



Expanding the Air Cargo Secure Supply Chain

Transport Canada has amended the *Canadian Aviation Security Regulations, 2012* to expand supply chain security and reduce potential screening bottlenecks at Canadian airports. Starting on October 17, 2016, Canada’s air cargo industry will have more options to determine where within the supply chain cargo can be screened to make it secure for air transport.

Participating in the Air Cargo Security Program

Since November 5, 2015, existing Air Cargo Security Program participants and those who use the Canadian aviation system to ship their goods have been able to apply to the Air Cargo Security Program under **new participant categories**. Those that screen, store, transport, tender or accept secure air cargo in Canada will have to decide which participant category best reflects their business and cargo activity. The table below should help you decide how your business may align with these **new participant categories**:

If your business plans to...	then you could apply to the Air Cargo Security Program to become a/an...
originate air cargo that has been made secure through a screening process applied at the time of packing	Known Consignor.
store, transport and / or accept cargo that an authorized Air Cargo Security Program participant has screened and made secure	Certified Agent.
screen cargo on behalf of others to make it secure and subsequently store and / or transport the secure cargo	Regulated Agent.
originate cargo and have it screened by an authorized participant in the Air Cargo Security Program to make it secure	Account Consignor.
direct the movement of secure cargo without coming into contact with it (i.e. provide logistics services without screening, storing, transporting, or tendering securing cargo)	Authorized Cargo Administrator.



By expanding the Secure Supply Chain, cargo can be screened at a variety of points within the supply chain by authorized participants in the Air Cargo Security Program. However, it is important to note that:

- Cargo from outside the Secure Supply Chain, such as from a shipper not participating in the Program, must be screened to make it secure for uplift on domestic and international flights carrying both passengers and cargo. This could result in security delays and security screening fees; and
- Cargo from non-participant shippers could be restricted from air transport to the United States, even if the cargo undergoes screening.

Transport Canada's Air Cargo Security Program is based on three key principles:

- **Participants in the Air Cargo Security Program are trusted.** Program applicants must go through a comprehensive application process, be thoroughly vetted by Transport Canada, and are subject to ongoing inspection and enforcement activities;
- **Cargo must be screened and made secure by authorized Program participants** using Transport Canada-prescribed methods to enter the Secure Supply Chain; and
- **Program participants ensure cargo maintains its secure status** through verifiable chain-of-custody procedures.

Application Process

The Air Cargo Security Program's application process is grouped around five security themes or "pillars":

1. **Personnel Security:** Program applicants will be asked to provide information about personnel with access to secure cargo, and the types of background checks performed.
2. **Facility Security / Transportation Security:** Program applicants will be asked details about the security of the facilities in which cargo is screened and / or stored. Where applicable, Program applicants can also expect questions related to security of the vehicles in which secure cargo is transported.
3. **Chain of Custody:** Program applicants will be asked about how the secure status of cargo will be maintained when secure cargo is accepted from another Program participant, as well as details about the type of cargo related information to be provided at the time of tendering.
4. **Training, Exercises and Audits:** Program applicants will be asked how personnel with access to secure cargo have been trained to perform their security duties.



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Program applicants will also be asked if they perform security exercises and / or audits to assess the effectiveness of their cargo security controls.

5. **Screening:** Program applicants will be asked about the procedures used to screen and make cargo secure, in accordance with Transport Canada-prescribed methods. This includes screening via physical security controls or the use of certain types of approved screening technology.

Learn More

Transport Canada encourages businesses wishing to participate in the Air Cargo Security Program to contact its Air Cargo Security Support Centre, or apply directly through the Program website at <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/aviationsecurity/asc-41.htm> , to begin the application process.

For additional information, contact the Air Cargo Security Support Centre toll-free at 1-866-375-7342 or by email at aircargo-fretaerien@tc.gc.ca.