



Trade Compliance Special Interest Group

Overview:

The Trade Compliance Special Interest Group (SIG) offers a forum for individuals involved in import/export activities and trade compliance within UWEBC member companies to interact, share opinions and expertise, and leverage each other's experiences.

Import/export compliance is crucial to the success of any company's international business. Trade compliance has shot to the top of many organizations priorities given the current trade climate. While we will address current/emerging issues, we will focus on the foundational elements of building and maintaining solid trade compliance programs, departments and processes for long term success. The objective of the SIG is to serve as an educational and professional resource and support platform and network for members involved in all aspects of trade compliance.

Benefits of Participation:

- Engage with a trusted peer-to-peer network of trade compliance leaders, customs brokers, import/export professionals and those who support trade activities such as legal and compliance departments.
- Identify opportunities to further enhance your current trade compliance processes and structures.
- Validate your organization's compliance strategies and practices through knowledge exchange with other participants and subject-matter experts.

Intended Participants:

- Companies: Any UWEBC member company that is involved in importing/exporting physical goods.
- Functions: Supply Chain, Compliance, Legal.
- Roles: VP, Customs Brokers, Directors, Managers and practitioners with direct responsibility to trade compliance initiatives including those that outsource this function.

Steering Committee:

- Julie Pojar, Manager International Trade Compliance, Kohler Company
- Mike Heindselman, Director of Logistics, ORBIS Corporation
- Mark Stiffler, Senior Import/Export Project Lead, Sub-Zero Group

Number of Meetings, Length, and Frequency:

2-3 full-day meetings annually

Meeting Location(s):

Meetings will be at UW-Madison and/or member-company campuses.

Output/Deliverables:

Ability for members to benchmark their compliance programs against other member companies and their processes and potentially learn of new programs and solutions to assist in becoming best-in-class.



Meeting Topics (proposed):

1. Trade compliance program structure: Best practices and guidelines.
2. The Bottom Line: How to reduce costs through trade compliance.
3. Tariffs: How do they impact you and how are you reacting to current uncertainty?
4. How to set up Duty Drawbacks and best practices.
5. Foreign Trade Zones: Discussion, set-up, benefits.
6. Export Compliance Best Practices.
7. Future regulatory changes and their implications.
8. How to use agriculture use provisions for companies not obviously involved in the agriculture business.

While we will be generally examining higher level trends within the topics listed above, we will be including discussing around HTS codes, ECCN, managing brokers, USMCA, Brexit, AES process and filing, Incoterms, duty avoidance strategy, customs rulings (with a visit from a US Customs officer) and others as deemed important to address by the steering committee and group at large.