

**2013 Deputy Administrator's Safeguarding Award:
Honorable Mention – CBP's International Falls Rail Team**

U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Rail Team, stationed at the border crossing in International Falls, Minnesota, developed and launched a novel methodology to target and inspect non-North American intermodal maritime-rail cargo at the border. The methodology included the application of targeting techniques normally used in the maritime and air cargo environment. The techniques significantly increased interceptions of exotic plant pests and prohibited agriculture items, resulting in more quarantine actions on cargo shipments in 2013 than the previous six years combined. This applied methodology has been incorporated into CBP training that has been shared with CBP's agricultural specialists at other ports of entry to assist similar efforts to manage agriculture risks that approach the United States via rail.

Members of the team

1. Gene Krause, Supervisory CBP Agricultural Specialist
2. Deborah Niemi, CBP Agricultural Specialist
3. David Kettula, CBP Agricultural Specialist
4. Matthew Pendergast, CBP Agricultural Specialist
5. Nathan Vonderharr, CBP Agricultural Specialist
6. Bernard Call, CBP Agricultural Specialist
7. David Duchek, CBP Agricultural Specialist
8. Zella Ellshoff, CBP Agricultural Specialist