

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory
Committee (COAC)
Next Generation Facilitation Subcommittee
Draft Recommendations
Emerging Technology Working Group**

May 2019

COAC

COMMERCIAL CUSTOMS OPERATIONS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Emerging Technology Recommendations

COAC is encouraged by the work of CBP, DHS and the trade thus far in the area of blockchain and it looks forward to continued progress in the area. Based on the results of the NAFTA/CAFTA Blockchain Proof of Concept (POC), COAC is providing recommendations designed to guide the strategic process moving forward.

COAC recommends that as CBP continues to conduct Proof of Concept (POC) exercises it should design, execute and analyze the POCs in a manner that encourages the greatest possible number of adopters. In particular, neither technology, investment or cost should serve as a barrier to entry (do not restrict participants due to the necessary type of technology or capital).

COAC recommends that in order to encourage the adoption of blockchain, CBP should strive for global data standards and protocols consistent with WCO principles that promote trade facilitation, transparency and compliance in the context of cargo entry, clearance/release and post entry review/audit processes.

COAC recommends that CBP provide a web page at www.cbp.gov about blockchain with Frequently Asked Questions and an explanation as to the basic concepts and application of blockchain. The web page should address the rationale for CBP's interest in blockchain, its perceived relevancy to customs transactions and its benefits by way of both case studies (Proof of Concept) and metrics that articulate the potential return on investment. It also should provide an avenue for individuals to pose questions and suggestions regarding CBP's examination and consideration of blockchain technology.