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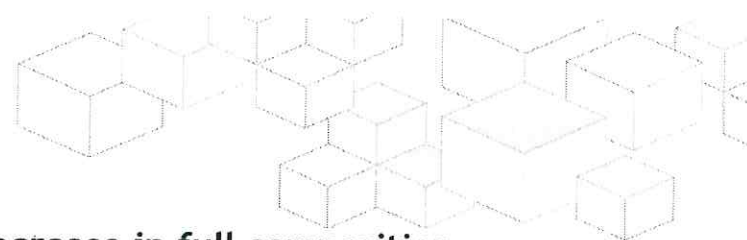
APEC CHEMICAL DIALOGUE: CUSTOMS PROJECT PROPOSAL



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The Current Problem



- **Increase in full composition disclosures at customs**
 - Information often considered Confidential Business Information (CBI) or Trade Secrets
- **Increase in “on the spot” testing by customs authorities**
- **Delays & unexpected detention of goods at borders**

Relevance to APEC CD

- Chemicals raw materials are the cornerstone and foundation on which a variety of industries are built and are necessary to many other manufacturing sectors
- Many countries are considering updating or are already implementing new chemical control laws, providing opportunities to streamline with other economies
- CD is focused on Regulatory Cooperation & Good Regulatory Practices - reducing barriers at the border by finding a consistent way for APEC economies to assess compliance with domestic chemical control laws could facilitate commerce.
- As stated in the *2008 APEC CD Principles for Best Practice Chemical Regulation* - chemical regulations should be the minimum required to achieve their stated objectives

Relevance to the SCCP

- APEC is a leader on trade facilitation efforts
- Builds on the supply chain and chokepoint initiatives that are underway in the SCCP
- Effort would demonstrate APEC's strong commitment to creating more efficient processes - leading to regional economic integration and economic connectivity
- Improve the predictability in customs regulations can help facilitate international trade
- Training for border officials is a critical step to ensuring enforcement and officials' safety

Proposed Work

- ✓ Start a discussion on ways of addressing the issue
- ✓ Comparison of current customs procedures in APEC Economies
- ✓ Participation from all interested economies and delegates from SCCP and CD
- ✓ Possibility of developing an import self-certification form where one does not already exist

Next Steps & Advocacy Efforts

- ✓ Economies interested in helping to advance the work should notify APEC Secretariat by September 1st
- ✓ Any additional questions - please feel free to contact Alexa Burr at alexa_burr@americanchemistry.com

