

Fact Sheet

January 2005

Partners in Protection

Through the <u>Partners in Protection</u> program, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and private industry have combined efforts to enhance border security, combat organized crime and terrorism, increase awareness of customs compliance issues, and help detect and prevent contraband smuggling.

Under this program, the CBSA has developed strategic partnerships with private industry to secure the flow of low-risk, legitimate goods and travellers across our border. By signing a goodwill agreement with the CBSA, a business or organization agrees to develop a joint plan of action, conduct security assessments, participate in awareness sessions, and consult with the CBSA. The agreement aims to enhance the security of the partner business or organization, facilitate the exchange of information between partners, and develop joint awareness and information initiatives.

When an organization signs an agreement demonstrating its commitment to the Partners in Protection program, it will provide the CBSA with a self-assessment of its security systems. The CBSA will review the security measures and help to remedy any weaknesses.

Organizations participating in the Partners in Protection program benefit by:

- improved security levels;
- enhanced reputation for their organization;
- improved understanding of customs requirements; and
- better communication between their employees and the CBSA.

By working together with the CBSA, private industry helps protect Canadian society and facilitates legitimate trade.

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