



Thursday, April 17, 2008

U.S. CUSTOMS & BORDER PROTECTION (CBP) ANNOUNCES NEW “GLOBAL ENTRY” PILOT PROGRAM FOR QUALIFYING FREQUENT INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS

On Monday, April 14, 2008, U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP) announced the upcoming launch of a new pilot program for qualifying, frequent international travelers. The program, dubbed “Global Entry,” will be implemented in pilot phase on June 10, 2008, at John F. Kennedy International Airport, Washington Dulles International Airport, and George Bush Intercontinental Airport.

The program may be a significant convenience to frequent travelers and will be available to U.S. Citizens and U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents who travel internationally on a frequent basis, who do not have criminal convictions, and who have not been charged with a customs or immigration offense.

Participants in Global Entry will be able to bypass the lines for standard passport control and proceed to a special Global Entry kiosk. Participants will scan their passports or I-551 Resident Alien Cards, provide digital fingerprint scans and a digital photograph (taken at the kiosk), respond to CBP declaration questions, and receive a “transaction receipt” for presentation to a CBP Inspector upon departure from the control area.

In order to enroll in the new program, applicants must complete an application online with appropriate filing fee, which will initiate a background check and CBP review of the applicant’s criminal and immigration record. Upon preliminary approval, the applicant will be notified of an interview with CBP at one of the pilot program airports. Upon completion of the interview and approval for program participation, the Global Entry participant may use the Global Entry kiosk for passport control inspection at the pilot sites beginning June 10, 2008.

Eventually, the CBP hopes to expand the program to other locations and possibly to other categories of low-risk travelers, and hopes to secure reciprocal participation by other countries with which talks are presently ongoing.

If your company employs U.S. Citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents who are required to travel internationally on a frequent basis and may be interested in exploring the possibility of enrollment in the Global Entry program in order to facilitate international travel, please contact your Tindall & Foster immigration attorney. Your Tindall & Foster attorney will be able to provide you additional information regarding the Global Entry program, review your employee’s criminal and immigration history to evaluate his or her candidacy for the program, and assist with the application process as needed. As always, Tindall & Foster,

P.C. will continue to monitor the development and expansion of programs like Global Entry and will make future updates available via the [Tindall & Foster web site](#).