

Objective

My objective is to utilize my 23 years in the trade, supply chain and compliance functions to oversee the Customs Compliance, Supply Chain, Logistics and Regulatory functions within my organization and to protect the organization by adding value, employing best practices and efficiencies, quantifying success, opportunity and risk and developing the knowledge and skill sets of my staff and my constituents symbiotically. I would like to ensure that my employer is the benchmark for all industries in the Customs Compliance and Supply Chain management arenas and to reduce cost and burden in the overall supply chain by engaging all partners, internal and external, driving efficiencies, creating synergies and maintaining control, trust and value among all parties.

Work Experience

Director, Global Trade & Supply Chain Compliance

3/2006 – Present Wet Seal Inc, Foothill Ranch, California

- Oversee and manage all Global Transportation and Logistics, Customs Compliance, Supply Chain, Security, Regulatory Affairs, Dept of Labor affairs, Vendor Compliance, Social Compliance and product testing requirements. I have effectively reduced cost through self-developed automation tools and processes.
- Oversee and manage all CBP-sponsored programs, such as C-TPAT, ISA, Periodic Monthly Statements and ACE Portal, as well as the effective automation of such processes.
- Achieved C-TPAT Tier 3 status in 2010 after validation in 2006 and revalidation in 2009. Also featured on CBP's website for a testimonial on the C-TPAT program.
- Developed and maintain a Pre-Import Review system, including landed cost calculation and monthly reconciliation, as well as the automation of assist handling, HS Classification, 9801 claims, Special Program claims and entry summary audit of 20 focus areas. Also developed comprehensive training programs for employees and self filing of ISF and Entry Summary data, eliminating the customs broker.
- Developed and maintain all freight forwarder data feeds (inbound and outbound), which includes all data required for booking and transport, CBP 7501 data elements and all 10+2 Security requirements.
- Work closely with Purchasing, Loss Prevention, Receiving, IT, Distribution Center, Legal and Accounts Payable to ensure compliance and establish efficient processes while reducing cost and enhancing employee performance. Ensure compliance with Federal and State regulatory matters such as CPSIA, CA Prop 65, State Health Agencies, etc. Also responsible for all aspects of the corporate routing guide, including production, quality, labeling, importing, shipping and chargebacks.
- I have significantly reduced transportation expense year over year, with a reduction of 750k in freight cost within my first 6 months of employment with Wet Seal. Developed automated consolidation planning and forwarder selection during the Pre-Import Review process.
- Featured by Aberdeen Group in March 2008 research study, "Automating Import and Export Compliance: 2008 Trends and Solution Providers" as Best in Class.
- Oversee and manage export and duty drawback processes.
- Oversee and manage marking and labeling requirements and audit.
- Directly involved in Global Sourcing and Procurement.
- Eliminated the use of customs brokers in 2011, allowing the Company to self-file ISF, Cargo and Entry Summary data with CBP five days prior to port arrival, which also eliminated the need for post entry amendments and interest payments. This was accomplished by developing automated processes, and no additional headcount has been required.
- Reduced import staff from 6 employees to 1, with improved efficiency and cost reduction.

Operations / Client Manager (Import/Export Compliance)

5/2005 – 3/2006 JPMorgan Chase Vastera Managed Services, Ft Myers, Florida

- Manage 6 teams comprised of 15 customs compliance professionals (including 4 licensed individuals) to oversee and manage the import and export compliance functions of two top-tier multinational, multi-billion dollar clients.
- Strong focus on US and foreign import and export fundamentals, such as FCPA, anti-corruption, country of origin, HS classification, ECCN licensing, valuation, marking and labeling, OGA requirements, free trade agreements, broker management, US export control laws, foreign import laws and export management systems.
- Strong working knowledge of ERP systems and database management to perform work management functions and to provide centralized tools that aid in the promotion and development of synergies among the 6 teams.

Global Import/Export Compliance

11/2002 - 5/2005 Mary Kay Inc., Dallas, Texas

- Responsible for compliance with import and export controls for 32 countries, free trade agreements, OGA compliance, marking and labeling, monitoring buying agency agreements, ensuring assists are accurately tracked and declared, ensuring overage and shortage receipts are reconciled with Customs.
- Responsible for corporate compliance intranet development, maintenance and deployment, internal compliance training and education, database and information management, HS classification, valuation, risk assessment, gap analysis and audit.
- Departmental liaison with purchasing, finance, accounting, marketing, legal, shipping/receiving, IT, etc.
- Provided external compliance software provider support for implementation into MK systems and operations as a key member of the implementation team. Also supported strategic initiatives for entering new markets, INCOTERMS advisories, broker and forwarder management as well as global import requirements and security initiatives, such as CTPAT, where required.

Manager Customs Compliance

6/1998 - 9/2002 Alcoa Fujikura Ltd., Duncan, SC

- Responsible for managing global import and export Customs and regulatory compliance as it relates to letter of the law compliance in such areas as HS classification, export controls (RPL screening, diversion risk screening, know your customer guidelines, etc.), country of origin, preferential trade programs, valuation (including reconciliation and computed value), broker and forwarder management, OGA compliance, etc.
- Responsible for ensuring seamless compliance in concert with the development of supply chain and transportation initiatives to limit risk and maximize efficiency and cost savings.
- Responsible for managing employees in the U.S., Mexico and the UK.
- Managed duty drawback program and successfully managed CAT audit under ISA guidelines, resulting in low risk designation.
- Assisted US Customs in Focused Assessment manual development.
- Performed due diligence on nine acquisitions.
- Implemented internal ABI entry filing system to clear US import entries, eliminating the need and expense of US Customs brokers in the supply chain.
- Responsible for ERP migration from legacy systems to Oracle database which included international compliance functionality (INCOTERMS compliance, global HS application, export control codes, etc.).
- Strong knowledge of vertical manufacturing and sourcing and FTZ applications.

Customs Compliance Specialist

12/1996 - 6/1998 Kmart Corporation, Troy, MI

- Responsible for hard-line and soft-line purchase order compliance reviews, including HS classification, OGA requirements, Visa/Quota and Quota charge statement requirements, and antidumping/countervailing duty reviews and advisories.
- Obtained binding rulings on apparel, auto accessories and children's toys/learning devices.

- Responsible for protest filing and duty recovery initiatives, warehousing and destruction, and inter-departmental information management.

Consultant / Corporate Trainer

9/1991 - 11/1996 Tower Group International, Romulus, MI

- Developed strong compliance knowledge in brokerage, HS classification, valuation, FTA's, ABI systems and integration, release and entry requirements and process development.
- Responsible for internal audits, training at release points, classification, special programs, and post-entry functions.
- Developed training for commodity-specific items such as auto parts, chemicals, textiles, bearings, steel, etc.
- Responsible for training at express courier hubs, such as Emery and DHL.

- Responsible for managing the General Motors account and Chrysler NAFTA solicitation and program management.
- Trained on OGA-ABI interface requirements, FDA Product Code building, as well as ADD/CVD (including bond) requirements.

Education

9/1988 - 6/1991 Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Skills

- Licensed Customs Broker (November 1997, 16312)
- HM Customs Training (UK)
- World Trade Institute Export Operations Certification
- ABI Functionality, CATAIR Requirements and ACE
- MS Office: Very Strong in Access, Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, FrontPage, including some VBA experience