

TECHNOLOGY

August 09 E-Dox Solution

Cotecna delivers a fully eUCP600 compliant electronic document transfer solution to help global traders save time and money.

Cotecna launched its innovative E-dox solution only a matter of weeks after the United Nations' official endorsement of the latest version of Uniformed Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits (UCP600). This follows the growing demand from global traders for a secure, fast and fully eUCP compliant electronic solution to speed up trade transactions.

Large volumes of sensitive trade paperwork travelling physically by land, sea and air, open to breaches of security and sometimes never reaching their intended destination, are issues that have long been a problem for major trading houses. Cotecna's E-dox system negates all of these pitfalls, and the costs that they incur, by enabling instantaneous and highly secure electronic movement of paper records and certificates between users.

E-dox is free of charge and is entirely eUCP600 compliant, enabling documents to remain as the 'unique' UCP original even if retransmitted - a process which saves time and money when documents are lost or stolen and might previously have had to be re-sent by hand.

CONTRACTS

July 09 Cotecna signs four year extension to government inspection contract in Congo Brazzaville

In June 2009, Cotecna signed an addendum for a four year extension to the initial Republic of the Congo three year Pre-shipment Inspection (PSI) contract which started in July 2006. The new contract has an option of a one year extension.

The addendum includes a Computerized Risk Management System (CRMS®) and the supply, maintenance and operation of a mobile container scanner at the Port of Pointe Noire. The scanner site is being constructed and will be operational early 2010.

The objective of the original exclusive PSI contract was to assist the government of the Republic of the Congo in securing Customs revenues through a classic physical control, tariff classification and valuation, modernizing Customs and reinforcing capacity building. The contract included the installation of high tech IT and communication equipment, including a VSAT for satellite transmission of data, voice and video signals. Over the past three years Cotecna has involved its own staff as well as Customs personnel in training and knowledge transfer programmes.

An innovative IT system developed jointly between Congo Customs and Cotecna was implemented in early 2009. This system, that reconciles ADV / SYDONIA and Cotecna data, is already showing excellent results. Through this increased surveillance, Cotecna will reinforce the effectiveness of the imported goods inspection programmes institutionalized by the government of the Congo.

November 09 Inauguration of a new Gantry scanner in the Port of Lomé



On November 2, Cotecna inaugurated the new GANTRY HCV 6035 6MEV scanner in the Port of Lomé. This powerful, latest generation scanner is the first of its kind to be installed by Cotecna in West Africa. The scanner is capable of detecting radioactive materials as well as distinguishing between organic and inorganic materials.

The official ceremony was honoured by over 200 senior government and political public figures. During the event Customs officials and staff were presented with a diploma confirming their participation in training from Cotecna in "comparative and diagnostic image scanning analysis".

Cotecna began its partnership with the Togolese government in 1995 with a Pre-shipment Inspection program.

October 09 Cotecna certifies tourist guides in Colombia

Cotecna Colombia signed an agreement with the Tourism Alliance Consortium of Colombia to certify the competence of 50 tourist guides in the cities of Bogota, Cartagena and Santa Marta. The agreement includes the review of documentation for each of the guides as well as a field evaluation as

they carry out their work in the various museums, historical and tourist sites of the cities.

Cotecna developed the certification procedure based on the guidance rules issued by the Sector Unit for Standardization for the Subsector of the Tourist Guides – USNGT which includes: service delivery; program development control; preparation of activities; and realization of basic processes.

EVENTS

June 09

Cotecna participates in the Middle East-Africa-Asia Rice/Grain Summit

Cotecna participated in this event held in Dubai with the theme *“Meeting the Global Demand for Food in the form of Rice & Grains”*. Around 100 persons, including rice and grain producers, traders and experts, attended the event to discuss investment opportunities and trading challenges facing the rice and grain sectors, to improve the exchange of information and to facilitate partnerships. Cotecna made a presentation on the subject of the World Wheat Market.

July 09

Cotecna Angola participates in the FILDA Trade Fair

In July, Cotecna Angola participated in the 26th edition of FILDA Trade Fair (Feria Internacional de Luanda). This annual event was organized under the slogan *“Angola’s Challenges in Agrobusiness”* and focused on investments in the Agro industry. 680 exhibitors from 28 countries attended the event with the majority of participants coming from Portugal, China, Germany and Brazil. Cotecna Angola has a department dedicated to China which was appreciated by many visitors.

September 09

Cotecna Peru participates in agri and textile trade fairs



In September, Cotecna Peru participated in the Expoalimentaria Perú 2009 organized in Lima by The Exporters’ Association of Peru (ADEX), and Corferias del Pacifico and the Ministry of Agriculture. The fair brought together agro industrial and fish producers, exporters, importers and buyers from around the world. The objective of this first edition was to become a showcase for the exhibition of machinery and equipment for food processing, packaging and services to foreign trade. 160 exhibitors participated.

Cotecna Peru also attended Expotextil 2009, a trade fair that brought together hundreds of local textile and footwear designers and producers with international buyers. The fair showcased the latest trends of the fashion industry to the main retailers worldwide.

Cotecna Peru is an expert in the inspection of agri products and textiles.

September 09

CDIL receives award from the Maritime Reporters Association of Nigeria

Cotecna Destination Inspection Limited (CDIL) Lagos, was honoured by the Maritime Reporters Association of Nigeria (MARAN) with the industry’s *“Foremost Service Provider”* award.

Cotecna Nigeria’s achievements prominent to the award include: the construction of two fixed scanner facilities; a remarkably fast turn around time; quality of import document

processing; Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives and a dynamic approach to capacity building for Nigeria Customs Service and other stakeholders.

Cotecna was appointed by the Nigerian government in January 2006 to provide a Destination Inspection (DI) program. Cotecna’s responsibility under the arrangement is to carry out import document verification; valuation and classification including risk profiling; scanning of cargoes; training and capacity building, which has to date benefited close to 380 Nigerian Customs Officers and over 400 other stakeholders.

October 09

GSL participated in GEREU 2009 Trade Fair

Gateway Services Limited (GSL), Cotecna’s subsidiary in Ghana, participated in the 2nd German European Union [GEREU] Trade Fair, which was held at the Accra International Conference Centre from September 30 to October 3.

The fair, which was organized by the Ghanaian-German Economic Association (GGEA), displayed innovative product developments from major European companies, Ghanaian representatives of European companies and indigenous Ghanaian companies. The fair was held under the theme: *“Overcoming the global financial crisis by exploring new markets in West Africa.”*

GSL marketed Cotecna’s products such as cargo tracking, cargo scanning and computerized risk management.

CERTIFICATION

September 09

Cotecna Inspection Thailand certified by GAFTA

Cotecna’s Thailand Bangkok laboratory was certified for Grain and Feedstuff by

GAFTA (Grain & Feed Trade Association). In September the office received its e-Certificate, valid for six months.



October 09

Cotecna certifies the “Contraloria of Cundinamarca” ISO 9001:2008 and NTCGP 1000:2004

Cotecna Certification Services, Colombia, certified the “Contraloria of Cundinamarca”, an independent organization specialised in the surveillance and investigation of public resource management in state entities. NTCGP 1000 is the Colombian Standard for Public Quality Management System, based on ISO 9001. This certification demonstrates the confidence the Contraloria has in Cotecna to chose them as the certification body for their Quality processes.



November 09

Cotecna Philippines accredited as Bulk and Break Bulk surveyor

On November 16, Cotecna Inspection SA Philippines received accreditation from the Committee for Accreditation of Cargo Surveying Companies (CACSC), as a bulk and break bulk surveyor for cargo entering the Philippines. Cotecna was the first company

to have complied with the requirements set by the Philippine government under their Administrative Order (AO) 243-A stating that, effective January 4, 2010, all bulk and break-bulk cargo entering the Philippines must be inspected by accredited surveying companies at their port of origin. The objective of this AO is aimed at streamlining import procedures for bulk and break-bulk cargo imports. As an accredited surveyor, Cotecna is required to issue a report on the quantity, grade, etc. of all cargo shipments bound for the Philippines.

The importer complying with this procedure is able to file entries for the imported goods and pay duties, taxes and other fees at the pre-shipment stage. Confirmation of this procedure permits the importer to more rapidly clear Customs upon arrival.

November 09

Cotecna Colombia: the first ONAC accredited company for Food Security and Information Security Management Systems

In October, Cotecna Certificadora Services Ltda, the Colombian subsidiary of Cotecna, received the ISO 17021 accreditation from the National Organisation of Accreditation of Colombia (ONAC). This ISO 17021 accreditation enables Cotecna to certify the following management systems:

- Systems of Management of Security of Information (ISO 27001:2005)
- Systems of Management of Food Safety (ISO 22000:2005)
- Systems of Management of Security and Occupational Health (OHSAS 18001)

Cotecna Certificadora Services Ltda is the first company to be accredited by ONAC as a certification body to certify the Management Systems ISO 22000:2005 and ISO 27001:2005.



TRAINING

September 09

Cotecna provides image analysis training to Armenian Customs

In the context of the US Government's EXBS program, Cotecna was awarded a mandate by the American Embassy in Yerevan, Armenia, to provide X-ray scanner image analysis training sessions for Customs officers. The training included classroom presentations and practical field exercises on an X-ray cargo scanner. The first sessions took place in October 2009 in the Bagratashen and Meghri Customs bureau.

The Export Control and Related Border Security Assistance (EXBS) program is the U.S. Government's premier initiative to help member countries improve their export control systems.

The objective of the EXBS is to stem proliferation of weapons of mass destruction by establishing an effective strategic trade and border control system that meets international standards. The objective of this image analyst training for Armenian Customs officers is to help them identify illicit trafficking and prevent illegal shipments of dangerous items and controlled technologies.



DONATIONS

August 09

Cotecna Burkina Faso, sponsors Intl. Youth Day in Ouagadougou



In August, the Ministry of Youth and Employment organized a tree-planting operation in Bissiga, near Ouagadougou, to celebrate International Youth Day 2009. The event, whose theme was *“Emphasizing the contribution of youth to sustainable development is to ensure our future”*, was sponsored by Cotecna. Close to 5000 enthusiastic youths planted 15000 trees over approximately 17 hectares.

September 09

Cotecna staff express their solidarity for the flood victims in Burkina Faso

After the torrential rains of September 1st during which people lost their lives, and homes and buildings were destroyed, Cotecna Burkina Faso employees personally donated 5 tons of rice and the company made a donation to the government. The govern-

ment, who commended the example set by Cotecna required 30 tons per day to feed the injured population.

November 09

Cotecna Nigeria invests in King’s College refurbishment



As part of Cotecna Nigeria’s commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the regions in which it operates, the company has refurbished the library of King’s College, Victoria Island, Lagos and donated material and books for a total cost of 43 000 US dollars (N6.5million).

The objective of the project is to provide senior students with a conducive atmosphere for learning, using state-of-the-art facilities and equipment, thereby positively impacting the students’ potential. The project included six split air-conditioners, burglar protection for windows and AC compressors, a desktop computer, a laser jet printer, ceramic floor tiling, furniture, repainting of the library block and close to 400 books covering many subject matters.

King’s College boys’ school, which is celebrating 100 years of existence this year, is one of the oldest schools in Lagos and has over 1 200 students. The Victoria Island Annex for senior students is only minutes from Cotecna’s Victoria Island office.

October 09

Cotecna Congo donates tables and benches to schools

In association with the Fondation Congo Assistance (FCA), Cotecna Congo made a contribution of 400 tables and benches to the pupils of the High school of the Revolution and the School of July 31st in Talangaï.

As a partner of the FCA, Cotecna understands that the future of a country lies in investing in a well educated youth. The company strives to ensure that its sponsorships and charitable donations closely reflect its professional orientation and serve the most pressing humanitarian needs: water, health, education.



Founded in Switzerland in 1974, the COTECNA Group offers a wide range of trade facilitation services, trade security services and quality certification standards. Cotecna is a pioneer in areas such as risk management, destination inspection and scanner integration projects and also offers Customs modernization programmes, Customs valuation assistance, trade security solutions and commercial inspections. For a full description of our services, please visit www.cotecna.com. The Cotecna Group has a combined workforce of about 4,000 employees and agents in close to 100 offices and holds 14 government inspection contracts.