

# ITDS e-Newsletter

December 2006



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To submit questions or comments, send an e-mail to:  
[ask.itds@associates.dhs.gov](mailto:ask.itds@associates.dhs.gov)

## A Message from the Chairman

The SAFE Port Act signed into law this past October has several implications for the ITDS program. This legislation, combined with your hard work, should accelerate development of our single-window project. If you have not already, I invite you to review the SAFE Port act.

This issue features an article on the launch of the new ITDS Web site. The site will help ITDS by providing Participating Government Agencies, the Trade, and the general public with current and accurate ITDS information. In addition, this issue features a PGA spotlight of Davina Hashmi of the Import Administration. Davina continues to be involved in several areas of the program, and I hope you will enjoy her story and perspective.

**Tim Skud – Chairman, ITDS Board of Directors**

## ITDS.gov Recently Launched

October 2006 marked the launch of the new International Trade Data System (ITDS) Web site. The long-awaited "ITDS.gov" provides Participating Government Agencies (PGAs), the trade community and the general public with convenient access to ITDS-specific information.

A work-in-progress for nearly a year, ITDS.gov was conceptualized by the ITDS Board of Directors. The site serves three primary purposes: facilitate communications among PGAs, provide program information to agencies interested in or required to join ITDS, and strengthen partnerships with the Trade community and CBP employees with updated ITDS activities and PGA integration status information. In addition, it reduces the need to distribute documents via mass e-mail across the program.

The screenshot shows the ITDS.gov website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and the date 'Saturday, Dec 2'. Below the search bar are navigation tabs: 'Library', 'Background', 'Organization', and 'Contact Us'. A secondary row of tabs includes 'JOIN US', 'WHAT'S NEW', 'ITDS NEWSROOM', and 'PGA RESOURCE'. The main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a section for the 'ITDS e-newsletter' with a link to 'Read an Article on PGA Collaboration and a Spotlight of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (pdf - 543 KB.)' and another link for the 'Spring 2006 Issue (pdf - 77 KB.)'. Below this is a 'Join Us' section with a blue background, asking if the user is a U.S. government agency involved in border transactions. The central 'Features' section contains two articles: 'What is ITDS?' which explains the program's support for PGAs and ACE, and 'What is ACE?' which describes the centralized access point for border processing. To the right, a 'quicklinks' sidebar lists various government agencies including the Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Homeland Security.

The site's content includes general program information, links to PGA Web sites and the Trade Support Network, committee updates, and more. In addition, PGA Subject Matter Experts are able to log on to a password protected area within the site to share and update program documents.

Content is chosen using an innovative content management process. Requests for new content are submitted by users through the site's e-mail address, [ask.itds@associates.dhs.gov](mailto:ask.itds@associates.dhs.gov). Potential content is then reviewed by an editorial review board comprising PGA rep-

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representatives. This process ensures that the site's content reflects stakeholder needs while simultaneously matching the site's scope and purpose.

The launch of ITDS.gov ushers in an exciting time for the program. On October 25th, 2006, President Bush signed the SAFE Port Act, which contains the following mandate: "All Federal agencies that require documentation for clearing or licensing the importation and exportation of cargo shall participate in the ITDS." This new legislation will likely increase not only agency participation but also general program interest. The ITDS web site will support this continued growth by providing new stakeholders with the information they need with the click of a mouse.

## Program Updates

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

ITDS Board of Directors,  
1/11/07

ITDS Program Support Group,  
1/30/07

### **TSN Plenary Session**

The Trade Support Network (TSN) Plenary Session, held December 11-13, included an ITDS Committee meeting. The meeting gave PGAs and Trade representatives the opportunity to discuss ACE development. The meeting's format included a CBP update, a PGA Panel discussion, and a Data Harmonization presentation. Look for the meeting report on ITDS.gov in the coming weeks!

### **Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue**

The PGAs provided Drop A2 end user information for role mapping. The user role mapping allows accurate assignment of ACE system roles based on user profiles and security to develop PGA user training software.

### **Cargo Control and Release**

PGA requirements to be incorporated into drop M2 are currently under review, and final versions are expected by early 2007. Requirements were gathered from PGA Affinity Group Workshops, Concept of Operations (ConOps), Functional Assessments, individual interviews, and relevant forms.

## PGA Spotlight: Davina Hashmi

### International Trade Administration, Import Administration

The term "Subject Matter Expert" fits nicely with Davina Hashmi of the International Trade Administration's Import Administration (IA). A twelve year veteran of IA, Davina has done everything from establishing the agency's first Local Area Network to training employees on the nuances of the Customs Automated Commercial System.

A native of Toledo, OH, Davina departed for the District at a young age. She moved to Washington, DC the day after her high school graduation, obtained two degrees, and has worked for IA ever since. Her technical prowess, financial expertise, and analytical abilities have given her an opportunity to work on a variety of projects and gain significant knowledge of IA's processes.

The Import Administration



is charged with enforcing U.S. Trade Laws that address unfair trade practices. Specifically, the agency calculates Anti Dumping/Countervailing Duties (AV/CVD) that protect the U.S. economy from unfair foreign pricing and government subsidies. Since IA calculates and Customs collects duties

with regard to AV/CVD, both agencies constantly collaborate to ensure duties are assessed and enforced properly.

From Davina's point of view, the activities associated with ITDS, by their very nature, cultivate inter-agency collaboration. "This project allows you to build relationships with other agencies that you wouldn't have otherwise." Not surprisingly, ITDS activities are also helping Davina better understand her own agency. "Having been on this project, I've seen more about what this agency does and learned more about the different units of IA than I've ever had an opportunity to do before."

Davina holds a Bachelor's degree from American University and an MBA from the George Washington University. She is an avid bicyclist and tennis player. "I was born with a racket in my hand."