U.S. Customs and Border Protection

A Global Supply Chain Security Partnership

The Supplier Compliance Audit Network Association and U.S. Customs and Border Protection

March 26, 2024

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Supplier Compliance Audit Network (SCAN) Association signed a Joint Statement on March 26, 2024, during the CBP Trade Facilitation and Cargo Security Summit in Philadelphia. The Joint Statement formalizes the partnership between the two organizations for years to come.

CBP's Office of Field Operations, Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (CTPAT) program will lead this CBP-wide effort to further strengthen the working relationship between the SCAN Association and CBP. Other offices within CBP, including the Office of Trade, the Office of Intelligence, and the Office of Information and Technology, will also be involved in implementing this public-private sector partnership effort.

A CBP-SCAN Action Plan will guide the efforts in the implementation phase. Under such a plan, and in line with the Joint Statement, both organizations plan to implement 11 objectives or areas of cooperation, including:

- The Recognition of a SCAN Certified Business Partner – When a CTPAT member has a SCAN certified business partner as part of its supply chain, such as a manufacturing facility overseas, the CTPAT member only needs to document to its CTPAT Supply Chain Security Specialist that this business partner is SCAN certified in order to meet its CTPAT business partner monitoring and oversight obligations.

- CBP Access to the SCAN Association's Audit Repository – The SCAN Association agreed to provide CBP personnel with access to its repository of supply chain security audits.

- Sharing of information between the two organizations to institutionalize information-sharing arrangements.

The objectives under the CBP-SCAN Action Plan will yield benefits to both organizations and to the trade at large – particularly CTPAT Members. Today, more than ever, CBP must foster a global supply chain system that is prepared for, and can withstand, evolving threats and challenges. This partnership with SCAN supports the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's *National Strategy for Global Supply Chain Security*, which calls for Government agencies to work closely with their stakeholders in the private sector to build a more resilient global supply chain, and to develop, in concert with industry, customized solutions to speed the flow of legitimate commerce on those supply chains considered low risk.

About the SCAN Association – www.scanassociation.com

SCAN is a non-profit, member-driven association of U.S. and Canadian importing companies that got together to provide a systematic solution to reduce audit frequency on common supply chain stakeholders, improve audit consistency, and lower audit costs.

The SCAN Association has 65 members, most of whom are also members of CBP's CTPAT program, some as Tier III participants. The collective revenue of these members is over $2 trillion U.S. dollars.

The association works very closely with the British Standards Institution (BSI), one of the six entities that conduct audits on behalf of the SCAN Association, and which manages the platform that contains the blockchain based repository of audits for the confidential sharing of audit results among SCAN members.

Certification in CTPAT is a pre-requisite for any applicant importer to be taken into consideration for membership. SCAN adopted CTPAT's updated security criteria and conducts its audits worldwide based on CTPAT's requirements. The SCAN Association has conducted over 28,000 audits in 83 countries since its inception in 2015, and thru its association with BSI, it is a pioneer in the use of immersive technology when conducting virtual supply chain security audits. A large percentage of these audits have taken place in Asia, in countries such as China, Vietnam, India, Bangladesh, and Indonesia. SCAN audits, however, are also conducted in other regions of the world, including Europe, Africa, Latin America, and the United States.

The association is led by a Board of Directors which oversees all aspects of the association. The Directors are committed SCAN members and key representatives from the importer community with a vested interest in the development and success of the association.

Some of the companies participating in the SCAN Association include Newell Brands, Home Depot, Target, Husky Injection Molding Systems, Walmart, Patagonia, Meijer, Burlington, Best Buy, Lowe's, JC Penney, Canadian Tire Family of Companies, Kohl's, The Walt Disney Company, and Costco. For a complete list of SCAN members, please visit the SCAN website.

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