- As member of the Electronics Center of Excellence and Expertise (Center), ACME contacted the Center and requested they look into the shipments



How Centers are Evaluated



Current and Future Centers



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Center Schedule

Fiscal Year (FY)	Established Center
FY 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information Technology & Consumer Electronics• Pharmaceuticals, Health & Chemicals• Petroleum, Natural Gas & Minerals• Automotive & Aerospace
FY 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Industrial & Manufacturing Materials• Agriculture & Prepared Products• Base Metals• Machinery• Consumer Products & Mass Merchandising• Textiles, Wearing Apparel & Footwear





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Background

Responding to the Call for Trade Transformation

- In direct response to calls for more uniform and efficient facilitation, and in collaboration with the Commercial Operations Advisory Committee (COAC) during FY 2011 CBP created two pilots
- The resulting pilots underwent careful concept testing and validation both within CBP and with the broader trade community

CEE and AE Pilots

- The Center of Excellence and Expertise (CEE) pilot was established in November 2010 to enhance facilitation, improve enforcement efforts, and increase CBP's knowledge of the pharmaceutical industry
- The Account Executive (AE) pilot was established to work with selected “trusted partners” in the electronics industry to facilitate trade, while ensuring continued compliance with all import requirements
- Both pilots relied on small cross-occupational core teams, with matrix staff bringing additional specialized expertise

Expanded Centers

- At the conclusion of the pilots, the AE concept was combined with the CEE to create new Centers to segment risk, facilitate trade for trusted partners and develop comprehensive enforcement strategies - making CBP's haystack smaller
- Future expansion is expected to result in ten centers that will cover the full range of imports

