

SECURING AND FACILITATING THE GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN

International trade is one of the key drivers of global economic growth. In today's globalised world, cargo supply chains are highly interconnected, complex and involve multiple players.

The ever-increasing complexity of the global supply chain also means more vulnerability to threats such as thefts, pilferages and terrorist attacks. It would be most unfortunate should the global trading system be disrupted by a single act of crime or terror anywhere along the supply chain.

Total supply chain security can only be achieved if every player along the entire supply chain, right from the point of origin to the point of final destination, takes responsibility in securing his part of the supply chain. To fulfill this objective, many countries have implemented or are implementing their national supply chain security initiatives.

As a key player in the global supply chain, Singapore has implemented the **Secure Trade Partnership** (STP) programme in partnership with our businesses to help raise the overall level of supply chain security standards in Singapore. The STP will ensure that we are not just an efficient and connected port, but also a safe and secure trading hub.

INTRODUCTION TO SECURE TRADE PARTNERSHIP (STP)

Launched on 25 May 2007, the STP is a voluntary certification programme administered by Singapore Customs to help companies adopt robust security measures to enhance the security of the global supply chain.

By participating in the STP, companies will be demonstrating their commitment to adopting and implementing appropriate security measures and willingness to assume responsibility for keeping their supply chains secure.

As the National Authority for the STP, Singapore Customs administers a validation and certification process for companies that would like to participate in the STP.

The STP is consistent with the World Customs Organisation (WCO) SAFE Framework of Standards to secure and facilitate global trade, adopted in June 2005.

APPROACH AND PRINCIPLES

Singapore Customs recognises that the twin goals of ensuring supply chain security and facilitating legitimate trade are a shared responsibility between the government and industry stakeholders. Hence, Singapore Customs has decided to adopt a partnership approach with companies for the implementation of the STP.

Business operation models, sizes and risks vary across the different nodes in the supply chains and across different industries. The STP recognises these and allows for flexibility and customisation of security profiles based on companies' business models.

SECURE TRADE PARTNERSHIP (STP) GUIDELINES

The STP Guidelines spells out the requirements which companies in the supply chain should adopt to enhance the security of their operations and supply chains. Companies meeting such requirements will be certified as STP companies by Singapore Customs.

Under the STP Guidelines, companies are required to have security management systems, conduct risk assessments of their business operations, and implement the stipulated security measures under the STP Guidelines to secure their supply chains.

The security measures cover 8 key elements: [to be illustrated by graphic]

- (a) Premise security & access controls
- (b) Personnel security
- (c) Business partner security
- (d) Cargo security
- (e) Conveyance security
- (f) Information & Information Technology (IT) security
- (g) Incident management & investigations
- (h) Crisis management & incident recovery

The STP Guidelines provides companies with a framework to guide the development, implementation, monitoring and review of their supply chain security measures and practices.

Companies that decide to apply for certification under the STP will first need to self-assess against the STP Guidelines to ensure that their internal policies, processes and procedures are robust.

BENEFITS OF SECURE TRADE PARTNERSHIP (STP)

Companies that have adopted and implemented robust security measures will benefit from increased visibility of goods in the supply chain, reduction in pilferages and so on.

In addition, companies certified under the STP will be recognised as trusted partners of Singapore Customs and enjoy the following benefits:

- a) Cargo less likely to be inspected
- b) Recognised as a low risk company i.e. enhanced branding
- c) Reduced inspection or expedited clearance should certified status be also recognised by overseas countries

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Singapore Customs conducts regular industry outreach activities for businesses to create awareness on supply chain security and to promote the STP.

CONTACT US

For more information on the STP, please visit our website at www.customs.gov.sg or email us at customs_scs@customs.gov.sg.

Supply Chain Security Branch
Singapore Customs
55 Newton Road #08-01
Revenue House
Singapore 307987