



CANADA-UNITED STATES REGULATORY COOPERATION COUNCIL

Presentation to the Task Force on Vehicle Weights and Dimensions Policy

Government/Industry Meeting

December 5, 2012





THE SHARED VISION

- Canada and the U.S. share a \$1 trillion annual trade / investment relationship
 - One in seven Canadian jobs is linked to exports to the U.S., and eight million jobs in the U.S. are supported by trade with Canada
 - Canada is the United States' largest customer, and is the number one export market for 35 American states
- Prime Minister Harper and President Obama announced the *Shared Vision for Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness* on February 4, 2011
- The *Shared Vision* establishes a new long-term partnership between Canada and the United States to accelerate legitimate flows of people, goods and services, while strengthening both countries' security and economic competitiveness





PUTTING THE SHARED VISION TO WORK

- Leaders created two bi-national initiatives to realize *Shared Vision* goals:
 - Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC)
 - Beyond the Border Working Group
- Two separate, yet complementary, Action Plans were released in December 2011:
 - Joint Action Plan on Regulatory Cooperation (“*RCC Joint Action Plan*”)
 - Action Plan on Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness (“*Beyond the Border Action Plan*”)
- Designed to speed up legitimate trade and travel, improve security and economic competitiveness, and align regulatory approaches between the two countries, where appropriate



WHERE THE TWO ACTION PLANS INTERSECT

“Whereas this [Beyond the Border] Action Plan aims to enhance security and economic competitiveness through measures taken at our shared perimeter and border, the Regulatory Cooperation Council aims to better align our regulatory approaches to protect health, safety, and the environment while supporting growth, investment, innovation and market openness.”

“Some of the initiatives under this [Beyond the Border] Action Plan will complement the work of the Regulatory Cooperation Council and, indeed, could provide beneficial interim measures pending more fundamental regulatory solutions which may flow from the Regulatory Cooperation Council.”



The Initial RCC Joint Action Plan

A starting point for change

The RCC Joint Action Plan:

- 29 specific initiatives for greater regulatory alignment: agriculture & food, health & consumer products, transport, the environment, cross-cutting issues – nanotechnology and small business lens
- The RCC Joint Action Plan focuses on regulatory requirements that are not principally targeted at the border (under AAFC, CFIA, TC, HC, EC, TBS, etc.), whereas the Border Action Plan focuses on border-specific measures managed by CBSA, PS, CIC, CFIA, etc.
- Opportunity to:
 - resolve existing misalignments while setting precedent for future solutions – lasting cooperation mechanisms to ensure ongoing regulatory alignment
 - learn from specific initiatives to develop broader mechanisms that will avoid unnecessary regulatory differences in the future



EXECUTIVE ORDER PROMOTING INT'L REGULATORY COOPERATION

- An Executive Order promoting international regulatory cooperation was issued May 1st, 2012 by President Obama

Impact on Canada:

- When developing or reviewing significant regulations, U.S. agencies will now consistently consider international regulatory cooperation with countries where RCCs are in place
- Strong signal of U.S. commitment to RCC initiative
- Provides a lens to engage directly with the public and industry about regulatory cooperation
- Promotes regulatory cooperation best practices internationally



TRANSPORT CANADA'S RCC WORKPLANS

Of the 29 RCC initiatives, 11 fall under the transportation theme as follows:

- Existing Motor Vehicle Safety Standards
- New Motor Vehicle Safety Standards
- Life Saving Appliances
- Construction/Safety Standards for Small Craft
- Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)
- Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Alignment of Dangerous Goods Means of Containment
- Marine Transportation Security Regulations
- Regulatory Oversight Regime on the Great Lakes & St. Lawrence Seaway
- Rail Safety Standards
- Locomotive Emissions



STATUS OF RCC'S WORK

- RCC requests public/stakeholder input Spring 2011
- Bi-national working groups established Mid-2011
- Consultations summary report released August 2011
- RCC Joint Action Plan released December 2011
- Formal stakeholder meetings January 2012
- Working Group/overarching consultations Ongoing since Spring 2012
- Executive Order promoting int'l regulatory cooperation issued by President Obama May 2012
- Work plans detailing implementation of 29 initiatives completed and released Spring/Summer/Fall 2012



NEXT STEPS

- Departments continue to implement the agreed upon work plans with their U.S. counterparts
- Canada and the U.S are currently discussing interim progress report and next steps beyond April 2013



QUESTIONS?