



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations



OPERATION JOINT VENTURE

The National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center's (IPR Center) Outreach and Training Section engages in partnerships with the public and private sectors to combat Intellectual Property (IP) theft through its Operation Joint Venture (Joint Venture) initiative. This IPR Center-led outreach initiative is designed to increase information sharing with public and private sectors to combat the illegal importation and distribution of counterfeit, substandard and tainted goods. Joint Venture targets rights holders, manufacturers, importers, customs brokers, freight forwarders, bonded facilities, carriers and others to discuss the IPR Center's priorities of protecting public health and safety, the economy, and securing the Government's supply chain. Through outreach and public engagement, the Outreach and Training Section raises the public's awareness of the dangers of trade based violations, such as IP, while serving as a public point of contact for investigative leads. The IPR Center's target audience includes a broad spectrum of industries and government agencies to include, but not limited to: pharmaceutical, entertainment, wearing apparel, sports, electronic and automobile manufactures, customs bonded entities, importers, and law enforcement officials.

In addition to the industry outreach mission, the Outreach and Training Section conducts domestic and international training of federal, state, local and foreign law enforcement. Domestically, the IPR Center supports and coordinates training with its partner agencies and other entities, such as the International Anti-Counterfeiting Coalition's Foundation, the National Association of Attorneys General and the National White Collar Crime Center to support their domestic IPR training efforts. Generally, the IPR Center will enlist the assistance of subject matter experts from Homeland Security Investigations field offices to provide various presentations on IPR enforcement programs and IPR Center initiatives.

The IPR Center also participates in international training and capacity building programs. The Outreach and Training Unit works closely with our partners' international law enforcement Attachés and in coordination with the Department of State (DOS) to deliver training and support capacity building bilaterally and through international organizations, such as the World Customs Organization and INTERPOL. The IPR Center provides instructors and materials to the International Law Enforcement Academies in Botswana, Thailand, Hungary, Peru and El Salvador. In addition, the IPR Center supports the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's international training events at their Global IP Academy, and hosts visits by international law enforcement and customs officers participating in the DOS International Visitor's Programs. Through these efforts, the IPR Center is enhancing cooperation, increasing skill sets, and facilitating relationships with international partners that are critical in addressing IP theft overseas.

For more information about the IPR Center's outreach and training efforts or to request a Joint Venture presentation, please contact the Outreach and Training Unit by email at IPRCenter@ice.dhs.gov, or by U.S. mail at National IPR Coordination Center, 2451 Crystal Drive Stop 5105, Arlington, VA 20598-5105 Attn: Outreach and Training Section Chief.

