



CUSTOMS & QUARANTINE AGENCY, GUAM

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Director's Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 10, 2017

Connecting with Industry Experts to Develop CQA Data System

BARRIGADA, GUAM – Participation in the Oceania Customs Organisation's (OCO) 19th Annual Conference highlights the Customs and Quarantine Agency's (CQA) need to digitize, and modernize its processes to effectively and efficiently protect Guam's border.

Over the course of the conference it became apparent that Guam was well behind the digital curve when compared to other neighboring customs administrations. To date, the Agency's current operation is paper based with no information management system to collect, process, or analyze the island's import, export, and travel data.

At the Conference, the CQA was able to connect with Mr. Renaud Massenet, Regional Director for ASYCUDA (Automated System for Customs Data) in the Asia Pacific and representative of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Mr. Massenet met with Agency representatives to offer assistance and guidance towards implementing the ASYCUDA system in Guam.

The Director of Customs and newly elected Chairman for the OCO is in full support, "I have directed my staff to pursue the ASYCUDA IT system. This will allow data input such as the Harmonize System that most OCO member countries are using, enable the Agency to receive cargo and passenger manifests prior to arrival, and also provide modules for suspected criminals and criminal activity monitoring within the region."

Capacity building within the region by countries such as Australia, New Zealand, and France, have allowed other small member administrations in the Pacific to advance their technology with instituted computerized customs data and risk analysis software and operating systems.

It is time for the CQA to enter the digital era by increasing its capacity for data collection and analysis for effective border management.

The Agency intends to use awarded federal funds to procure its Customs Management Information System and is currently in the process of developing a RFP.

For more information, please contact our Public Information Officer Ms. Jessi Santos at (671) 475-6202 or email jessi.santos@cqa.guam.gov.

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