Container Inspection Procedures

Balancing Supply Chain Security and Economic Efficiency
Truck and Trailer Inspection Workshop

- 7-17-point Inspection process
  - Border Concealment & Recent Trends
    - Tractor/Trailer Compartment Awareness Using Recent & Past Seizures:
      - Tractors
      - Trailers
      - Tankers
      - Flatbeds, Steak beds, Bobtails, & Live Stock Trailers
      - Within Commodity
      - Driver
      - Compartment Searching and Terrorism

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Conduct a Systematic Inspection

Begin and end your inspection at the same point every time.
7-Point Inspection

Be systematic
17-Point Truck & Trailer Inspection

- 1. Bumper
- 2. Engine
- 3. Tires (truck & trailer)
- 4. Floor (inside truck)
- 5. Fuel Tanks
- 6. Cab/ Storage Compartments
- 7. Air Tanks
- 8. Drive Shafts
- 9. Fifth Wheel
- 10. Outside/ Undercarriage
- 11. Outside/ Inside Doors
- 12. Floor (inside trailer)
- 13. Side Walls
- 14. Front Wall
- 15. Ceiling/ Roof
- 16. Refrigeration Unit
- 17. Exhaust

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Smuggling Trend Changes
Where is it?
Indicators – Tractor/Trailers

- Lack of compliance to, conformity with, or familiarization of Customs importation procedures.
  - Questionable cost effectiveness of operation, trip, or cargo handling.
    - Newly acquired vehicle or newly formed company.
    - The equipment does not fit the job.
Concealment Locations

WHAT ARE THE TRENDS IN YOUR AREA?

- Reefer Trailer Floors
  - Reefer Trailer Walls
    - Non-factory Compartments
    - Trailer Roof
Evidence is Always Present

- **SIGN CUTTING** - is the perception and interpretation of detail. (Visual indications that an area has been disturbed or altered).

- Repetition allows recognition of normal factory construction, normal oxidation, and dirt accumulation from road use.
Inspection Points

- Scratches
- Burn/Weld Marks
- Tampered Bolts/Rivets
- Fresh Grease
- Fresh Paint
- Silicone
- Fiberglass/Bondo Patchwork
- Odor Masking Substances
- After Market Modification
New Screws & Bolts
New Bolts, Weld Marks, Etc.
New Rivets
Weld Marks & New Rivets
Is that Normal?
Tractor Compartments

- Air Dam
- Bumpers
- Fuel Tank(s)
- Tires
- Batteries
- Air Filter
- Transmission
- Differential
- Oil Pans
- Seats
- Sleeper Area
- Dashboard
- Vents
- Roof (Interior)
- Interior Walls
- Speaker Compartments
- Bags, Luggage within Cab Area.

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Bumpers

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Tractor Compartments

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Air Filter & Fire Wall Compartments

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Radiator & Hood Compartments

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Exhaust System Compartments
Radiator Compartments
Oil Pans
Cab Over Tractor – “Hump Area”

234 lbs of Cocaine

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Tractor Floor Compartments
Tractor Tank Compartments
Diesel Tanks

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Reefer Gas Tank
Reefer Gas Tank

561 lbs of Marijuana

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Tractor Tank Compartment
Suspended Compartment
Suspended Compartment

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Tractor Tank Compartments

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Tractor Tank Compartments
Front Tank Compartment

175 lbs of B.C. Bud

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Tires

- Recently Mounted
- Tampered Bolts
- Water Streaks
Welded Tire Compartments
Drive Shaft Compartments
Cab Over Tractor – Lift Gear

60 lbs of Cocaine

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Rear Differential Compartment

$ 179,800 Seizure

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Tractor – Cab or Sleeper Area
Sleeper Area Compartment

Lead to 13 lbs of Cocaine Seizure

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Bed Mattress – “Extra Firm”
Storage Compartment

648 lbs of Marijuana
Storage Compartment

561 lbs of Marijuana

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Tractor Back Wall Compartment

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Tractor Wall

426 lbs of Marijuana

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Air Conditioning Vent Area

193 lbs of Marijuana
Tractor’s Air Deflector

1,104 lbs of Marijuana

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Tractor’s Air Deflector

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Lift the Cab

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Temperature & Scratches
Trailer Compartments

- Front Wall
- Roof
- Side Walls
- Floor
- 5th Wheel Area
- Rear Doors
- Reefer Unit
- Tires
- Frame Rails
- Reefer Fuel Tank
Reefer Unit

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Reefer Unit Compartment
Check for Weld Marks
Check for Tampering
5th Wheel Inspection Ports
Is the view blocked?
5th Wheel Compartment
5th Wheel Compartment

$713,580 Seizure

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Check the Drain Plugs
What doesn’t look right?
Floor Compartment
Floor Compartments

- 22 of 36 beams were empty
- Loaded beams were located above fifth wheel and rear tires.
Lead Covered Compartments

327 lbs of Cocaine

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Floor Compartments
Weld Mark Underneath Pallets

840 lbs of Marijuana

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Side Wall Compartments
Check Rivets & Look for Signs
Side Wall Compartments
Sign Cutting

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Side Wall Kick Panel Compartments
Side Wall Kick Panel Compartment

1,197 lbs of Marijuana
Side Wall – Top Area Compartment
Side Wall – Top Area Compartment

915 lbs of Marijuana

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Wall Beams behind Plywood
Dry Box Trailer – Wall Beams
Wall Beams: 1,064 lbs of Marijuana
Front Wall Compartments

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Front Wall Compartment

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What doesn’t look right?
Dry Box – Front Wall Compartment

2,932 lbs of Marijuana

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Roof Compartments
Roof Compartments

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Excessive Roof Screws?
Roof Compartments

1,075 lbs of Marijuana

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What doesn’t look right?
New Roof & New Rivets
Box Compartments in Roof
2,599 lbs of Cocaine !!!!
Roof Compartments

LEAD SHEETING

Metal Trays
Roof Compartment

2,234 lbs of Marijuana
Packages Bonded to Roof
Roof Compartments

2,735 lbs of Cocaine

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Roof Compartments

1,939 lbs of Marijuana

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Soviet Made Attack Helicopter

- (2) fully functional Hind MI-24D Helicopter
- (4) Containers from Bulgaria
- Described as helicopter parts. No mention of military equipment.
Rocket Pods & Missile Rail Launchers

- (2) Rocket Pods
- (4) Missile Rail Launchers with Firing System
Thank You

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