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Thanks for joining us for this new issue of the Trade News Snapshot! As we wrap up calendar year 2020, we at the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Trade have been reflecting on our accomplishments this year. We issued an unprecedented number of Withhold Release Orders (WRO) to prevent merchandise made with forced labor from entering U.S. commerce, initiated several successful data pilots, successfully initiated duty deferrals for businesses hurt during COVID-19, issued a civil enforcement action against a company importing goods made with forced labor, had numerous Enforce and Protect Act actions, and so much more. Great work everyone, and here's to all that's to come in 2021.

-Brenda Smith, Executive Assistant Commissioner, Office of Trade

CBP Reminds Consumers to Beware of Counterfeit Goods when Shopping this Holiday Season

During this holiday season, CBP is reminding consumers to be on the lookout for counterfeit and pirated goods, particularly when shopping online.

Every year, CBP seizes millions of counterfeit goods from countries around the world as part of its mission to protect U.S. businesses and consumers. These goods include fake versions of popular products, such as smartphones and related accessories, electronics, apparel, shoes, cosmetics, and high-end luxury goods. Sold online and in stores, counterfeit goods hurt the U.S. economy, cost Americans their jobs, threaten consumer health and safety, and fund criminal activity.



There are several steps that consumers can take to protect themselves when shopping online. Purchase goods only from reputable retailers and be wary of third-party vendors. Check seller reviews and verify there is a working phone number and address for the seller in case you have questions about the legitimacy of a product.

Nationwide in fiscal year 2020, CBP seized 26,503 shipments containing goods that violated intellectual property rights. The total estimated value of the seized goods, had they been genuine, was nearly \$1.3 billion. Among more recent seizures:

- On November 10, CBP officers in Louisville, Kentucky announced the seizure of counterfeit watches that would have been worth more than \$2 million if genuine. Purchasing counterfeit watches and jewelry deprives legitimate businesses of revenue, which can prompt those businesses to cut jobs.
- On November 9, CBP officers in Dallas announced the seizure of \$9.3 million of counterfeit designer merchandise, including footwear, handbags, and apparel bearing trademarks such as Chanel, Gucci, and Louis Vuitton.
- On October 28, CBP officers in International Falls, Minnesota announced the seizure of counterfeit Bluetooth speakers and chainsaws that would have been worth more than \$170,000 if genuine. Counterfeit electronics and power tools may not meet U.S. safety standards.
- On October 27, CBP officers at the Port of Los Angeles/Long Beach announced the seizure of \$3.5 million of fake cosmetics, Viagra pills, footwear, and apparel bearing trademarks such as MAC, Chanel, Nike, and Versace. Fake pharmaceuticals and cosmetics can harm or even kill consumers.

Learn more about how you can protect yourself and your loved ones [here](#).

Popular on @CBPTradeGov

- 11/24: Counterfeit goods hurt the U.S. economy, cost Americans jobs, threaten consumer health & safety, & fund criminal activity. You can help protect your family & the economy by purchasing from reputable sources this holiday season. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/x7GDh> #CBPTrade
- 12/2: @CBP has issued a Withhold Release Order against cotton and cotton products originating from the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC) based on information that reasonably indicated the use of #ForcedLabor, including convict labor. <https://go.usa.gov/x7Mv3> #CBPTrade
- 12/4: #ICYMI: In FY2020 @CBP prevented \$287 million in duty evasion through the Enforce and Protect Act! Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/x7Hnv> #CBPTrade

CBPTrade in the News

- U.S. bans cotton imports from China producer XPCC citing Xinjiang 'slave labor' – Reuters – 12/2
- ICE, CBP seize more than 100,000 counterfeit surgical masks intended for hospital workers – ICE – 12/9

The Trade News Snapshot is a monthly newsletter from the Office of Trade highlighting important programs, information, and updates for our trade partners and the public.



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

CBPTRADE

CBP Issues Detention Order on Cotton Products Made by Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps Using Prison Labor

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced that CBP personnel at all U.S. ports of entry will detain shipments containing cotton and cotton products originating from the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC).

CBP's Office of Trade directed the issuance of a Withhold Release Order against cotton products made by the XPCC based on information that reasonably indicates the use of forced labor, including convict labor. The WRO applies to all cotton and cotton products produced by the XPCC and its subordinate and affiliated entities, as well as any products that are made in whole or in part with or derived from that cotton, such as apparel, garments, and textiles.

The WRO on XPCC cotton products is the sixth **enforcement action** that CBP has announced in the past three months against goods made by forced labor from China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. In July 2020, the U.S. government issued an **advisory** to caution businesses about the risks of forced labor in Xinjiang, where the Chinese government continues to execute a campaign of repression targeting the Uyghur people and other ethnic and religious minority groups. [Read more.](#)

CBP Modifies Withhold Release Order on Imports of Bone Black

Recently, CBP announced that it modified a WRO such that bone black produced by Bonechar Carvão Ativado do Brasil Ltda (Bonechar) is admissible at all U.S. ports of entry effective Dec. 4, 2020.

CBP **previously prevented** Bonechar imports from entering the United States based on reasonable suspicion that they were produced using forced labor. Imports of bone black produced by Bonechar prior to the effective date of the WRO modification remain inadmissible.

CBP modified the WRO after receiving detailed information about the labor conditions under which Bonechar produces bone black, a form of charcoal made by heating bone that is used to filter substances like water and sugar. The company addressed each of the five **indicators of forced labor** identified by CBP in a submission which incorporated data from worker interviews, a site visit, and document reviews. Employees are free to leave the premises if they wish and are not subjected to any form of punishment. The evidence provided sufficiently supports Bonechar and an affiliated importer's claim that the bone black from the company has not been produced using forced labor since at least August 2020. [Read more.](#)

Latest Trade Federal Register Notices

- 85 FR 78141 - Notice of Detention
- 85 FR 78412 - Create/Update Importer Identity Form (CBP Form 5106)
- 85 FR 78139 - Transportation Entry and Manifest of Goods Subject to CBP Inspection and Permit
- 85 FR 75347 - Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery

CBP and Singapore Customs Sign Historic Letter of Intent to Explore Single Window Connectivity

CBP and Singapore Customs signed a historic letter of intent today that will enable closer cooperation in the areas of trade facilitation, revenue protection, and risk management.



Executive Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Trade Brenda Smith signed the letter of intent in Washington, D.C. on behalf of CBP, and Deputy Director-General Lim Teck Leong signed the letter of intent in Singapore on behalf of Singapore Customs.

The Letter of Intent to Explore Single Window Connectivity between Singapore's Networked Trade Platform and the U.S. **Automated Commercial Environment** formalizes the United States' and Singapore's commitment to sharing trade data and to exploring the possible connection of the two countries' national Single Windows for trade facilitation. [Read more.](#)

Trade Strategy 2025 Released



The Office of Trade is pleased to introduce the CBP Trade Strategy 2025! This updated strategy outlines OT's vision and direction for accomplishing its challenging and diverse mission while continuing to address the needs of its internal and external

stakeholders.

At the forefront of the strategy is OT's focus on driving and adapting to the dynamic trade landscape by adopting new technologies and processes while sharing our expertise with stakeholders and strengthening our workforce.

Trade Strategy 2025 consists of five key goals: Efficient Trade Facilitation, Effective Risk-Based Enforcement, Innovative and Sustainable e-Commerce, Trade Operational Insights, and Workforce Skills and Capabilities.

Trade Strategy 2025 identifies a vision, objectives, key initiatives, desired outcomes, and measures for success for each goal that will enhance current processes and shape the future of the Office of Trade. For more details and a view the entire strategy, [click here.](#)

New Cargo System Messaging Service Updates

- CSMS #45116249 - Updated Draft ACE Entry Summary Create/Update CATAIR for FTZ Identifier Format Change
- CSMS #45115570 - Update: ACE Reports Quick Reference Cards and Videos available on CBP.gov
- CSMS #45086700 - National and District Brokers Permits & RLF/EIP Filing
- CSMS #45056897 - ACE Reports Now Compatible with Additional Web Browsers