

Executive Summary
Mexican Customs Pre-clearance
At the
Laredo International Airport

On November 1, 2012, the Mexican Government published the rules and regulations authorizing Mexican Customs pre-clearance at the Laredo International Airport, Laredo, Texas for Mexico bound air cargo forever changing Mexico's air cargo logistics.

On December 20, 2012, the first shipment under the Mexican Customs program departed the Laredo International Airport to Guanajuato, Mexico the cargo consisted of auto parts for Chrysler De Mexico. The first operation was a resounding success.

The pre-clearance program simplifies, expedites, reduces cost, and enhances security for Mexico bound air cargo. Initially only Mexican certified importers in the auto manufacturing, auto parts, electronics/electrical and aerospace industries will be able to participate in this customs clearance. Air cargo cleared at the Laredo International Airport will upon arrival in Mexico be immediately released to the owner without having to pause at a Mexican airport bonded facility. Pre-clearance is important to the manufacturing sector that relies on "Just-in-time" delivery of its inventory.

Air cargo destined to Mexico from all over the world can be diverted to the Laredo International Airport to be cleared by Mexican Customs. Currently seven Mexican airports are approved to participate, these being Chihuahua, San Luis Potosi, Queretaro, Guanajuato, Toluca, Guadalajara, Hermosillo and Saltillo. In the future other airports may be added.

Mexican Customs in Laredo, Texas makes Laredo unique in that no other airport outside of Mexico is approved by the Mexican government to pre-clear Mexico bound air cargo. It is also historic in the sense that nowhere else do two countries share one building at an airport to house two customs. The City of Laredo invested \$3.3 million in constructing a Federal Inspection Services (FIS) Facility.

The Laredo International Airport is a flagship airport. The City of Laredo and the Federal Aviation Administration have invested in excess of \$200 million during the past 20 years to upgrade Laredo's airport infrastructure.

The Laredo International Airport, NAFTA's cargo hub, is the only airport along the entire southern border with CBP availability 24/7 and where U.S. Customs processes cargo 24/7.

Mexican Customs at the Laredo International Airport will expand and solidify the City of Laredo, Texas as the premier commercial port on the Southern Border.

Official ribbon cutting ceremony is planned for later part of August 2015 by Mexican and U.S. government officials.

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