



U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection

## U.S. Customs and Border Protection Information Bulletin

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**DATE:** September 29, 2016

**TO:** Carriers, Shippers, Brokers, Importers & other  
Interested Parties

**FROM:** Tucson Field Office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

**SUBJECT:** Update on Unified Cargo Processing (UCP) - Nogales

As previously announced, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Nogales Commercial Port of Entry (Mariposa) initiated a “proof of concept” for the unified processing of cargo by CBP and SAT (Mexican Customs). The proof of concept involved current “maquiladora” FAST lane users (fast lane users are defined as being C-TPAT certified importer, shipper and carrier using a fast certified driver).

During the proof of concept FAST lane users were advised to use the empty truck lane at the Mexico SAT facility to bypass current processing in Mexico and advance to the FAST lane on the U.S. side. Export processing for SAT and Import processing for CBP takes place in unison at the FAST lane primary booth in the U.S. Any intensive exam generated by either CBP or SAT takes place jointly at the Mariposa intensive area.

The primary goal of the “proof of concept” was to determine if the unified processing of FAST lane shipments would decrease the transit time of international cargo thereby increasing security and reducing the cost of doing business.

30-day review revealed better than expected results:

- 22% of all laden trucks are being jointly processed by CBP and SAT
- 20 minutes is the average crossing time from Nogales, Sonora to Nogales, Arizona for UCP shipments
- Significant reductions in in-transit transportation cost for UCP participants

On September 9, 2016 CBP and SAT met in Mexico City to discuss the first 30-day review. As a result, it was agreed that workgroups would be formed to evaluate if the expansion of UCP would be feasible for other ports within Arizona (Douglas and San Luis). It was also agreed that UCP would now be expanded to include “all” Fast lane users including produce effective October 3, 2016.

Questions regarding UCP and/or this expansion should be directed to Program Manager Armando Goncalvez at 520-407-2323 or [armando.goncalvez@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:armando.goncalvez@cbp.dhs.gov)