



To all C-TPAT Partners:

Please be advised that effective **March 1, 2012**, the current International Organization for Standardization (ISO) mechanical seal standard (ISO/PAS 17712) will be replaced with a new ISO standard--ISO 17712:2010. C-TPAT understands that seals are costly, and companies are not expected to discard seals currently in stock. However, after companies have exhausted their current stock of high security seals, we recommend that they purchase seals which are compliant with the new ISO 17712:2010 standard.

The new standard compliance requirements:

- Testing to determine a seal's classification for physical strength (as a barrier of entry).
- Process auditing of the manufacturer's security-related business practices.
- Testing (pass/fail) of a seals ability to indicate evidence of tampering.
- A new 18mm minimum width diameter for bolt seals.

Benefits of the new seal standards include:

- Reduced possibility of cargo theft or tampering.
- Reduced possibility of unauthorized material being inserted into containers or other instruments of international traffic (IIT).
- Reducing shipping delays that result when seals are missing or broken.
- When inspecting seals for signs of tampering, tamper-evident seals should allow personnel, with the appropriate training, to detect compromised seals easier.

When C-TPAT companies transition to the new ISO 17712:2010 compliant seals, they should request documentation (lab reports) to confirm that the purchased seals comply with the new standard.