

U.S. Department of Homeland Security – Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit of Mexico

FACT SHEET

In 2014, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit of Mexico (SHCP) signed a Declaration of Principles and Bilateral Strategic Plan. In these documents, they identified joint priorities for collaborative action to enhance the economic competitiveness and security of North America. Since then and based on longstanding cooperation, DHS and SHCP, through U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and Mexico's Tax Administration Service (SAT), developed and implemented numerous customs initiatives, programs, and mechanisms to fulfill such priorities, which are also compatible with the goals of the Joint Declaration on 21st Century Border Management and the U.S.-Mexico High Level Economic Dialogue.

Accomplishments of this process include:

- Establishment of **Port Security Committees** to develop specific protocols to address security and law enforcement issues at border ports of entry and in their immediate surroundings.
- Development of joint risk management and targeting strategies, which include the deployment of Mexican customs analysts at the **CBP National Targeting Center**, who work together with CBP Officers in the analysis of data pertaining to North America-bound shipments.
- Launch of **SAT's Center for Electronic Data Processing (CPED)** and enhanced partnerships with the CBP National Targeting Center through technical assistance and information sharing to support targeting efforts.
- Deployment of Mexican Customs analysts to the **U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center** to work jointly with ICE analysts in detecting and targeting shipments of counterfeit goods that may pose a threat to the security, safety, health, and legitimate industry of Mexico and the United States.
- Implementation of the **Mutual Recognition Arrangement** between CBP and Mexican Customs linking their respective industry partnership programs—the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) and Mexico's Authorized Economic Operator—creating a unified and sustainable security posture to further facilitate secure global trade.

- Establishment of a framework supporting the **implementation of cargo pre-inspection**, and subsequently launching:
 - Air cargo pre-inspection at Laredo International Airport in October 2015; and
 - Land cargo pre-inspection at the SAT Customs Facility in Mesa de Otay, Baja California in January 2016.
- Completion of the **Mexican Customs Investigators Training (MEXCIT) Initiative** between ICE and SAT officials, with support from the Merida Initiative.

Building on these accomplishments, DHS and SHCP will continue to work together to facilitate trade and travel between the United States and Mexico, including through:

- **Advancing Cargo Pre-Inspection Activities** through the
 - Completion of evaluation of the cargo pre-inspection pilots at the Laredo International Airport in Laredo, Texas and the SAT Customs Facility in Mesa de Otay, Baja California and identification of steps to transition these efforts into standard operations;
 - Launch of the third original pilot in San Jerónimo, Chihuahua and completion of a joint evaluation of such pilot;
 - Expansion of existing efforts, as necessary, to additional sectors and/or companies based on mutually-determined requirements and capacity; and
 - Development of joint criteria for the expansion of cargo pre-inspection in mutually selected customs facilities, beginning with airports in the United States, based on lessons learned from the Laredo International Airport pilot.
- **Harmonization of Customs and Transport Data Requirements** through the
 - Completion of the harmonization of our rail, air, and maritime cargo manifests and initiation of the development of a single truck cargo manifest.
- **Border Crossing Infrastructure Coordination** through the
 - Sharing of data regarding traffic volumes, hours of operation, and other relevant information, as appropriate, to support ongoing U.S. and Mexican Government work to implement data-driven border crossing infrastructure prioritization processes.
- **Enforcement of Customs Laws and Trade Agreements** through the
 - Expansion of cooperation in matters related to border security by combatting contraband, trade fraud, and trade-based money laundering through the exchange of information and coordinated investigative efforts, as appropriate; and
 - Expansion of collaborative efforts in joint risk management and targeting to identify threats and prevent illicit cargo from entering our territories.

This work plays a critical role in the U.S.-Mexico relationship, informing and supporting the work of the 21st Century Border Management Initiative and the U.S.-Mexico High Level Economic Dialogue, both of which are key forums for trade and travel facilitation work between our two governments. Further, this work supports the goals of the North American Leaders Summit to enhance North American security and prosperity.