TSA Air Cargo Security
Certified Cargo Screening Program

Background

- On June 30, 2021, TSA mandated 100% screening of air cargo originating in the United States and destined for non-U.S. locations that is transported on all-cargo aircraft.
- TSA approved amendments for Impractical to Screen (ITS) cargo to assist industry in meeting the June 30, 2021 regulatory requirement. These amendments expire on October 31, 2023 and will not be extended.
- After October 31, 2023, air cargo shipments previously transported under the ITS amendment will be required to be accepted into the air cargo supply chain in accordance with the Certified Cargo Screening Program (CCSP), or must be screened by the air carrier.

Certified Cargo Screening Program (CCSP)

- The CCSP enables Certified Cargo Screening Facilities (CCSF) to screen cargo prior to acceptance by an Indirect Air Carrier (IAC) or Aircraft Operator.
- CCSFs must:
  - adhere to stringent security requirements set by a TSA security program;
  - screen cargo at the piece level;
  - initiate and maintain the integrity of cargo through chain of custody measures; and
  - permit onsite validations and periodic TSA inspections.
- Third-Party Logistics Providers (3PLs), manufacturing facilities, shippers, warehouses, and distribution centers may apply to become a CCSF if their facility tenders cargo to a freight forwarder or air carrier.
- IACs are also eligible to apply to become a CCSF.

Benefits of a CCSP

- Cargo moves more quickly through the supply chain.
- Air cargo accepted from a CCSF does not require additional screening and can be transported by either a passenger or all-cargo aircraft.
- Manufacturers can package and ship air cargo without potentially invasive screening and additional fees later in the supply chain.
Frequently Asked Questions

Is a CCSF required to buy screening equipment?

• No. However, CCSFs may need to purchase specific equipment to screen cargo for explosives unless they choose to perform physical search of that cargo.

What does TSA charge to become a CCSF?

• TSA does not charge to become a CCSF. If you are interested in purchasing screening equipment, your assigned Principal Security Specialist (PSS) can provide an approved list of technology.

What are the responsibilities of a CCSF?

• CCSFs will have to comply with all requirements in their security program. These requirements align with the pillars of a secure supply chain 1) Chain of Custody, 2) Training, 3) Facility Security, 4) Compliance/Oversight, 5) Personnel Security, 6) Screening, and 7) Protection of Screened Cargo.

• Your assigned PSS will go over each of the requirements with you.

Does this mean a TSA inspector is going to be inspecting my facility?

• Yes. Once you become an approved CCSF, local TSA Compliance Inspectors will include your operation to their annual inspection plan. The frequency of inspections may vary depending on the type of operations. Your assigned PSS will introduce you to your local TSA Compliance team.

Additional Information

• Applications to apply to become a CCSF-Shipper must be submitted to TSA at least 90 days prior to the planned beginning of scheduled operations.

• Website links: CCSP can be found at: eCFR : 49 CFR Part 1549 -- Certified Cargo Screening Program

• For additional information, questions or to apply, please email us at aircargoprograms@tsa.dhs.gov