

## U.S. CUSTOMS & BORDER PROTECTION (CBP)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is the primary federal agency responsible for securing America's borders. This includes the protection of intellectual property rights, which guards against the infringement of U.S. patents, copyrights, and trademarks. At the border, CBP is authorized to exclude, detain, seize, forfeit, and ultimately destroy imported merchandise that infringes federally registered and recorded trademarks and copyrights and/or is covered by an exclusion order or Seizure and Forfeiture Order (SFO) issued by the U.S. International Trade Commission.

There are several steps you can take to partner with CBP to help protect your intellectual property rights-

**STEP 1:** Read these publications which explain in detail how to work with CBP to protect your intellectual property:

[How to Work with CBP to Protect Your Intellectual Property](#)

[CBP Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights-- Informed Compliance Publication](#)

**STEP 2:** Record your registered trademark and/or copyright with CBP.

Holders of registered trademarks and copyrights concerned about imports or exports of infringing goods should record their trademarks and copyrights with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). A right holder can begin the recordation process on [IPRR](#). Preview the [Trademark application](#) and the [Copyright application](#). Patents may not be recorded with CBP for border enforcement protection; however, patent owners may be entitled to exclusion of infringing imports into United States under [Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930](#).

**STEP 3:** Educate CBP personnel about your intellectual property by developing a [Product ID Guide](#) (Training Guide) and producing a [Product ID Webinar](#).

**STEP 4:** Provide updated information to CBP so that CBP knows about changes to your products, intellectual property or contact information ([IPRS](#)). You can [search the IPR database](#) containing public versions of CBP IPR recordation. Requests for changes to the information contained in a recordation should be made on company letterhead and provided to [IPRRQuestions@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:IPRRQuestions@cbp.dhs.gov).

**STEP 5:** Submit any actionable intelligence that you have regarding suspect shipments or infringing parties to CBP through [e-Allegations](#).

Questions about CBP's recordation program should be sent to [IPRRQuestions@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:IPRRQuestions@cbp.dhs.gov).



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