

**US/Romania International Export Control Conference:
6-8 March 2007**

Proliferation Security Initiative

UK Customs Objectives with PSI

- To ensure that goods moving through the UK (transshipment and in transit) do not contribute knowingly or unwittingly to WMD programmes of concern.
- To build 'partnerships' with the international shipping, airline and freight forwarding community.
- To carry out interdiction on the basis of high quality specific intelligence.

UK Transshipment/Transit Legislation

- UK has for many years controlled the transshipment, transit and ROB of 'controlled' goods.
- Based upon an 'exemption' from individual licences if certain conditions are met.
- If not then a licence will be required.
- Goods would not be allowed to move until licence decision taken.

PSI Challenges for UK Customs

Frontier

- To build 'partnerships' with the international trading community.
- Rapid response at the frontier by enforcement authorities.
- Information needs met by trading community.
- Movement of 'suspect goods' is halted.

PSI Challenges for UK Customs

UK Flagged Ships outside Territorial Waters

- To have in place agreed procedures with port authorities, shipping lines and freight forwarders.
- Customs resources available to search and seize suspect cargo.
- Where evidence is available to undertake investigations and prosecution.

PSI Operational Experts Group

- Group of Countries taking PSI Forward
- Consist of representatives from
 - Policy
 - Key Operational Officers
 - Legal advisors
 - Enforcement specialists

Operational Exports Group: Issues

- Implementation of SUA into national legislation
- New offence provisions: Challenges!
 - location of the evidence
 - location of suspects
- Legal base for diversion of vessels/cargoes
- Legal base for seizure
- What about delay to innocent cargo – who pays?
- Inter-agency decisions – is law enforcement included?
- Most interdictions at border control points

PSI Operation Oceananus

- Special maritime exercise between Royal Navy and Customs Cutters.
- To test operational capability, feasibility and communications.
- Expect very few interceptions at sea.
- But need to be prepared...