

A New Twist on the Global Supply Chain

Thursday, 28 March 2013 12:28 Glenn Master

As consumers, we give little thought on where the product we purchase comes from. Most of us know what we want and either go to a traditional brick and mortar for the shopping experience or browse online. Once we find the item that at the right price, we go ahead and make with the purchase. However, when you think about the millions of boxes on a daily basis that crisscross the globe, the possibility of freight being lost or stolen is a very real possibility. In fact, every business entity from manufacturing, technology, pharmaceutical, retail and more have those very fears of their product being lost or stolen. These business entities also have another thing in common. They all use the global supply chain in some form or fashion to ship and receive goods that ultimately will be provided to the end-consumer. This was the impetus for the creation of the ISCPO (International Supply Chain Protection Organization). The group was formed by Loss Prevention and Security professionals, who came together representing different companies in the global marketplace. This effort was intended to explore options for a new professional organization that touched all major business segments worldwide to include Retail, Distribution, Risk Management, Legal, Logistics, Manufacturing and Law Enforcement.

ISCPO's mission is to promote a global, collaborative effort of networking for Loss Prevention and Security professionals. The organization's membership supports a wide-variety of business entities, whose main commonality is using the global supply chain for transportation of goods and services. Because there are so many different professional organizations out there, we didn't just want to create a group for the sake of doing so. We felt there was a real need for networking among peers of different industries that have a common, vested interest in protecting freight as its moving through the supply chain. The group was first launched via LinkedIn to get a feel for the interest of having an organization exclusive to the global supply chain but yet diverse enough, allowing membership opportunity for LP and Security professionals of different business entities. The response was extraordinary. In less than 90 days, we had 200 members join and now have recently exceeded 300 members representing 14 countries worldwide.

In January ISCPO announced its partnership with The Loss Prevention Foundation (LPF). LPF is an international leader in educating and certifying retail loss prevention and asset protection professionals. It also maintains the industries only industry-specific membership program. This partnership is going to benefit both organizations in numerous ways; allowing certification based training for ISCPO members and will also provide LPF with a global platform for networking with supply chain Loss Prevention and Security professionals. As ISCPO continues to grow, the feeling is that we can definitely capitalize on the networking opportunities and other synergies both groups have to offer. This is a very exciting time for expanding the roll of Loss Prevention professionals, whose main job is within the global supply chain.