

TRAILER/CONTAINER SECURITY

All international supply chain business partners, including importers and their vendors, must ensure that procedures are in place to maintain container integrity. Container integrity must be maintained to protect against the introduction of unauthorized material and/or persons. At the point of loading, procedures must be in place to properly seal and maintain the integrity of shipping containers. A high security seal must be affixed to all loaded C-TPAT importer containers bound for the United States. All seals must meet or exceed the current PAS ISO 17712 standards for high security seals.

CONTAINER INSPECTION

Procedures must be in place to verify the physical integrity of the container structure prior to loading, to include the reliability of the locking mechanisms of the doors. The following seven-point inspection process is recommended for all containers:

- Check the front wall for integrity or manipulation
- Check the left side for integrity or manipulation
- Check the right side for integrity or manipulation
- Check the floor for integrity or manipulation
- Check the ceiling/roof for integrity or manipulation
- Check the doors (both inside and outside) for integrity or manipulation
- Check the outside undercarriage for integrity or manipulation

A trailer/container inspection checklist must be used to ensure that all items have been checked. The inspection checklist must be kept on file for at least 6 months

CONTAINER SEALS

Written procedures must stipulate how seals are to be controlled and affixed to loaded containers. Procedures must be in place for recognizing and reporting compromised seals and/or containers to U.S. Customs And Border Protection or the appropriate foreign authority. Only designated employees should have access to the security seals. Only designated employees should be authorized to distribute container seals for integrity purposes (container sealing).

CONTAINER STORAGE

Our company requires its international business partners to adhere to all C-TPAT guidelines.

Our company requires its international business partners to store containers in a secure area to prevent unauthorized access and/or manipulation. Our company requires its international business partners to have written procedures in place for reporting and neutralizing unauthorized entry into containers or container storage areas.

7-Point Container Inspection



CONTAINER SEALING

Customs Cleared Company requires all of its factories to follow the following container sealing procedure.

Empty containers arriving at your facility may not be empty, or may have been altered to add hidden compartments. Always perform and document a 7-point container inspection before loading and sealing a container.

- Check the front wall for integrity or manipulation
- Check the left side for integrity or manipulation
- Check the right side for integrity or manipulation
- Check the floor for integrity or manipulation
- Check the ceiling/roof for integrity or manipulation
- Check the doors (both inside and outside) for integrity or manipulation
- Check the outside undercarriage for integrity or manipulation

The high security seals must be controlled by management.

- The high security seals must be kept in a secure location.
- Only designated employees should be given access to the seals.
- Only designated, authorized employees should be allowed to distribute and affix container seals for integrity purposes.

Unauthorized employees should never be allowed to handle, distribute or affix container seals.

Your company should only use high security seals that meet or exceed the current PAS/ISO 17712 standards for high security seals.

Seals must be affixed to the right door of the container on the hasp that has the welded rivet. This practice raises the level of security of the shipment.

After the seal is affixed to the container, an authorized employee must make sure that the seal is secure by pulling down on it.

Seal Verification and Inspection Process:

1) View the seal & container locking mechanisms. Excessive damage to the seal or locking mechanisms must be reported to a supervisor before opening the container.

- Watch for and report different brands of seals attached together.
- Watch for and report loose bolts and hasps.



2) Verify the seal number for accuracy. Compare the seal number with the seal number indicated on the shipping documents. Look for alterations to the seal numbers.

- Watch for and report incorrectly manifested seal numbers.
- Watch and report a seal brand that is not normally used by your company.
- Watch for and report original seal numbers that have been sanded or filed off.



3) Tug on the seal to make sure it is affixed properly. Seals that come apart must be reported to a supervisor. Human error might cause this to happen, or the container might have contraband inside!

- Watch for and report bent seal stems.
- Watch for and report seals that do not lock properly.
- Watch for and report glue inside the locking mechanism that causes the seal to not lock properly.



4) Twist & turn the seal to make sure it does not come off. Altered seals that have been threaded so that they can be unscrewed are not acceptable. These altered seals are reusable throughout the supply chain, allowing persons to unseal and reseal the container after adding contraband or removing merchandise.

- Twist counter-clockwise to see if the seal can unscrew. Report seals that are able to be unscrewed.

