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Ensuring Peoples' Security and Safety



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The economy and society in each country have been increasingly globalized and become borderless in recent years, and the volume of international trade and human exchanges have also expanded. Such trends increase the danger from illegal imports, including smuggling of illicit drugs such as methamphetamines and cannabis, firearms, terrorism-related materials threatening the security and safety of peoples' lives, as well as goods infringing intellectual property rights which impede the sound development of the economy. In order to secure peoples' security and safety and maintain economic and social order in Japan, Japan Customs puts preventing the inflow of such goods harmful to society at the border as one of the top priorities and is actively implementing various controlling measures.



Effective Border Management

Japan Customs puts preventing illegal movement of prohibited goods such as illicit drugs and firearms as one of the top priorities and is actively implementing strict controlling measures. Japan Customs will enhance the inspection and surveillance and continue to improve border management through various measures, including effective use of large-scale X-ray inspection systems and close cooperation with other domestic and foreign authorities.

LARGE-SCALE X-RAY INSPECTION SYSTEM

Balancing competing goals for accuracy and speed

Customs inspects import/export cargoes, hand-carry items of inbound and outbound passengers and international mails/parcels, Japan Customs has installed various X-ray inspection systems for quick and accurate inspections without unpacking, which uncover smuggling of illicit drugs, such as methamphetamines and cannabis, and firearms. Responding to large-scale smuggling cases using large containers and in order to inspect large cargoes, such as automobiles, as well as the containers themselves, the first large-scale X-ray inspection system was introduced at the Port of

Yokohama in 2001, and since then, a total of 16 systems have been installed at 13 ports across the country. The systems complete inspections in about 10 minutes per container, compared with about two hours previously taken, greatly reducing the inspection time.



LARGE-SCALE X-RAY INSPECTION SYSTEM



DRUG DETECTOR DOG

Important partners indispensable for detecting drugs

After two drug detector dogs came to Japan in 1979 through the cooperation of U.S. Customs, about 130 drug detector dogs are assigned to customs throughout Japan at present.

The drug detector dogs sniff the personal effects of inbound passengers, foreign mails arriving in Japan and other imported items. The drug detector dogs have spotted a large amount of illicit drugs to date, such as cannabis and methamphetamines.

We also introduced the drug detector dogs which can detect not only illicit drugs but also explosives in 2002. They enable us to inspect explosives strictly.



TDS (ILLCIT DRUGS AND EXPLOSIVES DETECTORS SYSTEM)

Japan's uniquely successful inspection equipment

TDS enables us to detect hidden illicit drugs such as methamphetamine and explosives by mass analyzing of ionized specimen which was collected by wiping the surface of the exported/imported commercial cargoes, the personal effects of outbound/inbound passengers, foreign mails and so on. It has contributed to intercept a massive amount of illicit drugs such as methamphetamine.

It enables us to inspect exported/imported items promptly and strictly while outbound/

inbound passengers and exported/imported cargoes are rapidly increased, because it can detect hidden illicit drugs and explosives in a short time without destroying items.



METAL DETECTOR GATE Key Equipment for Countermeasures to Stop Gold Smuggling

In 2017, to address the situation, Customs developed Emergency Countermeasures to "Stop Gold Smuggling", which consists of three core aims: "strengthening inspections", "tightening penalties", and "enhancing the collection and analysis of information, to actively and strictly promote the enforcement of relevant laws against gold smuggling at Customs, which comprise Japan's border. Metal detector gate was introduced as a key equipment for first core aim, "strengthening inspection". They are installed at all international airports and some seaports.

This approach enables us to take stricter regulatory measures against more passengers than when we use handy metal detector while performing customs clearance procedures promptly and smoothly.



No escape for any smuggling. Our policy is clear.

Never miss any smuggling of illicit drugs, firearms and golds, is the firm policy of the Customs and Tariff Bureau and regional Customs nationwide.

Japan Customs has achieved steady records of seizures at the border. In 2022, the total seizure number of illicit drugs was 1,044 (up 25% YOY) and the total seizure amount was approx. 1,147kg (down 8% YOY), which exceeded one ton in seven consecutive years and showed a very serious situation.

The seizure number of gold smuggling was 9 (up 80% YOY), and the seizure amount was approx. 135kg (up approximately 5 times YOY).



Number of seizures: Gold

Type	Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
		cases	12	119	465	811	1,347	1,086	61	51	5
Gold	kg	133	449	2,032	2,802	6,277	2,054	319	150	27	135 (Note)

(Note) preliminary figures

Number of seizures: Illicit Drugs and Firearms

Facing increasing smuggling of illicit drugs and firearms, Japan Customs has achieved steady records of seizures at the border.

Type	Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	YOY
		cases	169	425	72	95	300
Methamphetamine etc.	kg	1,159	2,587	811	1,014	567	56%
	cases	218	242	204	199	148	74%
Cannabis	kg	156	82	126	153	431	282%
	cases	128	110	86	94	55	59%
Herbal Cannabis	kg	143	61	49	22	315	14.5times
	cases	90	132	118	105	93	89%
Cannabis Resin etc.	kg	13	21	76	132	117	89%
	cases	225	209	167	233	232	100%
Narcotics	kg	161	656	822	61	131	216%
	Thousand Tabs	32	61	90	133	78	59%
Cocaine	cases	58	52	27	34	28	82%
	kg	153	638	820	14	48	331%
MDMA etc.	cases	59	67	74	81	96	119%
	kg	5	0	2	30	46	152%
Thousand Tabs	cases	32	61	90	130	78	60%
	cases	8	5	2	—	—	—
Heroin	kg	1	17	0	—	—	—
	cases	100	85	64	118	108	92%
others	kg	2	0	1	16	37	233%
	Thousand Tabs	1	0	0	3	0	4%
Psychotropic Substances	cases	38	6	2	6	16	267%
	kg	0	—	—	0	0	403%
Thousand Tabs	cases	26	0	1	1	2	119%
	cases	—	—	—	1	—	total decrease
Opium	kg	—	—	—	4	—	total decrease
	cases	221	165	300	302	348	115%
Designated Substances	kg	17	14	169	19	17	87%
	cases	871	1,047	745	836	1,044	125%
Total	kg	1,493	3,339	1,928	1,251	1,147	92%
	Thousand Tabs	58	61	91	134	80	59%
Estimated number of Doses	10,000 Times	4,427	10,957	5,530	3,577	2,239	63%
Firearms	cases	8	—	3	1	5	500%
	Guns	10	—	3	1	6	600%
Pistols	cases	7	—	3	1	5	500%
	Guns	9	—	3	1	6	600%
Parts of Firearms	cases	1	—	—	1	3	300%
	Items	1	—	—	1	5	500%

Note 1.The figures include seizures not only by Japan Customs but also by the police and other law enforcement agencies in collaboration with Japan Customs.
 2."Methamphetamine" includes methamphetamine and its raw materials.
 3."Cannabis resin etc." includes cannabis resin and other cannabis products including liquid and snacks, etc. 4."MDMA etc." includes MDMA, MDA and MDE.
 5."others" includes Ketamine and LSD etc.
 6."Estimated Number of Doses" is calculated based on a average dose of abusers as follows.
 (methamphetamine 0.03g; herbal cannabis 0.5g; cannabis resin 0.1g; opium 0.3g; heroin 0.01g; cocaine 0.03g ; MDMA etc. and psychotropic substances ; 1 tablet)
 7."Total" may not add up due to rounding. 8."0" means 500g or 500 tablets or less, while "-" means nil. 9.The figures for 2022 are provisional.

INTERDICTIONS

CASE 1

Methamphetamine

In April 2022, Nagoya Customs seized approx. 1.7kg of methamphetamine concealed in international mail arriving from Mexico.

In November 2022, Tokyo Customs seized approx. 2kg of methamphetamine concealed in air cargo, 3D printer filament, arriving from the United States of America.



CASE 2

Cannabis

In May 2022, Tokyo Customs seized approx. 3kg of liquid cannabis concealed in air cargo, glassware, arriving from Canada.

In August 2022, Osaka Customs seized approx. 1.3kg of herbal cannabis concealed in international mail arriving from the United States of America.



CASE 3

IPR Infringing Goods

In April 2022, Hakodate Customs accused a Chinese and a Japanese of attempting to smuggle 349 pieces of trademark-infringing bags, etc. in addition, smuggling 15 pieces of trademark-infringing bags, etc. from China

by international mail in violation of the Customs Act.

In June 2022, Kobe Customs accused a Japanese of attempting to smuggle 5,989 pieces of copyright-infringing patches from China by international mail in violation of the Customs Act.



CASE 4

CITES Violation

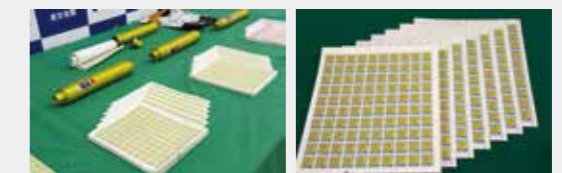
In October 2022, Tokyo Customs accused a Japanese of attempting to smuggle 21 monkeys (common squirrel monkeys, etc.) from Thailand by aircraft in violation of the Customs Act.



CASE 5

Counterfeit Postage Stamps

In April 2022, Tokyo Customs accused a Japanese of attempting to smuggle 42,500 pieces of counterfeit postage stamps from China by international mail in violation of the Customs Act.



Anti-terrorism and anti-weapons of mass destruction (WMD) measures

To reinforce Customs' anti-terrorism measures, materials and substances for explosives and chemical weapons, pathogens that can be used in terrorist attacks are designated as prohibited import items under the Customs Law in Japan. Japan Customs is actively joining international frameworks to prevent the proliferation of WMD.

LAWS ENACTED TO REINFORCE CONTROL

For anti-terrorism measures, necessary amendments of laws had been made; materials for explosives and chemical weapons, and pathogens that can be used in terrorist attacks are designated as prohibited import items and penalties on smuggling of the above items have been strengthened. In October 2005, post clearance audit was introduced for export cargoes, and since June 2007, customs declaration is required for cargoes related to

WMD transferred to a third country through Japan. These measures are part of Customs' commitment to deterring the proliferation of such weapons.

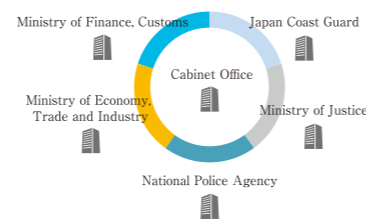
In addition, Japan Customs strengthens enforcement of terrorism-related materials at the border control by enacting laws to obtain advanced information on passengers and cargo for risk analysis before arriving.

CLOSE COOPERATION WITH RELATED

Concerted efforts of all government agencies are indispensable to fight against terrorism and curtail weapons of mass destruction. Customs maintains close contact with the National Police Agency, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and other related authorities, exchanging

information and interchanging personnel.

Customs cargo inspections are carried out in close communication with these agencies in order to interdict smuggling of explosives and illegal export of articles related to WMD.



DEVELOPMENT AND INTRODUCTION OF ADVANCED INSPECTION EQUIPMENT

Japan Customs has introduced Trace Detection Systems (TDS) and Gas Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer (GC/MS) for illegal drugs and explosives, and furthermore, has worked on research and development of inspection equipment using advanced technologies.

Trace Detection System (TDS) for illegal drugs and explosives



Implementation of AEO (Authorised Economic Operator) Program

To ensure security and facilitation of international supply chain, the Customs and Tariff Bureau and Japan Customs are striving to implement an AEO program which provides

benefits such as simplified and expeditious Customs procedures to the operators with a system to ensure compliance and cargo security.



COOPERATION WITH FOREIGN CUSTOMS

The International Intelligence Office is a window to communicate with foreign customs and other related agencies. The office collects and analyzes terrorist-related intelligence.

Japan Customs is also actively participating in international activities to fight against terrorism and proliferation of WMD.

Container Security Initiative (CSI)

Under CSI, customs officials are being stationed at foreign seaports to identify high-risk containers before being loaded onto vessels, in cooperation with the Customs officials of host countries. Japan has been implementing CSI with the United States and Canada. Japan Customs has been accepting customs officials of the United States since March 2003 at the Ports of Yokohama, Tokyo, Nagoya and Kobe. On a reciprocal basis, Japan Customs has been stationing officials to the Port of Los Angeles/Long Beach to assess the risks of containers destined for Japan. In addition, in January 2009, Japan Customs began implementing CSI with Canada at the Port of Vancouver, and at the Ports of Yokohama, Tokyo, Nagoya and Kobe.

PSI Maritime Interdiction Exercise 2008 New Zealand



Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI)

PSI is an international effort to design and implement the joint measures of participating countries in order to prevent the proliferation of WMD, missiles and their related materials. Currently, 107 countries are participating and cooperating in PSI. Maritime and aviation interdiction exercises have been held around the world including exercises hosted by Japan.



■ Participation by Japan Customs in recent PSI exercises:

- July 2018, Yokosuka, Japan (Pacific Shield 18) Maritime interdiction exercise
- October 2021, Singapore (Deep Sabre 21) Maritime interdiction exercise
- August 2022, Hawaii, United States (Fortune Guard 22) Maritime interdiction exercise

Initiatives to Protect Intellectual Property

Goods infringing intellectual property rights (IPR) such as counterfeits and pirated goods may hamper economic development, and be a threat to peoples' health and safety. IPR infringement is a serious issue around the world.

IPR ENFORCEMENT

The Japanese government has enhanced the protection of intellectual property in closer cooperation with the private sector. Japan Customs, which are responsible for enforcement on prohibited exported/imported goods such as IPR infringement at the border, play our roles in protecting intellectual property.

The number of cases of IPR infringement is 26,942 in 2022, which exceeds 25 thousands for three consecutive years.

IPR infringing goods including pharmaceuticals being a threat to people's health and electronic devices having a risk of ignition. Japan Customs has strengthened to

enforce these goods for people's health and safety.

The detections of IPR infringing goods from postal items consist of a large number of the total IPR detection cases. Considering the situation, Japan Customs strengthens its enforcement for various modes of transport.



Counterfeit brand items

Suspended Cases

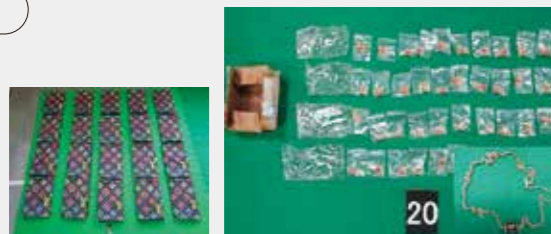
CASE 1



Smuggling of Bags infringing trademark from China

In June 2022, Kobe Customs, jointly investigating with Hyogo prefectural Police Department, accused a company and two Vietnamese of violating the Customs Act by attempting to smuggle 1,387 bags infringing trademark from China.

CASE 2



Smuggling of Towels infringing trademark from China

In August 2022, Tokyo Customs, jointly investigating with Gunma prefectural Police Department, accused one Filipino of violating the Customs Act by attempting to smuggle 389 towels, accessories, etc. infringing trademark from China.

The number of suspensions by type of Intellectual Property (Import)

(the upper: cases, the lower: items)

Type	Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	Growth over prev. year	Composition ratio
Patent rights	Cases	83	116	174	280	160.9%	1.0%
	Items	19,211	40,523	27,429	34,631	126.3%	3.9%
Design rights	Cases	289	323	302	354	117.2%	1.3%
	Items	85,684	58,867	73,953	136,148	184.1%	15.4%
Trademark rights	Cases	23,182	29,483	27,424	25,705	93.7%	94.6%
	Items	867,804	416,599	621,684	548,972	88.3%	62.2%
Copyrights	Cases	505	576	674	841	124.8%	3.1%
	Items	46,113	73,230	96,345	162,896	169.1%	18.5%
Unfair competition prevention goods	Cases	3	0	0	0	—	—
	Items	68	0	0	0	—	—
Total	Cases	23,934	30,305	28,270	26,942	95.3%	100.0%
	Items	1,018,880	589,219	819,411	882,647	107.7%	100.0%

The number of cases is the number of import declarations and postal items which contains IPR infringing goods suspended by Customs.

The number of items is the number of IPR infringing goods suspended by Customs.

(e.g. The number of items is 20, when 20 IPR infringing goods are contained in one import declaration or postal item.)

ENHANCING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The problem of IPR infringing goods has been a serious issue not only in specific countries but throughout the world. These goods may threaten consumer's health and safety. Against this backdrop, further enhancement of international cooperation among Customs authorities around the world has been discussed in order to prevent the proliferation of IPR infringing goods. For example, in the negotiations on various Economic Partnerships Agreements (EPAs), enhancement of IPR border enforcement has been actively discussed. Also, in cooperation with the World Customs Organization(WCO), Japan is actively being engaged with various technical assistance activities in order to

improve IPR border enforcement in developing countries, including dispatching experts, organizing regional seminars and accepting Customs officers from developing countries for master's degree scholarship program on IPR.



FURTHER COOPERATION WITH CHINA AND KOREA

Cooperation with the Chinese and Korean Customs authorities has a particular importance among international cooperation activities over IPR issues. The 1st Tripartite (Japan, China and Korea) Customs Heads' Meeting was held in April 2007 and the three Customs agreed to set up a working group on IPR in October 2007. In November 2017, Japan, China and Korea have renewed their effort to promote information exchange for effective IPR border enforcement among the three countries following the decision of the 6th Tripartite Customs Heads' Meeting.

