What We Do

Using state of the art scientific analytical equipment and expertise, the LSS Laboratories test a wide variety of imported commodities for trade enforcement, import safety, and intellectual property rights (IPR). LSS uses sophisticated equipment and methods to determine the country of origin of a broad range of imported products.

LSS Scientists employ mobile equipment on the front lines of CBP to support the agency mission of protecting the United States against Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

LSS Laboratories routinely analyze evidence for suspected controlled substances including narcotics, steroids, as well as gray- and black-market pharmaceuticals.

LSS employs highly trained specialists to perform digital forensics, advanced data recovery, and analysis of electronic devices and media. LSS performs A/V enhancement and duplication of audio and visual media for law enforcement operations.

LSS provides CBP with an internal technical capability to ensure that field personnel have the most advanced non-intrusive inspection (NII) technology enforcement equipment available. LSS provides CBP field personnel with 24/7 Reachback support and access to scientific and technological resources.

LSS Scientists perform crime scene processing and latent fingerprint analysis to provide support for law enforcement operations.

LSS Scientists characterize a wide variety of trace evidence, perform comparative analyses, and make determinations of “same source” using sophisticated instruments, such as scanning electron microscopes, in addition to chemical and physical analysis.
Laboratories and Scientific Services

Laboratories and Scientific Services (LSS) is the Forensic/Scientific arm of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, providing forensic and scientific testing in the area of Trade Enforcement, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Intellectual Property Rights, and Narcotics Enforcement. Laboratories and Scientific Services coordinates technical and scientific support to all CBP trade and border protection activities.

Our Vision
To provide rapid, quality scientific, forensic and Weapons of Mass Destruction services to our customers.

Our Mission
• To provide scientific/forensic support, including on-site support, to CBP Officers and other government agencies with regard to the investigation and interdiction of Weapons of Mass Destruction.
• To produce timely and effective laboratory reports and crime scene documentation supporting CBP trade compliance and law enforcement missions.
• To provide timely and effective scientific/forensic support to CBP Officers and the trade community (i.e., training, targeting, health and safety).
• To approve, accredit, and monitor commercial gaugers and laboratories that perform measurements and analysis for CBP purposes.
• To provide scientific/forensic support to other Federal agencies, standards writing organizations, foreign governments and international organizations to promote international trade compliance and more effective international efforts to counter the movement of Weapons of Mass Destruction.

Careers in LSS
LSS hires educated, professional, and highly-motivated individuals of all experience levels. LSS is currently receiving applications in the following series:
• GS-1320, Chemist
• GS-1301, Physical Scientist
• GS-1384, Textile Analyst
• GS-0801, Engineer
• GS-0072, Fingerprint Specialist
• GS-1306, Health Physicist
• GS-0340, Program Manager
• GS-0301, Mission Support Specialist

Chemists and Textile Analysts ensure that imported and exported merchandise has been properly identified. The information they provide can have impact on duty rates, import quota restrictions, or whether merchandise can be safely and legally allowed into the country.

Health Physicists and Physical Scientists support CBP field personnel, advising on radiation detection and scientific support.

Forensic Scientists such as Fingerprint Specialists support crime scene investigations in the laboratory and in remote areas.

General Engineers and Project Managers are responsible for acquiring and deploying the latest non-intrusive inspection systems available. Engineers and Project Managers provide site surveys, site preparation and installations. Current major project areas are non-intrusive inspections, radiation detection technology, and high-technology enforcement equipment.

For more information and current job postings, visit http://www.usajobs.gov and use the “Agency Search” for positions within U.S. Customs & Border Protection

LSS Field Laboratories and Divisions

SPRINGFIELD LAB
7501 Boston Blvd, Suite 113
Springfield, VA 22153
(703) 921-7200

SAN FRANCISCO LAB
630 Sansome Street, Room 1450
San Francisco, CA 94111
(415) 844-5744

LOS ANGELES LAB
300 S. Ferry Street, Suite 1300
San Pedro, CA 90731
(310) 514-6184

SW REGIONAL SCIENCE CENTER (HOUSTON)
4150 Interwood South Parkway
Houston, TX 77032
(281) 560-2900

SAN JUAN LAB
#1 La Puntilla Street, Room 125
San Juan, PR 00901
(787) 729-6967

SAVANNAH LAB
1425 Chatham Parkway
Savannah, GA 31405
(912) 447-6500

NEW YORK LAB
1100 Raymond Blvd, 5th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
(973) 368-1900

CHICAGO LAB
610 South Canal Street, Suite 400
Chicago, IL 60607
(312) 983-9300

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