

THE ABC'S OF CUSTOMS FOCUSED ASSESSMENTS: HOW TO MANAGE THIS RIGOROUS PROCESS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2009 - 1:30-3:00 PM EDT

A two-part, 90-minute live webcast on how to prepare for a Focused Assessment by U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Now is the season when U.S. Customs and Border Protection notifies importers that they will be the subject of an upcoming Focused Assessment audit or "FA." An FA is the largest importer review and audit conducted by Customs and typically involves an intensive 6-month audit process of your company's import operations conducted by a CBP audit team. The CBP team can be expected to review internal controls and Customs entries for compliance in regards to value, HTS classification, NAFTA, GSP, reconciliation, anti-dumping, and other free trade agreements. Effectively preparing for the FA is critical and has proven to reduce potential penalty liability as well as maintaining your import compliance credibility with Customs.

Live participation is \$99, and will allow you access to listen to and view the webcast right from your computer. A question-and-answer session follows each presentation in real time through online submission. Advance registration is required. A digital recording of this webcast will be available for an access fee following the presentation.

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In this 90-minute live webcast, you will learn about:

- » What to expect if your company is targeted for Focused Assessment
- » The importance of written internal control procedures
- » The role of interviews by CBP personnel
- » Documentation and other information CBP will be looking for
- » Potential impact on C-TPAT and 10+2/Importer Security Filing status
- » How to conduct a pre-audit internal review
- » Whether to undertake an ISA as an alternative to Focused Assessment
- » Importance of not waiting until a Focused Assessment notification is received

WHO SHOULD LISTEN:

- » Importers
- » Retailers
- » Manufacturers
- » Customs Compliance and Logistics Managers
- » Corporate Counsel - General & International Trade Customs Brokers

SPEAKERS

Part 1: Hear from senior CBP officials who oversee and implement the Focused Assessment program and have the opportunity to ask questions

- » Cindy Covell, Executive Director, Regulatory Audit, Office of International Trade, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security
- » Matt Krimski, Oversight Director, Regulatory Audit, Washington, D.C., Office of International Trade, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security
- » Robert Allen, Field Director, Long Beach, Regulatory Audit, Office of International Trade, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security

Part 2: A private Q&A session with experienced trade lawyers and ex-Customs officials on how to prepare for and manage the Focused Assessment process, to be accompanied by a visual presentation

- » Robert Pisani, Partner, Pisani & Roll LLP
- » Cindy de Leon, Senior Contract Trade Auditor, Pisani & Roll LLP

Moderator

- » Harry Butler, Editor, International Trade Group, UBM Global Trade