



# WINGS, WAVES & WHEELS

Customs Clearance International, Inc.

*\*\*Around the Corner or Around the World, We keep your merchandise moving\*\**

[www.cciusa.net](http://www.cciusa.net)

Fall, 2011

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Customs Clearance is a full service logistics company with offices in Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York and Houston. Please visit us at [www.cciusa.net](http://www.cciusa.net) for a complete list of our services and office contact details.

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## Household Goods/ Personal Effects

We had the opportunity to attend the IAM convention during September in Denver and visit many of our loyal clients. I enjoyed winning the “best dressed cowboy” contest but the reality is I did not need to dress up, I came in my regular attire, LOL. Congratulations to Laura May Carmack of Aires who was the “best dressed cowgirl”.

It was a busy summer and as we head into Fall we would like to remind everyone that sending your complete documentation prior to arrival is critical in the timely release of your shipments. If your clients have out of the ordinary items like alcohol, weapons, vehicles please check with us before shipping.

On the regulatory side of imports OFAC has reversed their verbal instruction and is not requiring a letter on the Iran origin carpets when not imported for commercial purposes in a household goods shipment. USDA has put out ban on the import of rice from several countries so please make sure to read the detailed article about that new regulation in this issue.

I would like to remind everyone that we have the ability to remote file entries in most USA ports. As a company having the ability to both remote and direct file at four ports of entry we know that a direct file entry is more expeditious and less costly to the mov-

ing company over the long haul. We can handle your entry either way and look forward to being of service on your next shipment.

— By; *David Sudduth*

## Presidents Minute

Summer is gone and it was busy this year with our personnel working many late nights processing shipments and moving freight. I enjoyed seeing so many friends and customers at the IAM convention in Denver. While at the convention we attended the 25th anniversary of the Movers & Shakers Club. It was a special evening with some special people. A job well done by David Sudduth for taking the prize in the cowboy costume contest, he was in his glory ... hat, spurs, chaps and lasso!

Please call on us for any quote requests that you may have, we offer door-to-door solutions to your most unique requests.

Thank you for your business we appreciate the opportunity to be of service!

— By: *Bill Wratschko*



## Transportation Corner

**Ocean Freight-** As predicted in the summer newsletter we are not experiencing the normal peak season surcharges. Rates remain flat and carriers are looking for freight to fill their vessels. We have an over abundance of space because of a slower market and new carriers that have entered certain trade lanes. We don't anticipate any large rate increases for the balance of 2011.

**Air Freight-** rates remain stable but fuel prices continue to move up and down.

**Trucking-** carriers seems to be a little more stable and fuel surcharges are running 15% to 26% depending on the traffic lane.

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## USDA Restrictions on Rice Imports

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is restricting the importation of rice from countries known to have the Khapra beetle. Non commercial quantities (household goods/personal effect shipments) of rice originating from the following countries may be refused entry and are prohibited; Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cyprus, Egypt, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and United Arab Emirates.

Commercial shipments of rice will require a phytosanitary certificate for entry purposes.

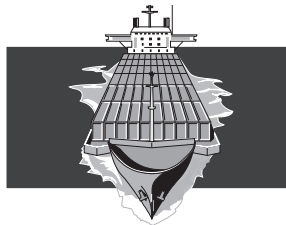
The Khapra beetle infestation can infest grain crops resulting in great economic loss to the US economy in

domestic and export products. For more information on this subject please consult your local Customs Clearance Int. office.

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## Pier Pass Charges Increase for LA/LB Ports

On August 1, 2011 the Pier Pass fee for the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach increased to \$60 per 20 ft container and \$120 per 40 ft container. This fee also known as the TMF-Traffic Mitigation Fee was established in 2005 to reduce truck traffic on local roads and freeways.



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## End of Courtesy Liquidation Mailings

After September 17th, 2011 Customs will no longer provide the paper courtesy liquidation notice for electronically filed entries via the postal mail service.

The liquidation notice was the half sheet paper that indicated if an entry was liquidated/finalized as originally entered or with a duty increase or refund. The liquidation date is also a critical date that establishes a legal time frame to protest an entry. Importers wishing to track their entry liquidation status directly can establish a portal account in the ACE system or request their broker to run liquidation reports in their ACE or ABI programs. If you require information

to establish an ACE portal account please contact Kenny Uyemura in the Los Angeles office. You can email him at [Kenny@cciusa.net](mailto:Kenny@cciusa.net).

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## GSP/MPF-Renewals/Increase

On September 22, 2011 HR 2832 was passed by the Senate to reinstate the GSP (duty free program for certain products from specific underdeveloped countries). The bill includes a temporary increase in the Merchandise Processing Fee, MPF from the current 0.21% to 0.3464 until June 30, 2014.

The President must now submit the bill to the House for approval. It is anticipated that GSP retroactive renewal should be approved around October 15, 2011.

