

TSN PLENARY SESSION EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: March 4, 2009

Summary

The TSN Plenary session was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Reston, Virginia on March 4, 2009. Highlights of the plenary session included an overview of the progress of the ACE project as well as updates on future functionality related to Entry Summary, Accounts, & Revenue and Cargo Control and Release. In all, there were 146 attendees (inclusive of trade, PGA, CBP and ACE Support Staff).

Evaluations were sent to 112 trade and PGA TSN attendees one week following the TSN.

- 47% of attendees responded to the survey. Most of the comments received were favorable.
- 96% of respondents agreed that the content of the TSN was appropriate and information and were satisfied with the presentation materials provided on cbp.gov.
- 88% of respondents were satisfied with the level of detail provided.

Respondents appreciated the presentation by APHIS on the Lacey Act and thought the sessions were concise and more focused than in the past. Although they recognized the reason for the abbreviated TSN, many expressed the desire to have Committee meetings.

Wednesday, March 4, 2009 – General TSN Plenary Session

- Lou Samenfink, Executive Director, Cargo Systems Program Office, provided an ACE program status update and deployment update for the trade attendees. Mr. Samenfink provided information on the current ACE deployment outlook as follows:
 - Vessel and Rail Manifest (M1) April/June 2009
 - Initial Entry Summary Types (A2.2) April 2009
 - Air Manifest (M2.1) Summer 2010
- Janet Pence and Valarie Neuhart provided an update on the ESAR A2.2 and A2.3 releases. A2.2, involving initial processing of entry summaries in ACE for entry types 01 and 11, will be deployed through a phased rollout. Phase I, currently scheduled for April 2009, will deploy at the pilot ports of Buffalo, Chicago, Laredo, and Long Beach. Entry summaries may be filed by the volunteer trade participants beginning in April 2009 at the referenced ports as part of the pilot. An overview of the functionality covered included the ability for importers, brokers and carriers to submit declarations and the ability for trade portal users to respond to CBP Form 28, 29 and 4647 via the Portal. A2.3 will provide additional post release and enhanced account management functionality in ACE. The initial drop of A2.3.1 will provide HTS reference data, ABI performance reports, AD/CVD case management, and AD/CVD entry summaries (entry type 03). Entry Type 03 AD/CVD Case Management is currently in the requirements development stage and is currently scheduled to be completed by April 2009; delivery is tentatively planned for winter 2010. The Trade Ambassadors are scheduled to participate in a workshop scheduled for March 31, 2009 to review trade user interface screens and other functionality.
- Charles Bennett (Cargo Control & Release (CCR) provided an update on the status of CCR M1 (ocean and rail manifest) and M2.1 (air manifest) functionality.
- Vince Annunziato (CCR) provided an overview of the PGA data set for the Lacey Act. George Balady, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspections Service (APHIS), provided an overview of the Lacey Act including a brief history of the Act, the declaration requirement implementation schedule, and the exemptions to the declaration requirement. All questions regarding the Lacey Act should be directed to lacey.act.declaration@aphis.usda.gov.

- A group of Trade Ambassadors provided a briefing of the Strategic Planning Session, held the previous day with the Trade Leadership Counsel and Trade Ambassadors. The discussion included revisiting the TSN Membership Rules, with an eye toward streamlining the membership, and a re-examination of the TSN Mission to better support the development of a full commercial processing system with ACE, including ITDS, so to enable CBP to turn off legacy systems. Several recommendations will be considered toward the fulfillment of this goal.
- Included in the handouts at the TSN Plenary were Reports from each of the TSN Committees and Subcommittees. These reports provide highlights of the business issues being considered by the TSN committees. Contact information for the TSN committees can be found at: http://www.cbp.gov/linkhandler/cgov/trade/automated/modernization/trade_support_network/comstructure.ctt/comstructure.pdf
- All of the TSN Plenary session presentations can also be found at: http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/trade/automated/modernization/trade_support_network/session_highlights/march_2009_tsn/