

Trans-Expedite Inc. Invites Businesses to Learn About Congress-Mandated Screening Measures

An educational luncheon and presentation on the Certified Cargo Screening Program (CCSP) will be held at 12:15 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 9, in the La Placita Room at the El Paso International Airport. Hosting the event will be locally owned Trans-Expedite, a time-sensitive transportation and logistics company specializing in on-time delivery. Trans-Expedite would be the first indirect air carrier in El Paso to become a Certified Cargo Screening Facility (CCSF).

Featured speakers will be Dave Burnell, CCSP Branch Chief Assistant, and Gary Lupinacci, CCSP Branch Chief Assistant. They will outline the effects of the 100% cargo screening mandate by Congress to take effect in 2010, and present the benefits of pre-screening through the Certified Cargo Screening Program.

Participation in the Certified Screening Program is voluntary. However, the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 mandated 100% screening of cargo at the piece level, originating in the U.S., and transported on passenger aircraft by August 2010. Industry was required to attain 100% screening of cargo transported on narrow bodied passenger aircrafts in October 2008 and 50% screening of cargo transported on wide bodied aircrafts in February 2009. Today, more than 95% of passenger flights are narrow bodied which transport over 80% of the passengers and 25% of the cargo within the US.

Current exemptions and alternate means of screening for shrink-wrapped, strapped, and banded shipper pallets will be eliminated. These changes are expected to cause significant air cargo handling delays at airlines where all screening is currently performed.

According to Keeli Jernigan, President of Trans-Expedite, Inc., the advantage of being a Certified Cargo Screening Facility is the ability to screen cargo prior to acceptance at the air carrier, without impeding the flow of commerce.

“We will be strictly regulated by the TSA (Transportation Security Administration) because CCSFs must adhere to stringent security requirements,” said Jernigan. Measures such as the following must be in place before a facility is certified:

Physical Access Controls - To prevent unauthorized entry to facilities

Personnel Security - Employee, contractor, visitor screening processes

Procedural Security - To ensure the integrity and security of processes

Physical Security - Physical barriers and deterrents

Information Technology Security – Protection of data integrity

Facility Validation - Allow initial and recurring validations by TSA

For more information, please contact Melissa Ryan @ 915-779-9100.