

WESCCON 2025

Wednesday, October 8

1-4:00 pm	PCC Board of Directors Meeting
6-8:00 pm	Early Bird Reception for Golfers and Other Early Arrivals

Thursday, October 9

Exhibit Hall Open 1pm-6pm

6:45 am	Golfers depart for
7:30 am	Shot-Gun Tee Off for Annual Golf Tournament sponsored by
1-6:00 pm	WESCCON Registration sponsored by
3:00 pm	Annual Tennis Round Robin sponsored by
4:30 pm -6:00 pm	Early Bird ACE Reports Overview
6:30 pm	Opening Reception sponsored by
8:30 pm	Hospitality Suite sponsored by

Friday, October 10

Exhibit Hall Open 8am-6pm

7:30 am	Keynote Breakfast
<i>All day</i>	How to Navigate ACE Portal - Import/Export/New Reports Universe by Carlos Rodriquez, CBP Trade Transformation Office. Small group training on your ACE portal. Bring your laptop and your ACE login credentials - the session is offered throughout the day. Reservations are required – sign up at Registration or at the WESCCON Office.
8:50 am	Coffee & Dessert in Exhibit Hall – 30 mins
9:20 am	GENERAL SESSION

CBP Areas of Focus in Continued Heightened Era of Enforcement

Precis: This session will provide an overview of current U.S. trade policies and key enforcement priorities directly from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Headquarters. Attendees will gain insights into CBP's evolving approach to compliance, targeting, and enforcement strategies that impact daily brokerage operations. The session will also explore recent policy developments, risk-based enforcement models, and the role of trade professionals in supporting effective compliance. This is a unique opportunity for customs brokers to hear firsthand how CBP is shaping enforcement and what it means for the brokerage community.

Moderator:

- Heather Litman, Partner at GDLSK LLP

Panelists:

- Brandon Lord, Executive Director, Office of Trade, Trade Policy and Programs, U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- Lori Whitehurst, Director, Office of Field Operations, Trade Operations Divisions, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

10:20 am	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
A	<p>Modernizing Payments and Refunds</p> <p>Precis: This session will explore the evolving landscape of duty payment and refund processes in a fully modernized, digital environment. Attendees will learn how to leverage the ACE Portal to streamline tasks such as applying for ACH Debit/Credit, automating CBP Form 4811 updates, and making payments for PSC, and single-pay entries. The session will also cover how to use Pay.gov for CBP duty bills and how importers and brokers can efficiently manage and receive ACH refunds. Customs brokers will walk away with practical knowledge to improve cash flow management, reduce processing time, and enhance compliance through automation and digital payment tools.</p> <p>Moderator: Meri Bermejo, Branch Manager, A.N. Deringer</p> <p>Panelist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruce Ingalls, Director, Revenue Division, Office of Trade, Customs and Border Protection • Steven Grayson, Director, Revenue Division, Office of Trade, Customs and Border Protection
B	<p>Shifting Flows in Ocean Shipping 2025 and Beyond</p> <p>In 2025, major shifts in U.S. trade policy—including tariffs under IEEPA, Section 232, and a newly announced Section 301 program targeting Chinese-built, -owned, or -operated vessels—have disrupted shipping patterns and global supply chains. With the new vessel tariffs set to take effect shortly after this conference, freight forwarders are already navigating emerging cost pressures, compliance risks, and uncertainty around carrier service changes. This panel will unpack what these developments mean for forwarders' operations, client advising, and strategic planning—and offer insight into how the industry can stay agile as trade and transportation landscapes evolve in 2026 and beyond.</p> <p>Moderator: Sung Wook Lee, President, SW Logistics Inc</p> <p>Panelist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rich Roche, Senior Vice President, Mohawk Global Logistics • Andrew Hwang, Andrew Hwang, Director of West Coast and International, CargoSprint/eModal • Gabriel Padilla, Principal Consultant, Padilla Maritime Consulting
11:10 am	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
A	<p>Cracking PGA errors: Debugging and resolving ABI rejections.</p> <p>Precis: Understanding the PGA messages and error codes used in electronic data interchange between customs brokers and CBP is essential. Each code corresponds to a specific error or status during the processing of these transactions. Knowledge of these error codes is vital for effectively resolving issues, ensuring compliance, and facilitating smoother operations. How to navigate the PGA error codes dictionary, outline the main categories of errors, highlight standard PGA error codes, and provide tips on how to resolve them.</p> <p>Moderator: TBA</p> <p>Panelist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennifer Engelbach, Supervisor, ABI Client Representative, U.S. Customs and Border Protection • Adam Lees, Vice President of Customs Brokerage, Alba Wheels up • Craig Seelig, Product Manager- Customs and Compliance, WiseTech Global

B	<p>Shifting Gears: Trucking challenges amid supply chain disruptions</p> <p>Precis: From port congestion and chassis shortages to fuel costs and regulatory pressures, the trucking industry continues to navigate a volatile and complex environment. As supply chain disruptions ripple across the globe, ground transportation bears the brunt of delays, capacity crunches, and rising expectations. This panel brings insights and POV from two industry experts from across the trucking and logistics ecosystem to discuss current challenges, regional chokepoints, labor constraints, and how technology and collaboration are shaping the road ahead. Gain practical insights into how stakeholders are adapting—and where resiliency efforts are falling short.</p> <p>Moderator: Evey Hwang CHB</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Schrap, Chief Commercial Officer, Forum Mobility • Peter Schneider, Executive Vice President, IMC Logistics
12:00 pm	Networking Reception in Exhibit 30 mins
12:30 pm	Keynote Luncheon Sponsored by 1hr 20 mins
1:50 pm	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
A	<p>Steel Under Pressure: Mastering Section 232, Tariff Quotas, and Import Compliance</p> <p>Precis: This panel will explore the complex enforcement landscape surrounding steel imports subject to Section 232 measures. Topics will include tariff implications, licensing requirements, and the management of tariff rate quotas (TRQs). Customs brokers will gain practical insights into best practices for entry filing, quota thresholds, and strategies to ensure timely and compliant filings. The session will highlight common pitfalls and provide tools to help brokers effectively support their clients in navigating these high-impact trade measures.</p> <p>Moderator: Jack Bartlett, Compliance Manager, Geo.S. Bush & Co, Inc</p> <p>Panelist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexander Amdur, Director, AC/DVD Trade Remedies, Office of Trade, U.S. Customs and Border Protection
B	<p>Not Just Lost in Transit: Exposing the Modern Threat of Cargo Theft</p> <p>Precis: Freight forwarding cargo theft remains a major concern in the logistics and transportation industry—ranging from opportunistic thefts to increasingly sophisticated scams that trick shippers, carriers, and intermediaries into handing over cargo to bad actors. This panel will examine the evolving tactics behind cargo theft, from fictitious pickups and identity spoofing to strategic facility breaches. With insights from surety providers and freight forwarders, the session will explore the financial, operational, and legal risks, as well as proactive measures to detect, prevent, and respond to theft. Panelists will also address how cargo security intersects with liability, claims handling, and the importance of strong internal controls and trusted partnerships across the supply chain.</p> <p>Moderator: Peter Gong, President, Great Way Trading & Transportation, Inc.</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nick Anderson, Senior Strategic Relationship Manager, Roanoke Insurance Group • Brandon McDonnell, Vice President, PCC Logistics • Peter Schneider, Executive Vice President, IMC Logistics
2:40 pm	Coffee Break in Exhibit Hall 30 mins

3:10 pm	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
A	<p>CBP Time of Entry: Critical Insights for Customs Brokers</p> <p>Precis: Understanding the concept of time of entry is crucial for customs brokers to ensure proper entry filing, compliance with CBP regulations, and avoid penalties. This session explores the legal definitions, timing requirements, and practical workflows to optimize entry processing and minimize risks.</p> <p>Moderator: Carime Duck, Owner, Charles Dorsch Ship's Agent Inc</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Langford-Coty, Director of Operational Development, • Lenny Feldman, Managing Partner, Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A.
B	<p>Trade Compliance in Transition: Regulatory Shifts, Export Controls, and Enforcement Trends</p> <p>Precis: This session will provide key updates from the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) and the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC), focusing on recent regulatory changes and evolving enforcement priorities. Attendees will learn how these agencies are responding to shifting trade dynamics, including export controls, licensing requirements, and maritime oversight. Participants will gain essential insights to stay compliant and anticipate regulatory risks in today's rapidly changing environment.</p> <p>Moderator: Tia Sandberg, Compliance Manager, Total Logistics Resource Inc.</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cameron Roberts, Roberts & Kehangiaras LLP • Gabriel Padilla, Principal Consultant, Padilla Maritime Consulting
4:00 pm	GENERAL SESSION
	<p>CBP State of the Ports- Mixed Bag of Activity</p> <p>Precis: In this session, CBP Port Directors from key West Coast ports will share firsthand insights on how their teams have adapted to the challenges posed by shifting trade policies and fluctuating cargo volumes. The discussion will highlight strategies for maintaining operational efficiency, adjusting enforcement priorities, and managing limited resources while ensuring compliance. Customs brokers will gain a deeper understanding of how enforcement decisions at the port level impact cargo processing and the broader trade community.</p> <p>Moderator: Myrna Aguilar-Sanchez, VP of Brokerage Operations, CASAS</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosa Hernandez, Port Director, Otay Mesa-Tecate Ports of Entry • Africa Bell, Port Director, Los Angeles/ Long Beach Port • Oscar Acuna, Acting Port Director, LAX • Jason Adams, Acting Port Director, San Francisco Port • Mindy Rignel, Area Port Director, Area Port of Portland • Loretta Wise, Assistant Area Port Director, Area Port of Seattle
5:10 pm	PCC Trade Expansion Political Action Committee
7:00 pm	Through the Decades – 90 Years in Motion – Dinner Party Sponsored by Roanoke.
10:00 pm	Hospitality Continues.....

Saturday, October 11**Exhibit Hall open 8 am-5:15 pm**

8:00 am	Keynote Breakfast
<i>All day</i>	How to Navigate ACE Portal: Import/Export/New Reports Universe by Carlos Rodriquez, CBP Trade Transformation Office. Small group training on your ACE portal. Bring your laptop and your ACE login credentials - the session is offered throughout the day. Reservations are required – sign up at Registration or at the WESCCON Office.
9:20 am	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
A	Trade in Turbulence: How Key Sectors Are Navigating Shifting Policies and Port Pressures Precis: As global trade navigates mounting challenges—from regulatory overhauls and heightened enforcement to shifting port dynamics and emerging financial risks—cross-sector collaboration is more critical than ever. This panel brings together voices from customs brokerage, surety, legal, FTZ operations, and trucking to examine how each is responding to increased scrutiny, evolving carrier behaviors, and rising compliance demands. Panelists will share insights on risk mitigation strategies, policy interpretation, operational pressures, and where they see the most significant trade disruptions—and opportunities—on the horizon heading into 2026. Moderator: Patrice Lafayette, Regional Vice President, Roanoke Insurance Group Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sandra Langford-Coty, Director of Operational Development, A.N. Deringer• Lenny Feldman, Managing Partner, Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A.• David Harlow, President & CEO, ITC Diligence International
B	Port Realities: Who Decides What, and Why It Matters Precis: Port efficiency continues to be a persistent challenge under mounting pressure. This candid panel brings together terminal operators and a carrier representative to unpack the realities behind appointment systems, equipment availability, carrier communication, and terminal/payment platforms. Who truly determines Last Free Days and Earliest Return Dates? What drives dwell times at terminals and rail yards—and what levers exist to reduce them? From friction points to systemic fixes, panelists will explore the decision-making power behind these critical operational factors, why they matter, and what the industry can do to improve flow and reduce inefficiencies. Moderator: Kiera Conlan, Global Account Executive, Laufer Group International Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HJ Yoon, Chief Commercial Strategy Officer, Yusen Terminal• Andy Hwang, Director of West Coast and International, CargoSprint/eModal• Robert Loya, CEO, Harbor Trucking Association
10:10 am	Coffee Break in Exhibit Hall 30 mins
10:40 am	GENERAL SESSION
	West Coast Ports Panel: Latest Updates, Challenges, and Emerging Trends Precis: Hear directly from representatives of West Coast ports as they discuss the most pressing issues and forward-looking trends shaping port operations today. This panel will cover infrastructure developments, shifts in cargo volume, sustainability initiatives, and the ongoing challenges of congestion, labor shortages, and global supply chain disruptions. Gain valuable insight into how ports are positioning themselves for the future—and what it means for the trade community. Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rich Roche, Senior Vice President, Mohawk Global Logistics Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steve Balaski, NW Seaport Alliance• Randy Fischer, Port of Portland• Ron Brown, Port of Oakland• Marcel Van Dijk, Port of Los Angeles• Tonya Payne, Port of Long Beach

11:40 am	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
A	<p>Tactics for Surviving the Current Trade Landscape</p> <p>Precis: As global trade risks intensify, “The Shifting Sands of Trade” aren’t just a mirage – they are very real. Companies must be prepared for rising threats of fraud, third-party misconduct, and regulatory challenges. This panel explores key risk management tactics and highlights how insurance solutions—like Professional Liability, Trade Credit Insurance and Regulatory Defense policies—can help protect businesses. Join us to gain practical insights to strengthen your defenses and stay resilient in the ever-changing trade environment.</p> <p>Moderator: Lisa Perez, Vice President, Regional Operations, Avalon Risk Management</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jordan Zeldin, Account Executive, Avalon Risk Management • Eduardo Acosta, Vice President, R.L. Jones Group
B	<p>Beyond the Buzz: Rethinking AI’s Role in Trade Operations</p> <p>Precis: AI is already embedded in many trade workflows—but are we ready for what comes next? This panel moves beyond basic automation and explores the more profound questions emerging as AI becomes a core part of trade operations. What decisions should machines <i>not</i> be making? How do we build trust in AI-generated classifications or risk alerts? What happens to accountability when errors are automated? And how does AI shift the value of human expertise in a digitized workflow? Join experts from across the industry for a candid discussion on how to scale AI responsibly, avoid over-reliance, and lead teams through this technological evolution.</p> <p>Moderator: Pat Vangtan, Director of Customs Brokerage Operations, Western Overseas Corporation</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Omar Abuhashish, Co-Founder and CEO, Reform • Sam Basu, CEO of Amari AI, (formerly known as Anchor AI) • Tom Gould, Tom Gould Customs Consulting, Inc & Gaia Dynamics • Vincent Iacopella, EVP Strategic Growth, President Government and Trade Relations, Alba Wheels up
12:30 pm	Networking Reception in Exhibit Hall 30 mins
1:00 pm	Keynote Luncheon – Ray Bucheger
2:20 pm	Coffee & dessert in Exhibition Hall, 30 mins
2:50 pm	GENERAL SESSION
	<p>Best Practices for CBP Supervision and Control Plans: Staying Compliant, Staying Ready</p> <p>Precis: This session explores the best practices for designing, implementing, and maintaining CBP Supervision and Control Plans that pass audits, meet regulatory expectations, and support smooth day-to-day operations. You will walk away with practical tools to strengthen internal controls, avoid costly violations, and respond confidently to CBP inquiries.</p> <p>Moderator: Victoria Lane, Chief Compliance Officer, Coppersmith Global Logistics</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Stripling, Vice President- CHB Product, Yusen Logistics (Americas)Inc • Patty Tschaepe, Chief Compliance Officer, J&K Fresh • George Tuttle III, Law Offices of George R. Tuttle, A.P.C.

3:40 pm	GENERAL SESSION
	<p>You Know It's Time to Call an Attorney When... Navigating Legal Risk in Trade</p> <p>Precis: Trade professionals often know <i>something's wrong</i>—but not always <i>when</i> to escalate. This panel brings together experienced trade attorneys to walk through the moments when legal counsel becomes essential. From enforcement actions and audits to tariff classification disputes and regulatory gray areas, panelists will share real-world scenarios, best practices, and red flags that signal it's time to bring in legal expertise. Whether you're seeking to avoid costly missteps or simply want to sharpen your legal instincts, this session offers practical guidance and strategic insights from the experts who help navigate the trickiest corners of trade compliance.</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norman Harris III, Customs Brokerage Manager, NNR Global Logistics <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Roll, Partner, Roll & Harris, LLP • Eric Smithweiss, GDLSK • Taylor Pillsbury, Meeks, Sheppard, Leo & Pillsbury LLP • Su Ross, Partner, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP • Jay Acayan, Roberts & Kehagiaras LLP
4:40 pm	Raffle Drawing & Refreshments sponsored by Registrar Corp
7:00 pm	Saturday Night Theme Party – A Kentucky Derby Celebration – A night at the Races! sponsored by Avalon Risk Management, Price Transfer Inc., and CO/ACTION.
9:30 pm	Hospitality Continues.....