

August 13, 2007

Service Port Pipeline 2007-11

GATEOUTS

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) continues to experience instances where cargo targeted for terrorism or enforcement reasons has been released from CBP custody without authorization or examination (“gateouts”). CBP is reminding vessel carriers and marine terminals that positive control must be ensured for all containers held for CBP inspection. Gateout violations are unacceptable and subject to a zero tolerance policy.

Civil monetary penalties are being assessed for each gateout incident against all culpable parties and mitigated based on strengthened guidelines as defined in “New Guidelines For Mitigation Of Penalties For Merchandise Delivered From The Port Without CBP Authorization Or Examination; Public Safety” (CBP DEC. 06-34).

In addition to penalty actions, enforcement activities may be conducted against the violator, including stationing CBP Officers at terminal exit points. These enforcement activities could lead to longer exit times and may negatively impact the efficiency of the terminal involved. If further gateouts occur, enforcement activities will continue to increase.

Please direct all questions or concerns regarding this Information Notice to Daniel Sedley, Chief of Tactical Operations for the Area Port of Philadelphia at 215-717-5861.

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