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EU-Canada customs cooperation agreement on supply chain security matters

The agreement between the EU and Canada on customs cooperation with respect to matters related to supply chain security was signed today in the premises of the Council in Brussels, between Rory Montgomery, Irish Permanent Representative to the EU and chairman of the Permanent Representatives Committee, David Plunkett, Ambassador of Canada to the EU, and Heinz Zourek, Director General of Taxation and Customs Union of the European Commission.

The agreement builds on the 1998 agreement on customs cooperation and mutual assistance in customs matters and establishes a legal basis for EU – Canada on matters of supply chain security and risk management, establishing minimum standards and mutual recognition for risk management techniques while at the same time facilitating legitimate trade.

Security of the supply chain involves control operations such as border checks of cargo containers.

The text of the agreement can be found in document $\frac{11587/12}{11587/12}$. It will be forwarded to the European Parliament for its consent.

Irish Presidency statement: http://www.eu2013.ie/news/news-items/20130304eu-canadatradeagreementen/

Canada Border Services Agency press release: <u>http://cbsa.gc.ca/media/release-communique/2013/2013-03-04-eng.html</u>

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