

# Canada Border Services Agency Single Window Modernization

**Australian Customs Service  
Standardised Data Set Forum  
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# Presentation Outline

- ❖ CBSA and Data Harmonization
- ❖ CBSA Policy Direction for Commercial Imports
- ❖ Advance Commercial Information and Customs Self Assessment
- ❖ The Current Partner Government Agency (PGA) Landscape
- ❖ Single Window Modernization
- ❖ Sample Interface Options for PGAs

# G7 and WCO Data Harmonization

- ❖ CBSA has been active in International Data Harmonization activities since 1996:
  - G7 Initiative
  - WCO Data Model Project Team
  - APEC Common Data Elements CAP
  - India Customs Data Project

# Implementation Overview

## G7 Data Sets and Messages:

- ❖ Import and Export One-Step April 2003
- ❖ Cargo Report Import and Export
  - Marine – April 2004
  - Air – December 2005
  - Road and Rail – Planned 2006

# Policy Direction

- ❖ Mandatory advance electronic transmission of import data in accordance with timeframes specified for each mode
- ❖ Release at the first point of arrival
- ❖ Harmonized customs processing and risk assessment processes with the U.S. to the largest extent possible

## Policy Direction (cont.)

- ❖ Two processing streams – Advance Commercial Information (ACI) and Customs Self Assessment (CSA)
- ❖ Development of electronic options to meet the needs of PGAs
- ❖ Review of PGA processes to identify border requirements

# Advance Commercial Information

- ❖ ACI is an effective risk management process to address sensitive health, safety and security issues at first point of arrival.
- ❖ ACI requires that:
- ❖ Key data be transmitted electronically in advance of arrival of the goods on a transactional basis
- ❖ Data be processed through a sophisticated targeting tool
- ❖ Exams be at first point of arrival or foreign port

# ACI Benefits

- ❖ Optimized use of resources (less manual data review and capture)
- ❖ Effective overall risk management
- ❖ Facilitation of low-risk, legitimate trade
- ❖ Expedited processing for the vast majority of shipments, based on better targeting and advance decision making

# Customs Self Assessment (CSA)

- ❖ CSA is a CBSA program designed for commercial clients that offers the trading community streamlined import processes, including self assessment.
- ❖ CSA is offered only to authorized clients who are pre-approved, willing to invest in compliance and work in partnership with CBSA.

# CSA Requirements

## ❖ CSA requires:

- The importer, driver and carrier complete an authorisation process
- Importer business systems satisfy CSA requirements
- Have internal controls and minimum audit trails

# Benefits of CSA

- ❖ Longer accounting timeframes
- ❖ Self assessed accounting and revenue amounts
- ❖ Revenue amounts summarized on a monthly basis
- ❖ Supporting documents submitted only on request of an officer
- ❖ Clearance at first point of arrival; delivery prior to release

# The Current PGA Landscape

- ❖ Customs currently administers over 75 acts and regulations for 15 different federal government departments and agencies.
- ❖ For many of these programs, the CBSA collects paper permits, certificates or invoices which are forwarded to the PGAs to be used to monitor and enforce compliance.
- ❖ The current OGD Single Window Interface is a joint initiative between the CBSA and PGAs wishing to receive commercial import data electronically.

# Single Window Modernization

- ❖ The CBSA is working to identify which PGA programs require intervention prior to release and those with requirements that may be handled at a later time.
- ❖ For PGA programs, the CBSA will develop tailored e-commerce solutions to eliminate paper processes for ACI transactional reporting and explore opportunities to expand CSA eligibility for some PGA commodities.

# Sample ACI Interface Options

1. Passive Mailbox
2. Active Permit Verification
3. Active Release Decision
4. Integrated Targeting
5. Authorized Agent

# Options – explained

## 1. **Passive Mailbox:**

The CBSA acts as a “mail-box” for the reception of data. No decision is required by the PGA that impacts the release of the goods.

# Options – explained

## 2. Active Permit Verification:

In the case of a program that requires the trader to obtain a permit or certificate in advance directly from a PGA either electronically or in paper, the trader would include the permit or certificate number in the transmission to CBSA and CBSA would send only the information necessary to match the permit to the individual shipment back to the PGA for verification purposes.

# Options – explained

## 3. Active Release Decision:

The CBSA receives data from the trader and sends information electronically to the PGA who then processes the information in their system in order to make a decision on the admissibility of the goods. That decision is then relayed back to customs to release or refer the goods for further processing.

# Options – explained

## 4. **Integrated Targeting:**

The CBSA receives data from a trader. A representative of the PGA, using the CBSA targeting system, will assess the data provided and enter a decision into the CBSA system.

## 5. **Authorized Agent:**

The CBSA receives data from the trader and processes the shipment on behalf of the responsible agency.

# Expanding CSA Eligibility

The CBSA actively pursuing opportunities to expand CSA eligible goods to include PGA commodities.

## A CSA Success Story:

- ❖ Natural Resources Canada has altered the requirement for explosive permits for individual air bag and seat belt pretensioner imports in favour of a “blanket” permit process making these goods eligible for CSA.

# Expanding CSA Eligibility

## CSA Outreach Process:

- ❖ Outreach program in place to increase awareness of the program by our PGA partners.
- ❖ A review of current PGA programs to identify commodities that could meet the conditions for CSA clearance.

# Challenges

- ❖ Legislative authorities for the collection of information in advance of release and the sharing of that information.
- ❖ System development costs and timeframes.
- ❖ Reluctance of some PGAs to modernize existing permit processes.

# Conclusion

## Single Window Modernization:

- ❖ Provides an opportunity to modernize the work done by the CBSA on behalf of PGAs.
- ❖ Processing of PGA data using advance information can be done in a timely manner as not to impact performance levels at the border.
- ❖ Promotes an integrated approach to border management.
- ❖ Opportunity to harmonize and simplify data requirements.

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