

Media Contact: Kara Ross, 202-675-1725, <u>karaross@ups.com</u> Congressional Contact: Dontai Smalls, 202-675-3349, <u>dsmalls@ups.com</u>

## **UPS Applauds Agreement on Bipartisan Customs Legislation, Urges Prompt Passage**

Modernizing Customs Policies is Important to Eliminating Barriers for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, Boosting Economic Growth

WASHINGTON, DC – December 11, 2015 – UPS® (NYSE: UPS), a global logistics provider and leading advocate for global trade, applauds the final agreement reached by the Senate and House conference committee on the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015, and urges both the House and Senate to quickly pass the conference report so that it can be signed by the President this year.

"The House and Senate conferees and committee staff should be praised for their bipartisan leadership on this critical bill," said UPS Global Public Affairs President Laura Lane. "The conference report includes important provisions to simplify customs procedures for low-value shipments and enable more small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) from the U.S. to start exporting."

UPS operates one of the world's largest, most sophisticated, intermodal transportation service networks and is one of the world's largest customs brokerage firms. UPS handles more than 6% of the U.S. GDP and 2% of the global GDP every day. That makes UPS well-qualified to assess the impact of customs modernization on the U.S. economy, which is why we champion this important piece of legislation.

"Bottlenecks at the border stifle trade and frustrate businesses of all sizes looking to expand into new markets," Lane added. "The bill includes important provisions such as raising the de minimis threshold from \$200 to \$800. A higher de minimis level allows low-value goods to be imported without formal customs procedures, duties, and taxes, while still complying with all security protocols."

The U.S. Congress has not passed true customs modernization legislation for over 20 years. Today, Congress has an unprecedented opportunity to support job-creating trade growth by passing the conference report.

## **About UPS**

UPS (NYSE: UPS) is a global leader in logistics, offering a broad range of solutions including the transportation of packages and freight; the facilitation of international trade, and the deployment of advanced technology to more efficiently manage the world of business. Headquartered in Atlanta, UPS serves more than 220 countries and territories worldwide. The company can be found on the Web at ups.com® and its corporate blog can be found at Longitudes.ups.com. To get UPS news direct, visit pressroom.ups.com/RSS.