



Funds Screened

28 July 2008

[Traffic World](#)

Many air freight forwarders may "opt out" of the U.S. government's Certified Cargo Screening Program if they don't get federal funding, a freight forwarding official says.

Brandon Fried, executive director of the **Airforwarders Association**, told the House Homeland Security Committee last month the screening machinery is simply too expensive for them to buy on their own, effectively pushing them out of the program.

The CCSP, created by the Transportation Security Administration to help shippers comply with the requirements for 100 percent cargo screening, is a voluntary program that offers no federal assistance.

"We are extremely concerned about the lack of government funding for the 100 percent screening mandate," Fried said. "Congress stated that homeland security is a federal government priority. ... If it is a government mandate, for a government responsibility to secure our planes, why then is it not the government's money that provides for that security?"

A survey found all of the association's members with fewer than 10 offices would not participate without federal funding, Fried said.