Centers of Excellence and Expertise
Implementation of Phase II Accelerated Roll Out

Delegation Order, Number 14-004, effective on September 11, 2014, delegates all authorities provided for in Title 19, Code of Federal Regulations that are vested in Port Directors, to the Directors, Centers of Excellence & Expertise (Center Directors). The Delegation Order does not remove any authority from the Port Directors but serves to share trade authority until full regulatory changes are completed.

On April 06, 2015, the Center Directors for the Electronics; Petroleum, Natural Gas & Minerals (PNGM); and Pharmaceuticals, Health & Chemicals (PHC) Centers of Excellence and Expertise (Centers) will assume trade authority for post-release trade processes of entry summaries for the respective industry tariff lines filed in certain Ports of Entry under the following Field Offices:

Electronics	PHC	PNGM
Atlanta	Buffalo	Chicago
Baltimore	Laredo*	Detroit
Boston	Los Angeles	Houston
Buffalo	New Orleans	Laredo
Detroit	Seattle	
El Paso		
Laredo		
Miami		
New Orleans		
New York		
San Diego		
San Juan		
Tampa		
Tucson		

*Will transition to the PHC Center on May 4, 2015.

A list of Ports included in Phase II of the operational expansion, the name of Center(s), and the Center team code(s) that will be used are included in the Attachment.

Entry summary filing procedures and document submission processes will remain the same for brokers and importers. CBP will consolidate post-release processing to provide an increased level of uniformity and certainty.

An appropriate level of trade staff at these Service Port locations will be transitioned to the CEE to support Center operations. The Center Director will have full authority for trade decisions for the respective industry tariff lines. Guidance regarding the execution of the Delegation Order can be found on CBP.gov or via the following link:
http://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/DO%20With%20External%20Guidance.pdf

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Centers of Excellence and Expertise transform the way CBP approaches trade operations and works with the international trade community. The Centers represent CBP's expanded focus on "Trade in the 21st Century" by aligning with modern business practices, focusing on industry-specific issues, and by providing tailored support to unique trading environments. The Centers were established to increase uniformity of practices across ports of entry, facilitate the timely resolution of trade compliance issues nationwide, and further strengthen critical agency knowledge on key industry practices. Additional information can be found at Centers of Excellence and Expertise Information | U.S. Customs and Border Protection.