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APEC: Best Practice in Secure Trade

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APEC: Best Practice in Secure Trade

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APEC Report on Best Practices

- Undertaken as part of the STAR initiative.
 - Examines the experiences of several APEC economies in securing their trade.
 - Main aim to disseminate information on best practice and lessons learned to assist in future efforts in counter terrorism measures.
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Trade, Investment & Security

“... we must grow our economies even as we protect our borders and find new ways to secure our key economic infrastructure from terrorist attacks.”

*APEC Leaders' Statement on Fighting Terrorism
and Promoting Growth,
26 October 2002*

Five Case Studies

- US/Thailand STAR-Bangkok/Laem Chabang Efficient and Secure Trade (BEST) Project
- Chile's Graficación Marítima (GRAFIMAR) geographical information system
- Malaysia's Karsof™ Total Airport Security System
- Australia's Advance Passenger Processing (APP) system
- Indonesia's Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Anti-Terrorist Financing (ATF) Regime

Best Practices & Lessons Learned

General:

- Governments need to be committed to the measures and focus on outcomes.
- Demonstrate benefits to stakeholders, such as the flow-on effects of greater efficiencies.

Best Practices & Lessons (cont'd)

Planning:

- Strong planning is necessary, particularly for projects involving new technology.
- Build in flexibility and capacity for change, as circumstances can evolve.
- Provide for a high level of coordination and cooperation, both in project development and operation.

Best Practices & Lessons (cont'd)

Information and Communication Technology (ICT):

- ICT is an effective tool.
- If possible, use “open” IT systems and make use of existing technology and systems.
- IT systems should be able to interface with external systems where outside data is required.
- User interfaces should be as simple and as clear as possible.

Best Practices & Lessons (cont'd)

Education and Training:

- Education and training is vital to establishing new CT projects, particularly those with a large reliance on technology.
- It should be included as part of strategic planning.
- It should cover both internal and external users, where appropriate.

Best Practices & Lessons (cont'd)

- Target training for staff doing specialised tasks.
- System documentation is a useful tool so that users can find information quickly.

Role of management:

- Plays a key role in identifying requirements, evaluating and enforcing.

Best Practices & Lessons (cont'd)

- The international community needs to cooperate to fight terrorism effectively to
 - contain costs,
 - avoid duplication,
 - identify spillover benefits,
 - ensure interoperability, and
 - provide capacity building assistance.
- Costs of implementing the measures should fall as experience is gained.

Summary

- Implementation of secure trade measures, particularly through effective cooperation, can result in long term economic efficiencies.
- STAR demonstrates this and underscores the importance of facilitating trade and investment while also enhancing security.
- Analysis of the five case studies shows several common principles/best practices which should be applied to new measures.