

# Customer Fact Sheet

## *ISO/PAS 17712 Seal Requirement*

In the passage of the 9/11 Act, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will mandate as of October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 that all inbound containers have seals placed on them, which conform to ISO/PAS 17712.

### **Items to note:**

#### **Seal Requirements**

- ⇒ ISO/PAS 17712 requirements are specific to the strength and durability during international transit and weather so that the seal may remain intact upon arrival to the United States Port of Entry.
  
- ⇒ ISO/PAS 17712 requirements also state that each seal must have a unique identification number, and that this number must be recorded on the manifest and ocean bill of lading

#### **Potential Industries Effected:**

- ⇒ Textile and Apparel
- ⇒ Consumer Goods
- ⇒ Manufacturing
- ⇒ Furniture
- ⇒ Automotive
- ⇒ Food and Pharmaceuticals
- ⇒ All others

#### **Vessel Carrier Requirements**

- ⇒ Vessel Carriers (VOCC's) are required to transmit this unique identification numbers as part of their 24 hour manifest rule via the Automated Manifest System (AMS).

#### **Phase in Process and Penalties**

- ⇒ CBP states that it will phase in civil penalty assessments for violation of the container sealing requirement, and that a civil penalty may be assessed against the party responsible for the violation of 6 USC 944 under 19 USC 1595a(b) for the attempted introduction of merchandise into the U.S. contrary to law.
  
- ⇒ CBP will consider 6 USC 944 to be violated if a loaded container, that is subject to the sealing requirements, arrives by vessel at a port of entry in the U.S. on or after October 15, 2008, either (i) with no seal or (ii) with a seal that does not meet the ISO/PAS 17712 standard. These violations derive from a failure to properly seal the container.

#### **Most Important to note**

- ⇒ Most steamship and freight forwarders are already following these requirements per their C-TPAT certifications. If you company is using a forwarder that is not C-TPAT, please contact them immediately to ensure compliance with this requirement.

If there is any change in these developments, we will alert you immediately.