



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
FOR MANAGEMENT

September 10, 2007

M-07-23

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM: Clay Johnson
Deputy Director for Management

PURPOSE: Requiring Agency Use of the International Trade Data System

On July 18, 2007, the President issued Executive Order 13439 to review and assess current import safety procedures and methods, survey the authorities and practices of Federal agencies, and outline preliminary steps necessary to enhance the safety of imported products.¹ A strategic framework to improve import safety has been developed based on this review and assessment. By mid-November a follow-on Action Plan based on this framework will lay out a roadmap with short- and long-term recommendations for improving import safety.

One of the immediate approved action items recommended by the working group is to require use of the International Trade Data System (ITDS) when collecting information to clear or license the import and export of cargo.² ITDS is being implemented as part of the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) project, U.S. Customs and Border Protection's new import and export processing system.

When fully utilized, ITDS will help us reduce redundant information collections, efficiently regulate the flow of commerce, and effectively enforce international trade laws. An interagency team led by the Department of the Treasury, working with the Department of Homeland Security, will coordinate activities to support your agency's use of ITDS. Many agencies already participate in this initiative and have benefited from the integration of and immediate access to import information.

You must now designate a senior executive to participate in this interagency team. Your designee will coordinate with the Executive Agents to develop your agency's plan for using ITDS. These plans must outline the steps your agency will take to complete each stage of its interface, including any necessary rulemaking and acquisitions. Agency plans are to be completed by November 12, 2007, and your agency is expected to fully utilize ITDS [by 2009]. Please send the name of your senior executive to karen.evans@omb.eop.gov by September 21, 2007.

¹ Executive Order 13439 "Establishing An Interagency Working Group on Import Safety," can be found at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/07/20070718-4.html>.

² For more information, see section 405 of the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act at: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109_cong_public_laws&docid=f:publ347.109.pdf.

We will provide additional instructions to your Chief Information Officers to assist in developing your plan and meeting this goal. We will be assessing your progress in achieving your plan's objectives as part of the President's Management Agenda. If you have questions about this policy, please contact Karen Evans, Administrator, E-Government and Information Technology at (202) 395-1181. For additional questions concerning the strategic framework please contact Jerry Regier at Jerry.Regier@HHS.GOV or 202-205-1387 and for information on ITDS please contact Cathy Saucedo at Cathy.Saucedo@dhs.gov or 202-690-5931.