Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

Client**Advisory**

Customs Announces New Mandatory C-TPAT Portal

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Earlier this week, U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") announced its intention to create a new Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism ("C-TPAT ") Internet Web portal. This portal will be available next month, and is intended to streamline the processing of new C-TPAT applications, as well as to ensure existing C-TPAT members periodically update and maintain their C-TPAT information. The portal will also enhance paperless processing and improve communication between CBP and C-TPAT participants.

Prior to July 1, 2006, current C-TPAT importers and carriers will be required to create an account at the portal and post their supply chain and business profiles. All other C-TPAT members (*e.g* ., port operators, brokers, forwarders, and foreign manufacturers) are required to create their account at the portal prior to August 1, 2006. Current C-TPAT members are encouraged to review their C-TPAT supply chain profiles prior to update.

The failure to create an account by the stated deadlines will result in the loss of C-TPAT privileges and de-certification from the program. The C-TPAT member would also be required to re-apply for the program in order to restore benefits.

CBP has reiterated that security information posted to the Web site will be confidential. C-TPAT members will have the ability to control third party access to the information at their discretion.

We Can Help

If you have further questions on how to create a C-TPAT portal account, or have other questions about Customs and International Trade issues, please contact one of the Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP Customs and International Trade attorneys or professionals listed below.

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