



Priority Trade Issues (PTIs)



Priority Trade Issues (PTIs) represent high-risk areas that can cause significant revenue loss, harm the U.S. economy, or threaten the health and safety of the American people. They drive risk-informed investment of CBP resources and enforcement and facilitation efforts, including the selection of audit candidates, special enforcement operations, outreach, and regulatory initiatives. CBP Trade administers trade policy by collecting duties and enforcing remedies to create a level playing field for American businesses.

Agriculture and Quota

U.S. Agriculture and its related industries are a bedrock sector of our economy, employing 1 in 10 of the U.S. population and contributing of 5% to the U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The PTI enhances the facilitation of lawful imports and ensures the fair administration and enforcement of agricultural quota and licenses that protect domestic industry and developing nations. Import quotas are provided for in Free Trade Agreements, Presidential Proclamations, Executive Orders as provided for in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS).

Antidumping and Countervailing Duty (AD/CVD)

CBP is responsible for collecting Antidumping and Countervailing Duties (AD/CVD) in a timely manner when the Department of Commerce finds imported merchandise that has been sold in the U.S. at an unfairly low or subsidized price. This helps level the playing field for U.S. companies injured by these unfair trade practices. The AD/CVD PTI goal is to detect and deter circumvention of AD/CVD laws, liquidate final duties timely and accurately, and facilitate legitimate trade.

Import Safety

The Import Safety PTI focuses on reducing illicit trade in unsafe products, protecting the health the safety of U.S. consumers, while expediting the flow of compliant imported products that meet recognized U.S. Government Standards. This is accomplished through collaboration with U.S. partner government agencies to detect, interdict, investigate and mitigate import violations of U.S. health, safety, and trade laws and regulations. Risks and data analysis prioritizes the most pressing threats which pose serious adverse health consequences or death to humans or animals resulting in the development of various enforcement actions and strategies.

PTIs continued on the back



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Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

Trade in counterfeit and pirated goods threaten America's innovation economy, the competitiveness of our businesses, the livelihoods of U.S. workers, national security, and the health and safety of consumers. Trade in these illegitimate goods is associated with smuggling, other criminal activities, and often funds criminal enterprises. CBP protects the IPR of American businesses, safeguarding them from unfair competition, and use for malicious intent while upholding American innovation and ingenuity.

CBP targets and seizes imports of counterfeit and pirated goods and enforces exclusion orders on patent-infringing and other IPR violative goods.

Revenue

CBP is the second largest revenue-collecting agency of the U.S. government. The goal of the Revenue PTI is to maximize revenue collection by identifying areas that pose a material risk in the collection process, whether by misclassification, undervaluation, evasion of trade remedies, or other means. Using data driven decision-making and by collaborating with key stakeholders, CBP ensures that internal controls are in place to mitigate the risks to revenue collection. A key tool to mitigate revenue risk is CBP's authority to require customs bonds for goods imported into the United States to safeguard the collection of lawfully owed duties, taxes, and fees.

Textiles/Wearing Apparel

The textile sector is a multibillion-dollar global industry, and the U.S. is the second largest exporter of textiles globally. The U.S. domestic textile industry employs more than 500,000 workers, and is crucial in automotive, military/law enforcement, agriculture, and medical applications. The goal of the Textiles PTI is to ensure that textile imports fully comply with applicable laws, regulations, quotas, free trade agreements and other preference programs. CBP's efforts in the textile industry focus on high-risk areas that can cause significant revenue loss, harm the U.S. economy, or threaten the health and safety of the American people. The combination of high duty rates, and complex laws and regulations make textile imports susceptible to trade fraud. CBP maintains a robust and comprehensive enforcement strategy to stay one-step ahead of textile trade violators.

Trade Agreements

The U.S. negotiates and implements free trade agreements (FTAs) and preferential trade legislations (PTLs), also known as preference programs, to promote prosperity for the U.S. economy. FTAs and PTLs open new markets for U.S. exports, protect American producers and workers, and encourage free and equitable trade among our trading partners. CBP oversees the implementation of these international instruments subsequent to their negotiation by the U.S. Trade Representative and passage by the U.S. Congress. CBP manages a portfolio of 15 FTAs with 21 countries and approximately nine other trade programs with over 179 countries, including preference programs such as the General System of Preferences (GSP) and the Africa Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA).

The Trade Agreements Priority Trade Issue has oversight over most commodities receiving preferential trade treatment. The textile and apparel provision within an agreement is managed through the Textiles PTI.



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