



U.S. Customs Service

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20229

APR 25 2003

Mr. John Cario
Stolt-Nielsen Transportation Group, Inc.
15635 Jacintoport Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77015

Dear Mr. Cario:

On behalf of Customs and Border Protection, I want to thank you for submitting your Supply Chain Security Profile Questionnaire. By joining with us in the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT), you are contributing to the security of our borders and to the continued free flow of international trade.

The participation of Stolt-Nielsen Transportation Group, Inc., as well as others from the broker and consolidator communities, is but a first important step in what promises to be a sustained effort to meet the challenge posed by the terrorist threat to the United States. Your role in the C-TPAT is to continue current efforts to secure your company's operations against possible compromise, communicate your efforts to your business partners, and maintain a high level of compliance in other Customs related areas.

Our commitment to you, consistent with our mission-critical objectives, is to provide an entry process marked by the efficient release of goods and the prompt resolution of any outstanding issues affecting Customs processing of shipments. In addition, Customs is in the process of assigning a person who will act as your liaison for all C-TPAT related matters. In the interim, please contact the Customs Headquarters C-TPAT office with any C-TPAT related questions. If you currently have an Account Manager assigned to your company, you may continue to engage him or her with any Customs related questions or concerns.

After careful review of your security profile, we are pleased to inform you that you have completed your Supply Chain Security Profile commitment and we welcome you as a certified member of the C-TPAT program. Customs will proceed to provide Stolt-Nielsen Transportation Group, Inc., with C-TPAT benefits. Forthcoming benefits will include anti-terrorism training seminars, sharing of information and best practices, etc.

TRADITION

SERVICE

HONOR

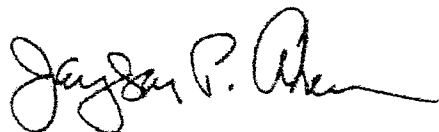
Please be aware that as part of the continually evolving security process, C-TPAT participants should develop and maintain a complete and detailed security plan to be available for Customs to review upon request. Also, as part of your ongoing C-TPAT commitment, a self-policing program should be developed in order to review security procedures on a regular basis. Please see the attached document with regards to self-policing. U.S. Customs will soon provide all partners with a C-TPAT yearly assessment to be completed by the appropriate company officials.

Again, I welcome you as a C-TPAT partner and I thank you in advance for your support in this important effort.

Enclosed you will find a co-signed copy of the C-TPAT agreement and a consent form, to be signed at your discretion, granting Customs permission to mention your company's name during public events dealing with trade security issues.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Robert Perez, Director, C-TPAT at (202) 927-0520.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jayson P. Ahern". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jayson P. Ahern
Assistant Commissioner
Office of Field Operations

Enclosures