# Intellectual Property Rights(IPR) Enforcement

- Experiences of Japan Customs -

Japan Customs September, 2010



### **TOPICS**

- 1. Impact of IPR Violation
- 2. Enforcement of Japan Customs
- 3. Enforcement Procedures
- 4. Cooperation with Right holders
- 5. Global Partnership for Effective Enforcement

## 1. Impact of IPR Violation

## **Health and Safety Threat**

84,672 tablets of counterfeit pharmaceuticals, suspended and destroyed by Japan Customs (2009)

## **Organized Crime**

10% of IPR related arrests involved gangsters (Annual Report 2009 of Japan police)

## **Economic Damage**

Infringing goods equivalent to **140 million USD**, suspended by Japan Customs (2009)

## 1. Impact of IPR Violation

## **Health and Safety Threat**

## Pharmaceuticals infringing Trademark and/or Patent









## 1. Impact of IPR Violation

## **Economic Damage**

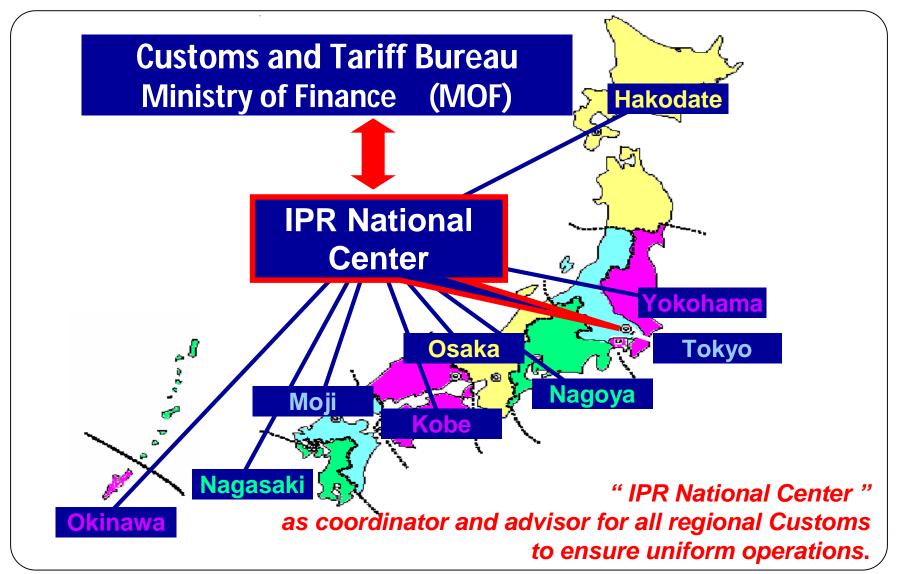




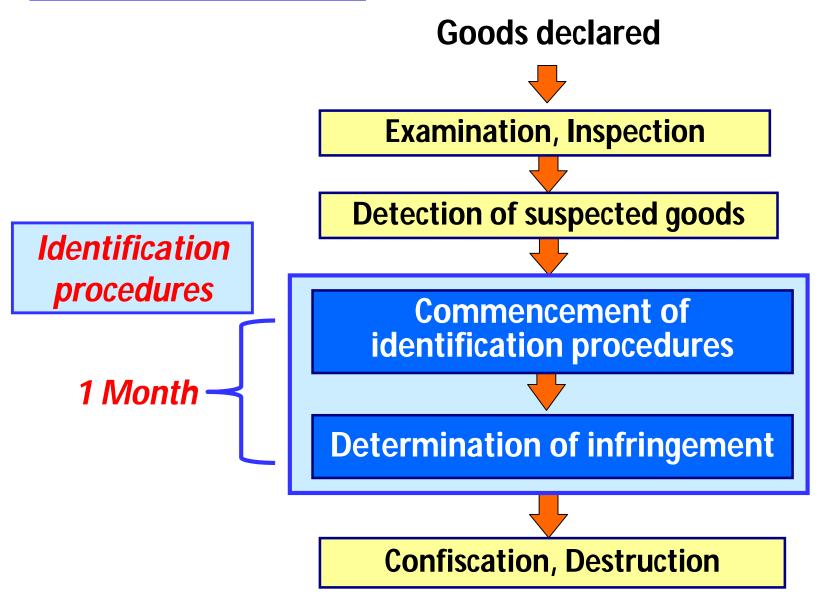


suspended by Osaka Customs (2009)

## **Structure of IPR Enforcement**



#### What Customs can do



## Scope of IPR protection by Japan Customs

- Expanded Scope
- Introduced Export (2006) and Transit (2008)

## **Import**

- > Trademarks
- **≻** Copyrights
- > Patents
- > Industrial designs
- > Utility model rights
- > Layout-designs (1995)
- ➢ Plant Breeders' rights (2003)
- ➤ Unfair Competition (2006)

## **Export (2006)**

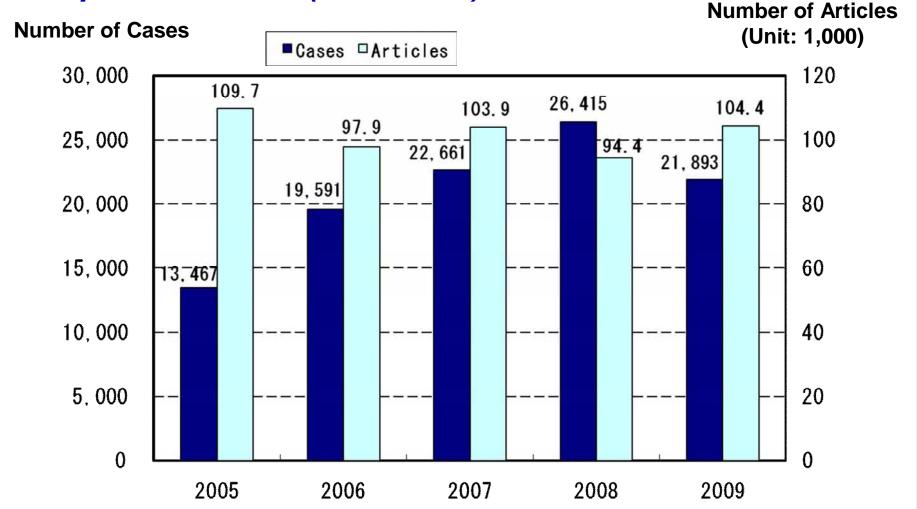
- > Trademarks
- ➤ Copyrights(2007)
- > Patents
- > Industrial designs
- > Utility model rights
- > Plant Breeders' rights
- > Unfair Competition

## **Transit** (2008)

- > Trademarks
- **≻** Copyrights
- > Patents
- > Industrial designs
- **➤ Utility model rights**
- > Plant Breeders' rights
- > Unfair Competition

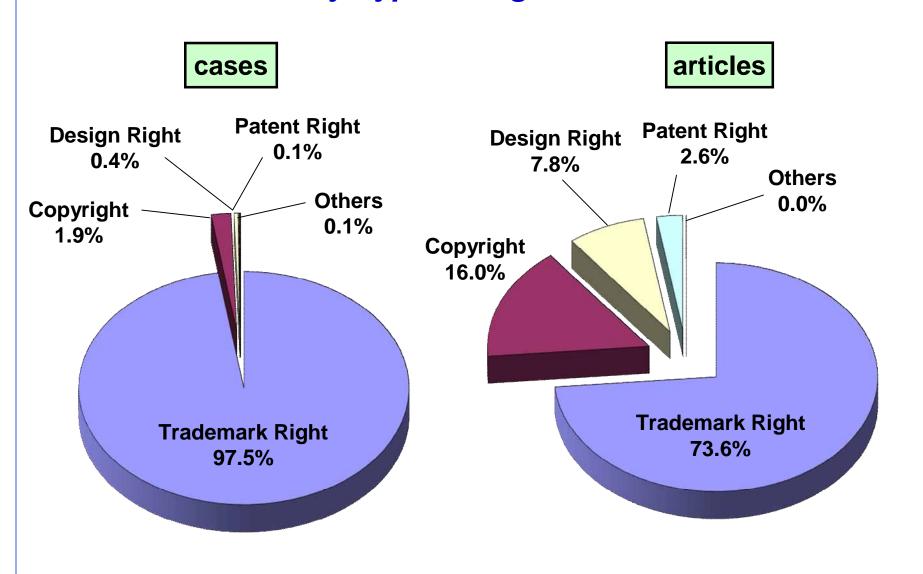
## TRIPS+

## Suspension result (2005-2009)

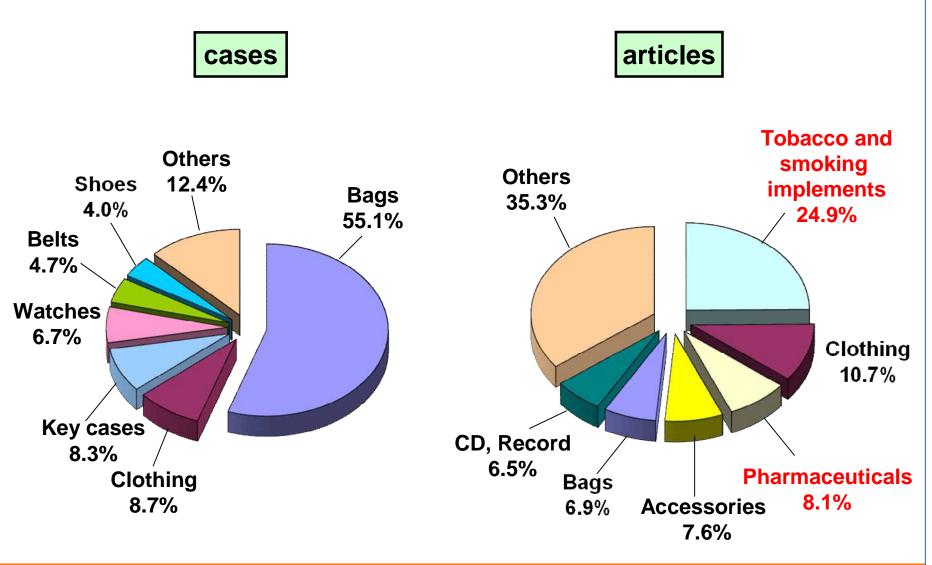


Remarkable increase of number on small lot consignment

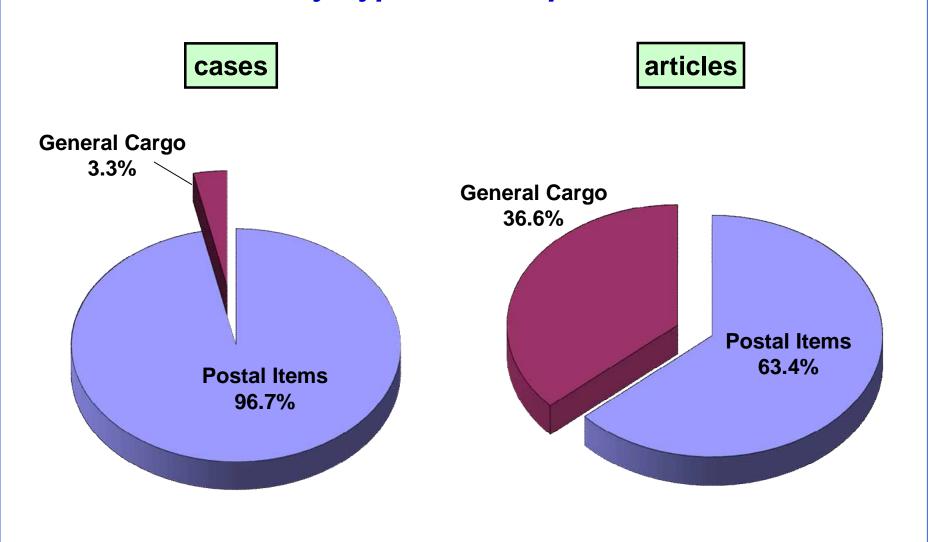
## 2009 Breakdown by Type of Right



## 2009 Breakdown by Type of Commodity

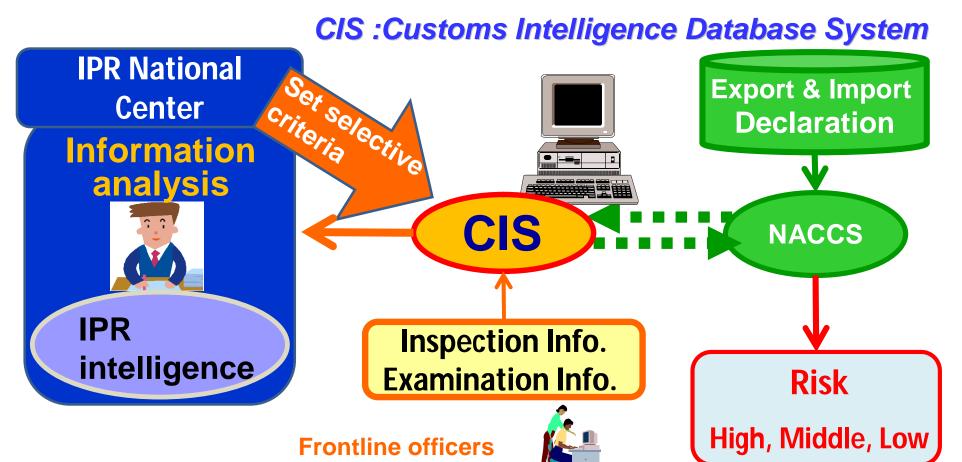


## 2009 Breakdown by Type of Transportation



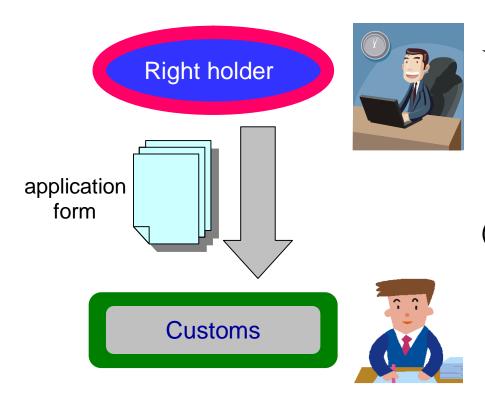
## Enforcement of Japan Customs **Basic flow of Import Clearance Arrival of Cargos** Vessel **Aircraft** Import declaration **Examination of declaration** (Physical Inspection where necessary) **Detection of Suspected Goods** Payment of duties on application or ex-officio **Identification Procedures** 1 Month **Permission and Release** Permission **Confiscation etc.**

## Information for Risk Management



Information is stored in CIS. IPR specialists extract related data from CIS and utilize it for risk management.

## **Application for suspension**



Please suspend these copy goods!!! Which look like...

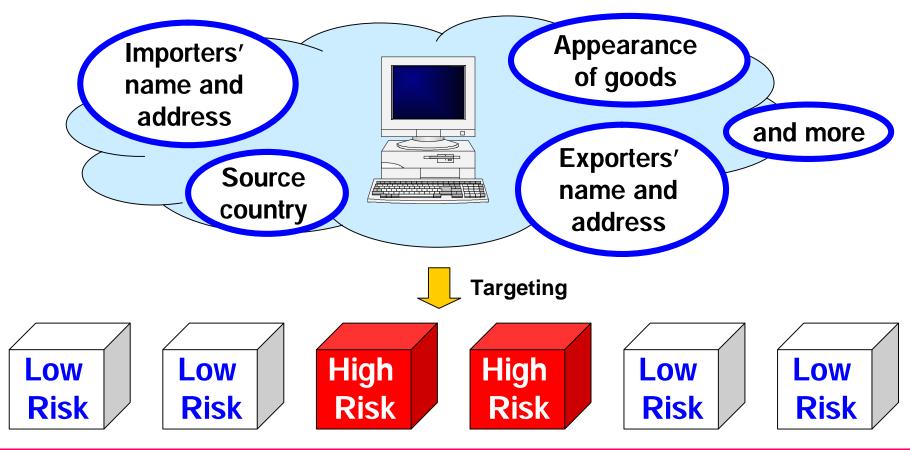
(\*) Some information such as right holder's name, their registered rights etc. in accepted application is disclosed on the web. (Public awareness)

Application for suspension is a provision of information from right holders to Customs on the counterfeits they want to stop.

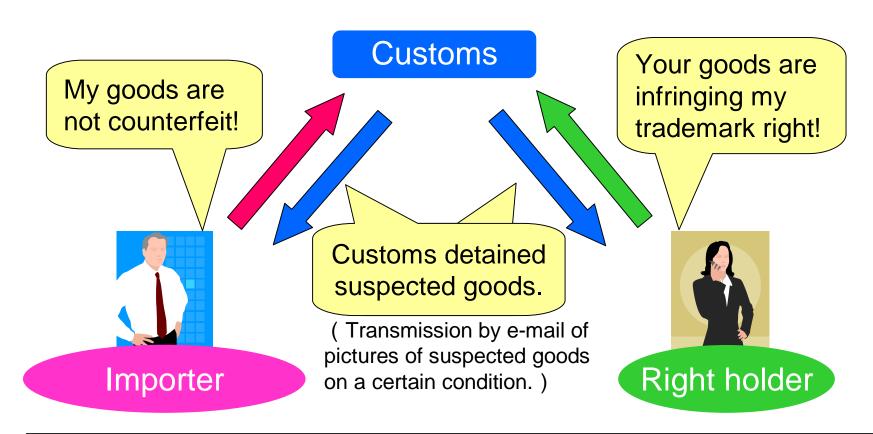
Customs examines the application and approve it.

## Risk assessment with Information from right holders

Use of information technology (Intelligence Database System)

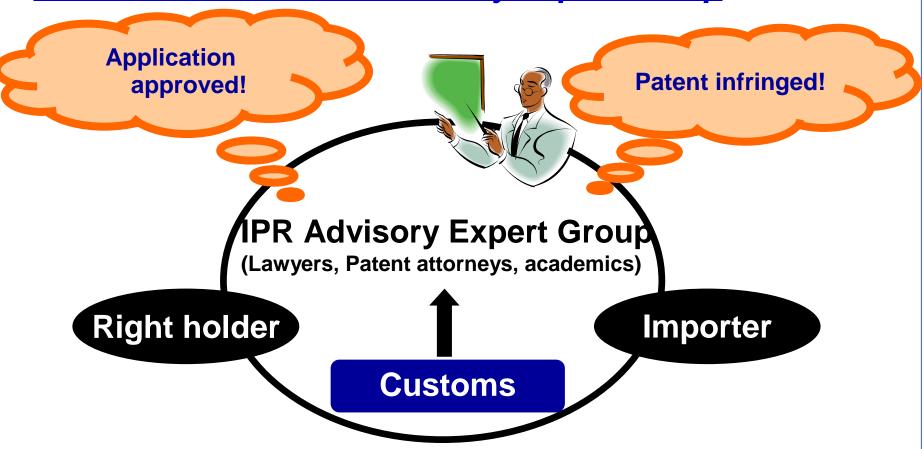


## **Identification procedures**



Identification procedures are processes for Customs to identify whether goods are infringing IPR based on opinions of the importer and the right holder.

## Consultation with IPR Advisory Expert Group



Customs may hold a hearing with IPR Advisory Expert Group.

Right holder and Importer ask for IPR Advisory Expert Group's opinion.

## Consultation with competent authorities

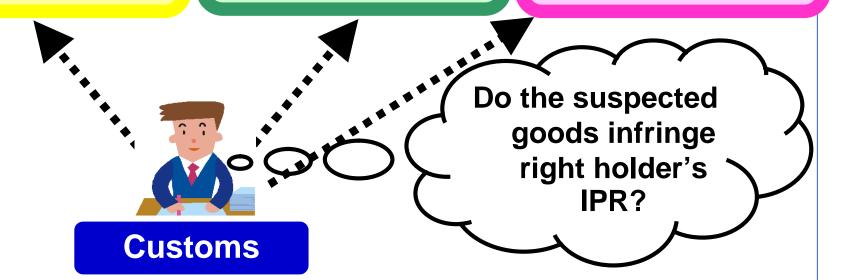
**Unfair Competition** 

Patent, Utility Model, Design

**Plant Breeders'** 

Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Commissioner of Patent Office

Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries



Customs may consult with competent authorities, where necessary.

## 4. Cooperation with Right holders

## **Product Identification Training Seminars**







- Invite right holders to give lectures to frontline officers on practical knowledge and techniques
- In 2009,
   more than 140 seminars were held over 2,800 officials participated

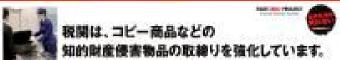
## Cooperation with Right holders

## Raising Public Awareness

Poster (March 2010 ~ )

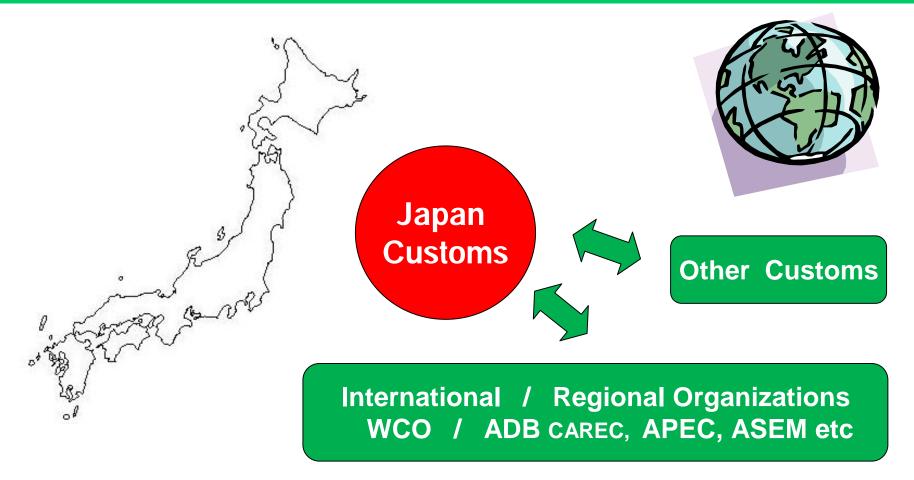
Magazine Advertisement (March 2009 ~ )







## 5. Global Partnership for Effective Enforcement



Customs cooperation such as Information Exchange and Technical Assistance is a key solution

## 5. Global Partnership for Effective Enforcement

## Information Exchange

- WCO/CEN
- G8 (INFO\_IPR project)
- Tripartite(Japan, China, Korea) Customs WG on IPR (FAKE ZERO PROJECT)
- Japan and EC

## Global Partnership for Effective Enforcement

## Japan Customs hosted or participated in seminars on IPR

- JICA Workshop in South Africa (Jan.) (2009)

  • IIPPF Mission in Saudi Arabia and UAE (Feb.)

  - Expert Mission to Thai Customs (Feb.)
  - JETRO Seminar in China (Apr.)
  - WCO Regional Seminar in Tokyo(May.)
  - USPTO-WIPO Workshop in Honolulu (Jul.)
  - Training for China Customs in Japan (Sep.)
  - Training for Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam Customs in Japan (Sep.)
  - APEC Seminar in Peru (Oct.)
  - WCO Regional Seminar in Costa Rica(Nov.)

etc.,

# Thank you very much



For more information (Japan Customs Website) http://www.customs.go.jp/english/index.htm