



Respironics has made a corporate decision to apply for membership in a US Government program.

The C-TPAT (customs-trade partnership against terrorism) program is regulated by the US government (customs); and is strongly recommended for US companies that import product from overseas vendors. Under the program, companies apply for a compliance "certificate" based on an internal evaluation of their security procedures, and then self-police compliance with these procedures (subject to a customs inspection within the first 3 years that the certification is initially obtained).

The compliance program centers around a company's procedures to ensure that imported products do not pose security risks. Among other things, compliance considers physical security (of building and properties), IT security (primarily access), and personnel security (background checks, terminated employee access, etc.) Respironics strongly supports those goals.

Over the past year we have used a consultant to help determine our existing state of C-TPAT readiness and develop the protocols needed to complete the process to ensure our certification, even as the C-TPAT program has been strengthened by Homeland Security. Those protocols are attached and will be incorporated through our organization in the next 18 months.

C-TPAT offers trade-related businesses an opportunity to play an active role in the war against terrorism. By participating in this first worldwide supply chain security initiative, business ensures a more secure and expeditious supply chain for their employees, suppliers and customers. And a safer, more secure world for our families to live in. A great American once said: "ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country". Those words were never more true than today. We can, and do, support C-TPAT.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale G. West".

Dale G. West
Vice President,
Corporate Shared Services
Respironics, Inc.

[Click here to view answers to common C-TPAT questions.](#)