

## **MSC GAYANE**

MSC CUSTOMER ADVISORY

## 20 June 2019, Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Customers,

As you may be aware, the container ship MSC Gayane was recently involved in a law enforcement operation while calling the port of Philadelphia, in which a large quantity of contraband was discovered onboard.

MSC takes this matter very seriously and is grateful to the authorities for identifying any suspected abuse of its services and operations.

As a consequence of these events, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has temporarily suspended – not revoked – our Customs Trade Partnership (C-TPAT) certification. MSC has not been restricted from doing business in, or suspended from operating in, the US market and this action does not prevent customers doing business with MSC.

Furthermore, customers should only expect minimal disruption as a result of the C-TPAT certification issue. For example, there could possibly be additional inspections on certain containers coming from South and Central America to the USA. There will be no impact on customs clearance for cargo, which is flowing regularly in and out of the USA.

We are actively seeking to assure the authorities that our certification can be reinstated as soon as possible. Notwithstanding the suspension of CTPAT status MSC will continue to comply with the requirements of the program.

MSC has a longstanding history of cooperating with U.S. federal law enforcement agencies and was one of the first carriers to participate in C-TPAT after its inception in 2001. C-TPAT is a voluntary partnership between governments and carriers to ensure supply chain security.

MSC will continue to collaborate with authorities worldwide, to ensure our vessels are secure and can deliver our customers' cargo safely and reliably. We appreciate your patience and continued business, and we will keep you informed as soon as we learn more details.

MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company