Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism

Seal Integrity





Seal Integrity...

The Seal Integrity training will cover:

- Policies and Procedures for Seal Integrity
- What are the ISO 17712 standards for seals
- High Security Seals How Do We Know
- Seal Inspection Process (VVTT)





Policies and Procedures...

A good seal integrity program must have:

- seals purchased from a reputable seal manufacturer/ distributor
- documentation from the manufacturer proving what type of seal was purchased and the security features it has.
- inventory of all seals purchased and stored
- accountability for each seal that is affixed, destroyed or removed
- only authorized company employees issue and affix seals
- procedures for reporting tampered seals that are discovered throughout the supply chain
- procedures in place for disposing of used seals that have been cut-off
- specific training for employees that issue, affix and dispose seals



Policies and Procedures...

All containers and trailers arriving at your facility should have:

- Documentation verified/ Seal number matches documents
- Actual seal/ number verified and inspected for tampering





C-TPAT Criteria...

Container Security (Importer):

- Container integrity must be maintained to protect against the introduction of unauthorized material and/or persons.
- At point of stuffing, procedures must be in place to properly seal and maintain the integrity of the shipping containers.
- A high security seal must be affixed to all loaded containers bound for the United States.
- All seals must meet or exceed the current ISO/ PAS 17712 standards for "high security" seals.









WHAT IS ISO 17712...

- ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees.
- Published in 2003, the original ISO/ PAS 17712 was developed by a working group of users and manufacturers.
- The strength of a seal is measured with tests based on impact, shear (cut), bend and tensile (pull) strength.
- It focuses on the physical parameters of three levels of seal strengths: indicative, security and high security.
- Seals must show a mark to indicate their grade "H" for high security, "S" for security and "I" for (tamper) indicative.
- There have been multiple updates to the ISO standard. The most recent is ISO 17712:2013 that will go into effect on <u>May 15, 2014</u>.



- How can we tell the difference between those who comply with the ISO 17712:2013 standard for "high security" seals & those who don't?
- There are three positive ways of knowing if the supplier and their products conform to the ISO 17712:2013 requirements:
 - Ask for proof request sight of conformance certificate/ test lab report relating to the product tested.
 - The certificates for the product testing should originate from an ISO/IEC 17025 independent test house. The test house would be accredited by a third party. Only two in the United States:
 - > ACT Laboratories , Inc. (Hillsdale, MI)
 - > Dayton T. Brown, Inc. (Bohemia, NY)
 - For a seal to be affixed the "H" mark, it shall be designed and constructed with "tamper evidence features" that generate telltale evidence of tampering, as documented in a compliance certification letter and the audit report by an accredited process review organization (Clause 6 - ISO17712:2013)





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TENSILE TEST Section 6.2		ISO/PAS 17712:2006		
Seal type	Requirements Load to failure	Result kN	Seal classification	
Seal 79 - T06			High security seal ("H")	
610066 1 D	10.0kN : High security seal 2.27kN : Security seal < 2.27kN: Indicative seal	11.03		
610066 2 D		10.54		
610066 3 D		11.57		

Tensile test has been carried out on a tensile testing machine No. 10.1 with adjusted jig for container seals. Apparatus calibrated 2005.09.27 (certificate No. D 34526).

Project no. 1302213

Section 6.3	ISO/PAS 17712:200	
Requirements Load to failure	Result kg	Seal classification
341kg: High security seal 227 Kg : Security seal < 227 Kg: Indicative seal	670	High security seal ("H")
	660	
	720	
	Section 6.3 Requirements Load to failure 341kg: High security seal 227 Kg : Security seal < 227 Kg: Indicative seal	Section 6.3 Requirements Load to failure Result kg 341kg: High security seal 227 Kg : Security seal < 227 Kg: indicative seal

Shear test has been carried out on a tensile testing machine No. 10.1 with adjusted jig for container seals. Apparatus calibrated 2005.09.27 (certificate No. D 34526).

Seal type	Requirements Cycles to failure	Result Cycles	Seal classification
Seal 79 - T06	501: high security seal 251 : Security seal < 251: Indicative seal		High security seai ("H")
610066 1 E		>501	
610066 2 E		>501	
610066 3 E		>501	





THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR LABORATORY ACCREDITATION

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DAYTON T. BROWN, INC.

for technical competence in the field of

This laboratory is accredited in accordance with the recognized International Standard ISO/IEC 17025:2005 General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories. This accreditation demonstrates technical competence for a defined scope and the operation of a laboratory quality management system (refer to joint ISO-ILAC-IAF

Presented this 27th day of March 2007.



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For the Accreditation Council Certificate Number 0767.03 Valid to December 31, 2008

For the tests or types of tests to which this accreditation applies, please refer to the laboratory's Mechanical Scope of Accreditation.







U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Look for the "H" stamped on the seal:





Seal Terminology...

- High security seals are considered "Barrier Seals"
- Barrier seals require tools to remove; usually wire cutters or bolt croppers
- One time use; cable seals and bolt seals fall into this category





Seal Affixing Process:

- Only designated, authorized employees must distribute and affix container seals for integrity purposes. The fewer people who have access to seal(s), the better!
- Unauthorized employees/ individuals must <u>never</u> handle container seals!!!
- Specific security training should be given to employees that affix seals. Container door handles and locking mechanisms should be inspected





Outside Doors:



Detachable or loose bolts can allow access inside container



Inside Doors:



Non-manufacturer putty keeps bolts in place



Outside Doors



Detachable or loose bolts can allow access inside container







U.S. Customs and Border Protection

- Not placing a seal on the left door of the container can leave your shipment vulnerable to attack.
- The left door can be opened on some containers without tampering the seal on the right door!!!







Homemade tool



Bend plate back/ Left door opens







U.S. Customs and Border Protection

 Based on risk, a high security barrier bolt seal or cable seal should be applied to the door handle/ vertical bars on the container for an additional level of security.







Make sure seal is affixed properly; pull down on seal



Seal Verification and Inspection Process:

- A seal inspection process should be implemented throughout the supply chain. The V.V.T.T. Seal Inspection Process is a good example of one:
 - V View seal & container locking mechanisms
 - V Verify seal number for accuracy
 - **T** Tug on seal to make sure it is affixed properly
 - **T** Twist & Turn seal to make sure it does not unscrew











U.S. Customs and Border Protection

View seal & container locking mechanisms. Excessive damage to the seal or locking mechanisms must be reported to a Supervisor before opening the container.





View seal & container locking mechanisms:



Different brands of seals attached together



View seal & container locking mechanisms:



Look for loose bolt/ hasp



Verify seal number for accuracy. Compare with shipping documents, and look for alterations to the seal number.





Verify seal number for accuracy.



Seal numbers are produced in a straight line by a machine



Verify seal number for accuracy.



Original number sanded off



Tug on seal to make sure it is affixed properly. Seals that come apart must be reported to a Supervisor before opening the container. Human error might cause this to happen, or the container might have <u>contraband</u> inside!





Tug on seal to make sure it is affixed properly.



Seal stem is bent; seal does not lock properly



Tug on seal to make sure it is affixed properly.





Twist & Turn seal to make sure it does not come off. Seals are threaded, so they can be unscrewed. These altered seals are reusable throughout the supply chain for multiple attacks!





Twist & Turn seal to make sure it does not unscrew.



Twist counter-clockwise to unscrew



Twist & Turn seal to make sure it does not unscrew.



Multiple tampered seals



- After seal(s) and container/ trailer pass all inspections, the doors can be opened.
- Seals should be kept for investigative purposes or disposed of appropriately.









Seal Inspection processes should be implemented at all foreign and domestic locations:

- Manufacturers
- Suppliers
- Vendors
- Sea Carriers
- Logistical Service Providers
- Distribution Centers
- Container Storage Depots
- Warehouses



* The more locations these processes are implemented, the higher level of security your shipment will have.





Questions?

