Dear Members,

If the first half of 2020 has proven anything, it’s that all things are subject to change without notice. While our lives and businesses may be forever changed, we’re demonstrating our agility, creativity, and a spirit of innovation. We’re learning from adversity and reshaping the way we do business. We are designing new and more resilient supply chains to ensure each link in the chain is fortified against disruptions.

That said, TAPA AMERICAS has tried to support our members by working with industry colleagues to develop its “COVID-19 Toolbox.” The toolbox was designed as a hub for useful, vetted, and reliable information, resource links, and real-time mapping of the pandemic and related business and port closures. Hosted on our website, we continue to update the toolbox to provide a resource to help members and our industry at this challenging time.

TAPA AMERICAS is and will continue to be a member-lead organization supported by professional executive leadership and support staff. We are very proud that the Board of Directors, elected by you, our members, continues to strive to serve and deliver those benefits you tell us are important to you. Our region continues to be driven by your needs. The only benefactors of TAPA dues and decisions are its members.

Our committees work throughout the year on your behalf.
- Standards Committee, George Latsos, Lead
- Education Committee, Nathaniel White, Lead
- Government Relations Committee, Allen Gear, Lead
- Law Enforcement Committee: Jennifer Bennett, Lead

While we are currently unable to meet face-to-face, we are increasing our online footprint by expanding our web-based, digital resources. Many organizations talk about advancing their digitalization. In the Americas, we’ve been doing this for quite some time. Our website offers member services in a user-friendly member management system.

As security professionals’ roles are evolving with current and future threats to the supply chain, TAPA AMERICAS is offering web-based seminars that address these topics. We are not just talking about our commitment to the growth of our members and industry. We are addressing it directly.

During the first half of 2020, our webinars included:
- Update on 2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak & Healthcare Ready’s Role
- Digital Enablers for a More Resilient Supply Chain
- Illicit Commercial Flows: What They Hide and How to Control Them
- Concepts of Supply Chain Security Metrics

Our upcoming webinars confirmed at this time:
- TSA Certified Cargo Screening Program (CCSP) Update
- FBI Cyber Security and the Supply Chain
- CTPAT Update: A Look Back and a Look Forward
- Gray Market / Black Market
- Chuck Forsaith and Pete Mento Unfiltered: Supply Chain and Trade Issues

Over the last several years, we’ve deepened our relationships with key stakeholders in supply chain security and risk mitigation. We remain focused on expanding our visibility with like-minded partners and are grateful for our relationships with law enforcement, non-governmental organizations, and trade alliances.
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
- Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (CTPAT)
- Healthcare Distribution Alliance’s Pharmaceutical Cargo Security Coalition (PCSC)
- Healthcare Ready (formerly Rx Response)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- Cargo Theft Task Regional Forces
- Local, State, and Regional Law Enforcement
More than ever, reliable information is power. We continue to expand the cargo theft and incident intelligence reporting for our members. In partnership with SensiGuard and the TAPA Global IIS Database, TAPA AMERICAS provides members with these current intelligence tools.

- Weekly Incident Intelligence Bulletin & Global Intelligence Notes
- TAPA Global IIS Database & Reporting Tool
- Quarterly Cargo Theft Reports (US, Canada, Brazil, Mexico)
- Annual Cargo Theft Reports (US, Canada, Brazil, Mexico)

To enhance member engagement through technology, we are continuing to enhance our website resources allowing members to login with their username and password to access their membership profile and the many “members-only” benefits.

- Update your contact information
- Pay dues & Connect with other members
- Access archived webinars, and training
- Download TAPA FSR & TSR Standards documents
- Register for meetings, events, and conferences
- Read your message history – an archive of past TAPA emails
- Access Cargo and Incident Intelligence Reports archived for PDF download (2018-2020)

In April, out of an abundance of caution and out of respect for our member companies, our Board of Directors decided to delay the rollout of the 2020 TAPA FSR & TSR Standards for the Americas region. Facilities were concerned that their business contracts might be in jeopardy. The pandemic caused business disruptions, manpower reductions, travel restrictions, and health and safety advisories, that hindered their ability to certify or re-certify their facilities. Therefore, we extended the 2017 Standards through September 30, 2020.

That said, we are excited about the 2020 Standards rollout on October 1, 2020. The new Standards Training calendar is being finalized now. The announcement of the dates will be sent to members in the coming weeks. TAPA Security Standards remain the best in class! Our industry relies on these standards to protect their facilities and trucking operations. The changes in the 2020 Standards are based on the feedback we have received members and industry leaders.

In summary, we continue to position the TAPA brand as the leading, most trusted organization for supply chain security professionals and those with responsibility for business resiliency in their companies. Our goal continues to provide you, our members, with the tools, resources, and network that will assist you in your job. We continue to read, listen, and respond to your email suggestions, phone calls, and biannual membership surveys to ensure we deliver what you want from your association.

As Chair, I consider it my privilege to lead and steward this great organization. I remain filled with optimism and enthusiasm about what we can achieve in the balance of this year.

Sincerely,

Anthony Leimas, Chair
TAPA AMERICAS