

U.S. Customs Update: 2006 Statistics

On a typical day in fiscal year 2006, U.S. Customs:

- **Processed** – 70,900 truck, rail and sea containers, 327,042 incoming privately owned vehicles and 85,300 shipments of goods approved for entry.
- **Seized** – \$646,900 worth of fraudulent commercial merchandise at ports of entry.
- **Managed** – 326 ports of entry.

Since 1982, the global trade in illegitimate goods has increased from \$5.5 billion to approximately \$600 billion annually. U.S. Customs has the authority to exclude the importation of articles in violation of a trademark, copyright or trade name.

New List of Countries that Deny Adequate and Effective Protection and Enforcement of IP Rights Released February 12, 2007

The International AntiCounterfeiting Coalition (IACC) names 14 countries in response to the United States Trade Representative's request for written comments

The IACC states: "Despite the considerable resources applied by both the public and private sector to address the global problems of counterfeiting and piracy, there is substantial anecdotal and statistical evidence indicating that these problems continue to grow in size and scope. Information from industry and government sources, including Interpol, the World Customs Organization, and the World Intellectual Property Organization confirms that this growth is due in part to the increasing involvement of more sophisticated organized criminal networks operating across national borders. It is also now widely recognized that free trade zones established in a growing number of countries are increasingly exploited by these networks in order to facilitate the global distribution of fakes."

Some of the common problems that were noted as warranting particular attention are:

- The need for greater cooperation and coordination among different government enforcement bodies, including police, Customs, and other administrative enforcement bodies
- The need for Customs and other enforcement authorities to provide IP owners with earlier access to information needed to pursue investigations and legal actions

The fourteen (14) countries listed are: China (Priority Foreign Country), Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Paraguay, Russia, Vietnam (Priority Watch List), Belize, Malaysia, Mexico, the Philippines (Watch List), Peru, and United Arab Emirates (Special Mention).

Top 2006 U.S. Customs Seizures By Commodity

(Dom. Value / % of Total):

1. **Footwear** (\$63,445,619 / 41%)
2. **Wearing Apparel** (\$24,320,976 / 16%)
3. **Handbags/Wallets/Backpacks** (\$14,750,201 / 9%)
4. **Computers/Hardware** (\$14,287,989 / 9%)
5. **Consumer Electronics** (\$7,057,034 / 5%)
6. **Media** (\$6,965,156 / 4%)
7. **Headwear** (\$3,257,963 / 2%)
8. **Health Care** (\$3,092,919 / 2%)
9. **Watches/Parts** (\$2,832,364 / 2%)
10. **Pharmaceuticals** (\$2,298,694 / 1%)
11. **All Other** (\$13,060,321 / 8%)

Total Value: \$155,369,236

No. of Seizures: 14,675

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