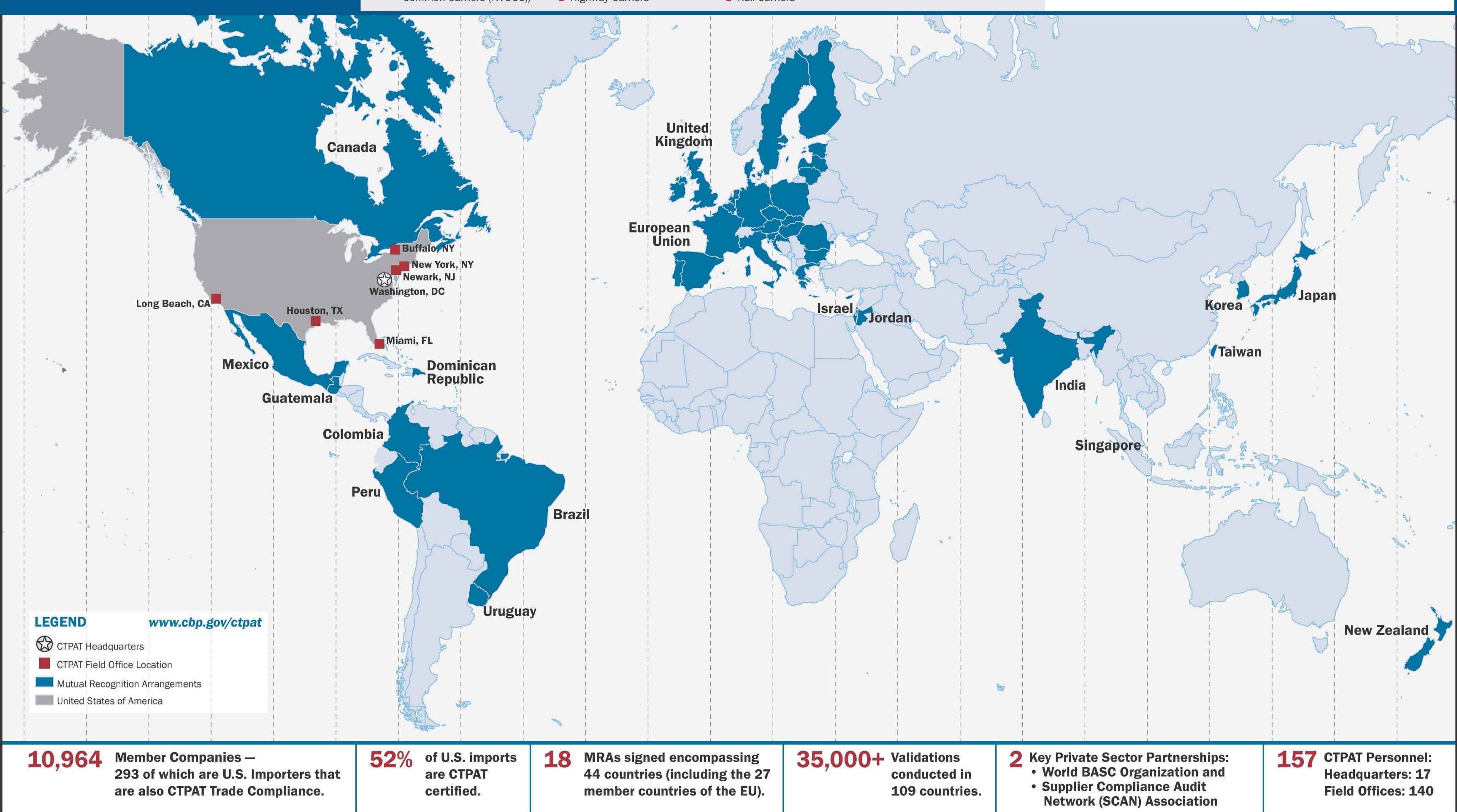
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Entities Eligible for CTPAT Membership:

- Air Carriers
- Consolidators (Air Freight Consolidators, Ocean Transport Intermediaries, and Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers (NVOCC))
- Customs BrokersImplementation
- Exporters
- Exporters
 Foreign Based Marine Port
 Terminal Operators
- Foreign Manufacturers
- Highway Carriers
- Importers
- Long Haul HighwayCarriers in Mexico
- Marine Port Authority and Terminal Operators
- Rail Carriers
- Sea Carriers
- Third Party Logistics Providers (3PL)





Benefits under a Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA):

- Efficiency CTPAT will not have to expend resources to send staff overseas to validate a facility that has been certified by a foreign partnership program under an MRA with the United States.
- **Risk Assessment Tool** The status of the foreign partnership program participant is recognized by CTPAT and is used as a risk-assessment factor. A CTPAT validation visit will be conducted on a different segment of the CTPAT importer's supply chain
- Less Redundancy/Duplication of Efforts Foreign companies do not have to go through two separate validation visits. The first validation conducted by the local Customs Administration as the company is initially certified by its business partnership program would be recognized as a CTPAT validation if an MRA is in place.
- Common Standard/Trade Facilitation Companies only have to adhere to one set of security requirements. Avoiding multiple sets of

requirements facilitates international trade as shipments will move more efficiently through different countries. Since Mutual Recognition is based on having equally stringent minimum security criteria, a CTPAT compliant company essentially complies with the security criteria of those countries with which the U.S. has reached an MRA. Common standards among programs also aid companies in conducting and documenting their security self-assessments.

■ **Transparency** — Closer collaboration among and between Customs Administrations' and their partnership program companies lead to more transparency in international commerce. Similar security platforms and the exchange of information between all of these partners expedite and facilitate the movement of commerce across nations.