



## C-TPAT Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is C-TPAT?

The Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) is a voluntary, government-business program designed to strengthen overall global supply chain and U.S. border security. The goal is to achieve the highest level of cargo security through close cooperation between businesses and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). To learn more about C-TPAT visit:

[http://www.customs.gov/xp/cgov/import/commercial\\_enforcement/ctpat/](http://www.customs.gov/xp/cgov/import/commercial_enforcement/ctpat/)

### 2. Who can participate in C-TPAT?

C-TPAT participation is voluntary and is currently opened to business types, related to U.S. import supply chain cargo handling and movement, such as: importers, carriers (highway, rail, sea, and air), terminal operators, consolidators, NVOCCs, manufacturers, and licensed U.S. customs brokers.

### 3. What are the requirements to participate in C-TPAT?

Businesses must apply to participate in C-TPAT by completing an online electronic application at:

[http://www.customs.gov/xp/cgov/import/commercial\\_enforcement/ctpat/online\\_app/](http://www.customs.gov/xp/cgov/import/commercial_enforcement/ctpat/online_app/)

The application includes submitting corporate information and a supply chain security profile. The supply chain security profile is reviewed by CBP. The profile must address C-TPAT security guidelines that cover: Procedural Security, Physical Security, Personnel Security, Security Education and Training, Access Controls, and Manifest Procedures.

In completing the security profile businesses must conduct a thorough self assessment of their supply chain security procedures using the CTPAT guidelines. Additionally, participants must undergo a validation process which entails CBP security specialists validating the supply chain security profile. Once a business is validated – revalidation occurs every 3 years.

### 4. Are APL and APL Logistics C-TPAT members?

Both APL and APL Logistics are C-TPAT members. APL was one of the first ocean carriers to receive C-TPAT certification. Additionally, APL's wholly owned subsidiary, Eagle Marine Services, is also C-TPAT certified.

**5. Have APL and APL Logistics completed their C-TPAT validation process?**

Yes, APL and APL Logistics completed the validation process in September, 2003. The on-site validations were conducted at facilities in the United States as well as overseas.

**6. What are the benefits of participating in C-TPAT?**

According to CBP, businesses that participate in the C-TPAT program, receive the essential benefit of a more secure supply chain. Also, as stated by CBP, certain C-TPAT members will be offered benefits such as: reduced number of inspections, priority processing and eligibility to attend C-TPAT supply chain security training seminars.

For more details please go to:

[http://www.customs.gov/xp/cgov/import/commercial\\_enforcement/ctpat/ctpat\\_faq.xml](http://www.customs.gov/xp/cgov/import/commercial_enforcement/ctpat/ctpat_faq.xml)

**7. My company will ask APL or APL Logistics to complete a security questionnaire.**

**Who can I contact to get this completed?**

Actually, since APL and APL Logistics are certified and validated members of C-TPAT, one of our key benefits is being exempt from completing other business partners' questionnaires. We gladly supply all of our customers with our SVI number as well as copies of our certificates and approval letters from CBP. To obtain this information visit the following link:

<http://www.apl.com/security/html/ctpat.html>

**8. Do APL and APL Logistics participate in other security programs?**

Yes, we are members of the Singapore Trade Partnership. APL is also a signatory member of the U.S. Customs Sea Carrier Initiative Agreement; maintaining compliance and training efforts equal to the U.S. Super Carrier Initiative Agreement.

APL is involved with various industry groups actively working to influence regulatory direction on security issues. Some of these groups include: Retailers Industry Leaders Association (RILA), National Industry Transportation League (NITL) and the Technology Asset Protection Association (TAPA). To learn more about these efforts as well as about other initiatives please visit all links at: <http://www.apl.com/security/>.