

**September 2011**

**Lacey Act ensnares Gibson Guitar Corp.** (From American Shipper)

Companies engaged in international trade often feel they are adhering to customs rules if their intentions are good, but a recent case involving Gibson Guitars underscores the importance of having strong internal controls over compliance activities. On Aug. 24, agents from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department of Homeland Security raided Gibson's executive headquarters, as well as two factories in Nashville and Memphis, Tenn., where they confiscated several pallets of wood, guitars and electronic files, according to the company and news reports. The investigation centers on company imports of partially finished ebony and rosewood guitar fingerboards from an Indian supplier. Ebony and rosewood are endangered trees. For more information, please go to

[http://www.americanshipper.com/NewWeb/news\\_page\\_SNW2.asp?news=201490](http://www.americanshipper.com/NewWeb/news_page_SNW2.asp?news=201490)

**FDA Announces End of the Discretionary Enforcement Period of the Interim Final Rule on Information Required in Prior Notice of Imported Food** (From NCBFAA)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced on August 31, that the discretionary enforcement period of the Interim Final Rule on, "Information Required in Prior Notice of Imported Food," ends on September 6, 2011. The Interim Final Rule which was published on May 4, 2011, and became effective on July 3, 2011, is a requirement of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA).

FDA issued the Interim Final Rule to require a person submitting prior notice of imported food, including food for animals, to report an additional element of information; the name of any country to which the article has been refused entry.

Enforcement of this Interim Final Rule will begin on September 6, 2011, and can help FDA make better informed decisions in managing the potential risks of food imported into the United States. For more info, please go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=FDA-2011-N-0179-0001>

### **White House sets big rig fuel efficiency standards**

Manufacturers will be required to build Class 8 trucks that achieve a nearly 20 percent reduction in fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by model year 2018 as part of the government's first-ever fuel efficiency standards for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles. The White House made the announcement last month. The new standards, which were developed by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Transportation in cooperation with the trucking industry and environmentalists, are expected to save up to 4 gallons of fuel for every 100 miles driven. [This will no doubt cause truck rates to increase.]

### **U.S. bogs down on supply chain security strategy** (From American Shipper)

Developing the U.S. government's national strategy for securing the global supply chain has bogged down in the White House's National Security Council, where it has been under review since at least early April, a Department of Homeland Security official told industry members. Congress several years ago instructed DHS to develop a global supply chain security strategy, but the Obama administration expanded the effort's reach to encompass the entire government and how it should strive to enhance the security of cross-border freight transportation across all modes. For more info, please go to

[http://www.americanshipper.com/NewWeb/news\\_page\\_SNW2.asp?news=200693](http://www.americanshipper.com/NewWeb/news_page_SNW2.asp?news=200693)

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