

Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC)

Government Issue Paper: 1USG Working Group



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

Office of Trade, Trade Policy & Programs

1USG Working Group

August 2022

Action Required: Informational

Background:

- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) stood up a Commercial Customs Operation Advisory Committee (COAC) working group – the One United States Government Working Group (1USG WG) – in July 2019. This working group operates under and reports up through the Next Generation Facilitation Subcommittee.
- The 1USG WG serves as the conduit to CBP and the Border Interagency Executive Council (BIEC) agencies on priority initiatives impacting CBP, its Partner Government Agencies (PGAs), industry stakeholders and international government entities – with a special focus on operational, technical, and policy and regulatory issues that involve multiple U.S. Government agencies.

Issue:

- This working group builds upon COAC, CBP, and interagency efforts, providing feedback and recommendations that identify a unified USG approach toward coordinated strategic solutions relating to Single Window and trade data processing, process optimization, risk management and other areas of mutual interest.

Current Status:

- The 1USG WG kick-off meeting for the 16th COAC term was held on February 24, 2022. The COAC Trade Lead for the 1USG WG is Jose D. Gonzalez (J.D. Gonzalez L.C.B.) and Craig Seelig (WiseTech Global). The CBP Leads for the 1USG WG are Queena Fan and Julie Stoeber (Office of Trade) and Valarie Neuhart and Latoria Martin (Office of Trade Relations).
- To date, the 1USG WG has collaborated on the following efforts:
 - Global Business Identifier (GBI) Initiative and technical development;
 - Fish and Wildlife Services (FWS) Message Set pilot;
 - U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) Core Message Set;
 - Section 321 and *de minimis* guidance for PGA-regulated commodities
 - Interagency Trusted Trade Initiative and/or reciprocity with Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (CTPAT);
 - The Disclaim Authorities Handbook; and
 - Support for the 21st Century Customs Framework (21CCF) Trade Modernization Initiative and PGA engagement.
- The WG hosted a “Disclaim Workshop” on July 1, 2020, with participation from APHIS, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the National Highway Traffic Safety Association (NHTSA). The objectives of this workshop were to resolve confusion that persists among the trade community regarding the use of disclaim codes for goods subject to PGA regulation, refining PGA guidance on the use of disclaim codes and import requirements for PGA regulated commodities, and to increase trade compliance with federal import regulations.

- The 1USG WG collaborates with the BIEC agencies to better align trade industry priorities and practices with PGA priorities and practices.

Next Steps:

- To date, the 1USG WG has met 29 times.
 - The 1USG WG has held its sixth virtual PGA Trusted Trader Workshop on February 23, 2022, to continue discussion of the development of a PGA Trusted Trader program. Follow up discussions are with PGAs to chart a path forward for the creation of integrated, interagency Trusted Trader initiatives and/or reciprocity with Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT).
 - The GBI project team continues to provide updates on the GBI Evaluative Proof of Concept (EPoC) and will reach out to the WG for additional feedback.
 - The “Disclaim Authorities Handbook,” which clarifies the use of declaration disclaim codes for shipments of PGA-regulated commodities, has been published.