FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEKO Logistics Takes Action to Highlight Exceptional History of Compliance and to Protect U.S. Consumers

SCHAUMBURG, III., June 4, 2024 – SEKO Logistics (SEKO), the leader in end-to-end global logistics, announced that it has filed action in the Court of International Trade seeking to compel U.S Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to identify violations which led to its C-TPAT and Entry Type 86 program suspensions. The details of such violations have never been provided to SEKO despite repeated requests to the agency and threat of legal action. SEKO also seeks in its court filing injunctive relief to remove any conditions for reinstatement until such time as the alleged violations leading to the agency's action are identified, if these violations even exist.

While CBP has conditionally reinstated SEKO back into C-TPAT and the Entry Type 86 program, the agency did so only after threat of litigation and still has failed to identify the violations that are leading to exceptional harm to our clients and our role as leading provider of Entry Type 86 services. SEKO remains committed to seeking a full and unconditional reinstatement into these programs based on the agency's unprecedented move to take enforcement action without identifying specific violations.

SEKO was originally notified by CBP in late May of the suspension along with several other yet to be named brokers and given only seven (7) days before the suspension went into effect. At that time, despite maintaining an exceptionally high 99.999+% compliance rate, SEKO was not afforded the opportunity to address any unverified deficiencies identified by CBP. Since receiving the first notice from CBP, SEKO has made repeated attempts to seek information from CBP and clarify what alleged deficiencies exist and what proof of compliance issues they have specific to SEKO.

"We are incredibly disappointed by, and strongly disagree with, the original decision by CBP," said James Gagne, president and CEO, SEKO Logistics. "We intend to pursue all appropriate actions to protect our company, our clients, and the U.S. consumer while we continue working as an important compliance partner in global supply chains in good standing with U.S. Customs and with C-TPAT."

SEKO has been an active participant and supporter of this program since its inception in 2019 and has valued its work and close partnership with CBP. SEKO is also part of the Trade Support Network, an advisory body to U.S. CBP, and a member of the E-Commerce Committee of that Network, through which SEKO advocates for best practices and greater engagement with CBP to enhance supply chain security.

"SEKO has always sought to be compliant and work in partnership with CBP to address any concerns they have raised," said Lila Landis, SEKO's Global Chief Compliance Officer. "We continue to believe this program is beneficial and aligned with CBP policy of protecting U.S. consumers."

The reality is that Entry Type 86 provides access to more data and transparency for ecommerce parcels coming into the United States than traditional postage or manifest clearances without entry data, increasing the accuracy and awareness of shipments made to U.S. consumers. The program was designed to provide CBP with greater insights from customs brokers. This is in contrast to the millions of packages a day sent through postal channels, and not through Entry Type 86, that continue to be cleared with NO data associated with them.

Despite SEKO's history of compliance and close cooperation with CBP, the agency's lack of a direct response in this matter has led to a clear and present danger to SEKO's business, its reputation and its clients. This forced SEKO to file for legal action even after offering the agency an opportunity to respond prior to filing suit. SEKO has yet to be provided any evidence or examples of compliance issues and has had to face the business and reputational harm associated with such a draconian measure from CBP, for which no ascertainable reason or history of violations seems to support. That is why SEKO is seeking full unconditional reinstatement into C-TPAT and the Entry Type 86 programs.

###