

STATEMENT OF

THOMAS S. WINKOWSKI

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF FIELD OPERATIONS

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

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Container Security Standards and Procedures

CBP strongly supports and continues to seek opportunities to enhance supply chain security efforts, including enhancements to the security of the container. Indeed, securing the container is a critical part of a multi-layered approach to supply chain security. However, in order to establish minimum standards for container security, it is first necessary to ensure that there are available solutions that would significantly improve container security without significantly disrupting the flow of legitimate commerce. It should be noted that minimum security criteria for participants in the CTPAT program do include a requirement that all C-TPAT importers must affix a high security seal to all loaded containers bound for the United States. These seals must meet or exceed the current ISO/PAS 17712 specifications for high security seals. C-TPAT membership currently accounts for 46% of total importations into the U.S. Any technological solution would also need to be adopted as part of a broader supply chain security program. While CBP does not believe that, at the present time, the necessary technology exists for such solutions, CBP is working closely with the Department and is actively working with industry to test different technologies and methodologies that would provide economically and operationally viable enhancements to container security.