



M&C Specialties Works Toward C-TPAT Certification

It all started on the morning of September 11th 2001 when America fell victim to several terrorist attacks. Since then the world has changed and it will never be the same as it was prior to that day.

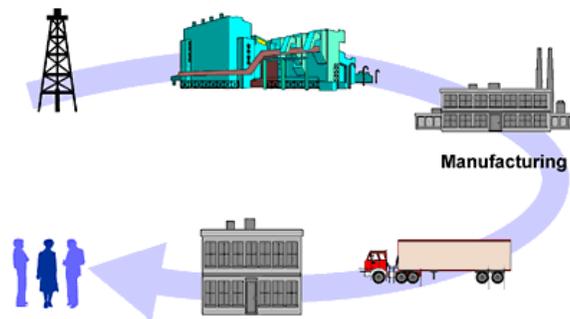
One program that was established as a result of that day is C-TPAT. **C-TPAT** stands for **Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism**. It is a voluntary partnership between the U.S. government and private sector businesses. It falls under the U.S. Customs and Border Protection of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and is designed to secure American borders from smuggling in contraband. The mission of C-TPAT is to protect America from imports illegally entering the country.

M&C Specialties in America has worked diligently with our government to participate in C-TPAT. There are three steps in C-TPAT certification. We completed the first step on November 8th 2010 when we became certified through our application. Our second step occurred on September 27th 2011 when we underwent a rigorous validation by Supply Chain Security Specialists of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). We were assisted in this validation process by ITW Corporate Trade Compliance personnel, and passed with flying colors.

The third and final step of the process was a validation audit that involved a visit to our foreign business partner at our Mexicali facility. We are pleased to announce that M&C passed our Validation Audits in October 2011.

Having this certification is now an important aspect of doing business with our top tier healthcare customers. The reason they demand this certification is clear. We are a global company with international suppliers and business partners and to be competitive, especially in the healthcare markets, we are held up to the highest standards in manufacturing. Not only do we use best practices in manufacturing, but we need to provide speedy and safe transport of our products to our customers. The entire business partner supply chain, which includes purchasing materials, manufacturing products, shipping, and delivery, needs to be controlled and secure from any potential threats.

To that end M&C has added key steps to our normal business practices to attain C-TPAT certification. M&C instituted photo id badges for all of our employees. We have taken precautionary measures to secure all doors and access to the building; especially in the cargo areas that involve trucking companies and couriers making deliveries and collecting shipments. We are also using Brokers and Trucking companies who are also C-TPAT certified and require the same measures of safety in their businesses to handle our products.



The healthcare industry has always been critical in the areas of **Good Manufacturing Practices, confidentiality, and quality**. It appears they are now adding **security** to their demands and M&C Specialties is ready to comply. Our #1 forecasted Healthcare customer required us to be C-TPAT certified. We are happy to satisfy the demands of our customers while helping to secure our borders at the same time.

M&C is taking every step necessary to ensure our business is thriving and our customers are serviced to the best of our capabilities. Our large healthcare markets are demanding the extra effort from us in order to continue great business partnerships and we have stepped up to the challenge. Because of these and other efforts we have taken to secure our reputation in the manufacturing business we foresee a bright future for M&C Specialties... from sea to shining sea.



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