

Swiss Customs working for the economy, security and health of the nation



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Finance FDF
Federal Customs Administration FCA

Contents

What do Swiss Customs agents do?	5
For the Confederation	
Receipts for Switzerland	9
For the economy	
Foreign trade	13
Free trade	16
Commercial import, export and transit	17
Precious metal control	18
Product piracy	20
For security	
Narcotics	23
Weapons	24
Migration	28
Tracing people and stolen property and cross-border crime	30
Forged documents	32
Security of heavy vehicles	33
For health	
Medications	37
Doping substances	39
Other areas	
International assignments	41
Protection of cultural property	43
Protection of species	44
Swiss Customs staff	47
Welcome to the Customs Museum	50
Addresses and imprint	52
Organisation of Swiss Customs	55

Editorial



Dear reader,

New customs regulations have been in application for tourist traffic since the start of July 2014. The declaration of goods has thereby been simplified and made more transparent for Swiss consumers. Crossing the border takes less time.

The free trade agreement between China and Switzerland also entered into force last summer. The agreement will help open up new markets for Swiss export companies and improve competitive conditions for their products. Customs experts collaborated

on the development of core sections. Moreover, they provide advice to and actively support the companies.

In 2014, combating cross-border crime continued to place great demands on us: wanted persons, prohibited weapons, forged documents, drugs, illegal immigration, etc. Here it is becoming increasingly apparent how important the cooperation of partner organisations in Switzerland and abroad is. In the field of migration, Switzerland is also feeling the effects of the unrest in Africa and the war in Syria.

The areas where Swiss Customs and the Border Guard were on assignment last year and the results they achieved can be seen in this edition of „FCA facts and figures 2014“.

Where were Swiss Customs agents successful last year? You will find out in this „FCA facts and figures 2014“.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Rudolf Dietrich".

Rudolf Dietrich,
Director General of Swiss Customs

What DO Swiss CUSTOMS agents do ?

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Federal Customs Administration FCA

Customs staff are there to serve you.

The Border Guard (BG) is the uniformed and armed section. As the largest national civil security agency in Switzerland, the employees carry out a wide range of duties in addition to customs duties. This includes, for example, tracing persons and vehicles. They are involved in combating commercially organised smuggling, cross-border crime and illegal immigration to Switzerland. Customs experts are responsible for commercial goods traffic. They not only collect taxes and duties, but also

ensure the health of the population by inspecting foodstuffs and other goods according to risk. Furthermore, they are tasked with ensuring the protection of cultural property and species protection as well as compliance with the laws on weapons, road traffic, trademark protection, environmental protection, etc. Together, we do everything we can to facilitate border-crossing for travellers and companies and thus boost Switzerland as a business location.



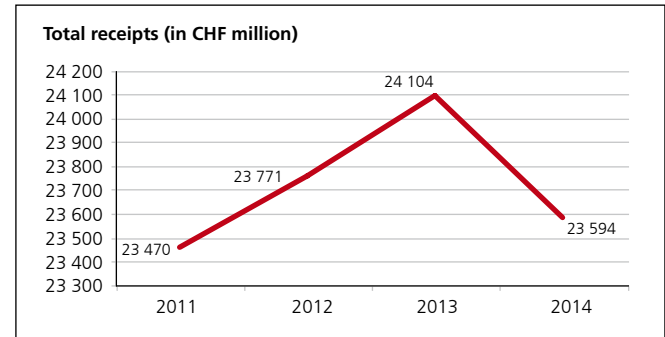
Swiss Customs – for the business world, security and health



WORKING for the Confederation

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Receipts



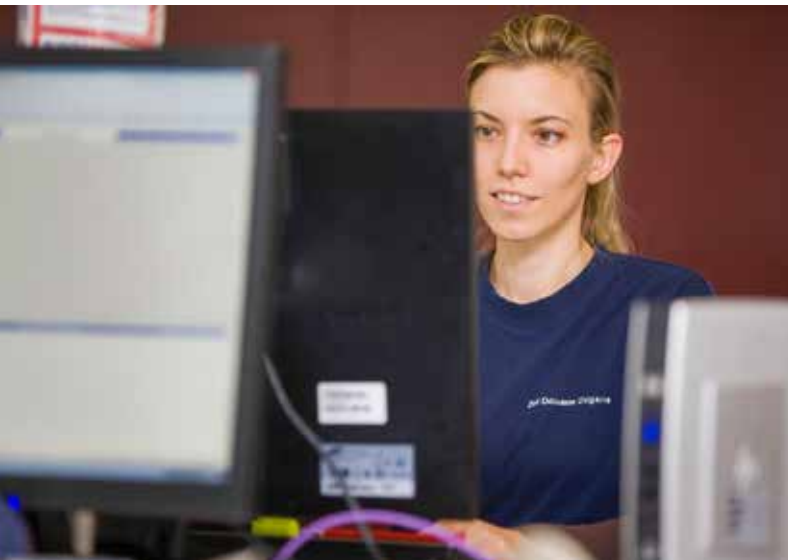
With the receipts from Customs, the Confederation finances important tasks in the fields of education, health, social services and other areas.

For healthy finances: Customs generates over one-third of the Confederation's total receipts.

Main sources of revenue (in CHF million)

	2012	2013	2014
Import duties	1 043	1 059	1 068
VAT	11 836	12 225	11 712
Mineral oil tax	5 032	5 005	4 970
Tobacco duty	2 396	2 295	2 257
Heavy vehicle charge	1 529	1 517	1 493
Other receipts*	1 935	2 003	2 094

* CO₂ tax, automobile duty, motorway tax stickers, VOC and beer tax, etc.

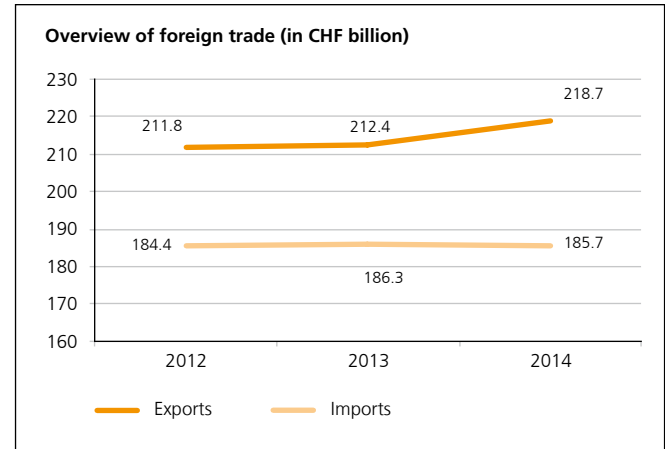


Compared with the previous year, total receipts dropped by CHF 500 million.

Working on behalf of the ECONOMY

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss foreign trade



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Imports and exports by continent (in CHF billion)		
	Imports	Exports
Europe	133.1	120.7
EU	130.5	113.9
Germany	51.2	38.6
Italy	17.6	13.7
France	14.3	14.9
Asia	27.3	45.2
China	12.1	8.8
Japan	3.1	6.1
North America	11.5	29.1
USA	10.9	25.8
Latin America	2.8	6.5
Africa	2.9	3.6
Oceania	0.3	2.5

The EU is by far the most important market for Swiss products.



Free trade

Since 1 January 2015,
Switzerland has been party to
30 free trade
agreements
in force.

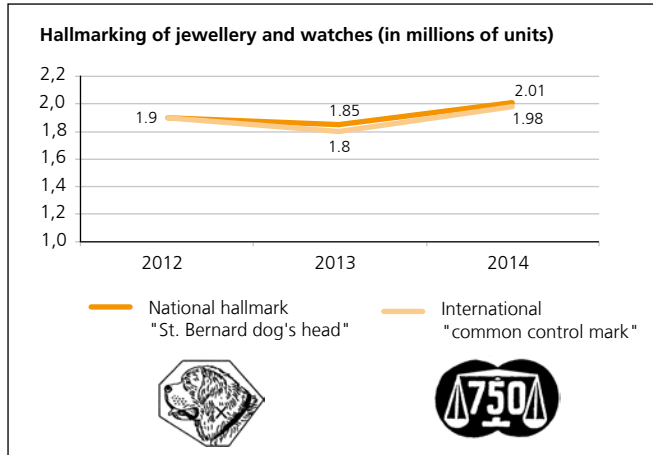
Commercial import, export and transit

	2012	2013	2014
Imports	16.1	18.0	19.2
Exports	6.6	6.3	6.5
Transit	7.4	6.9	7.1

32.8 million
customs declarations
were processed by Swiss Customs
in 2014.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

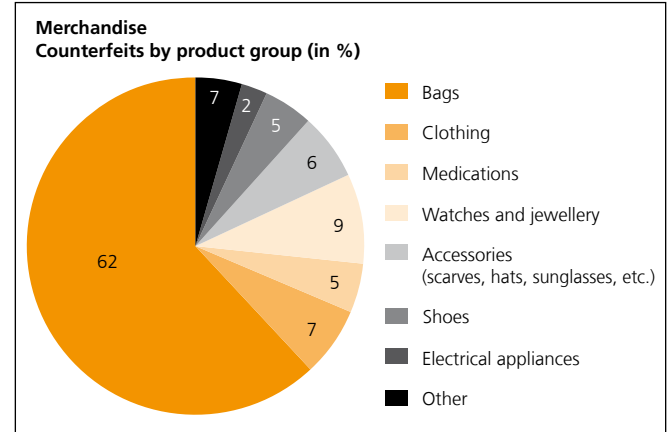
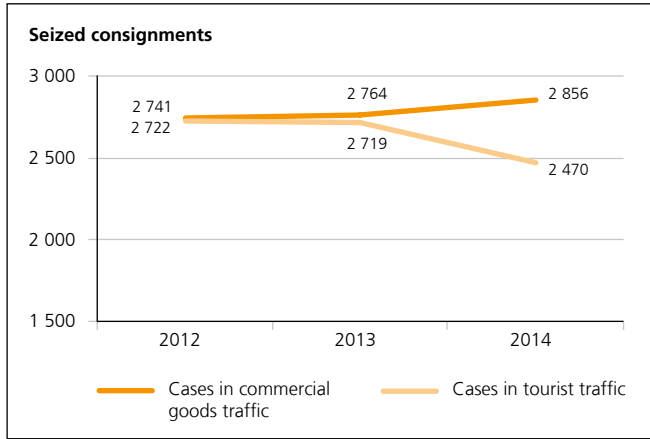
Precious metal control



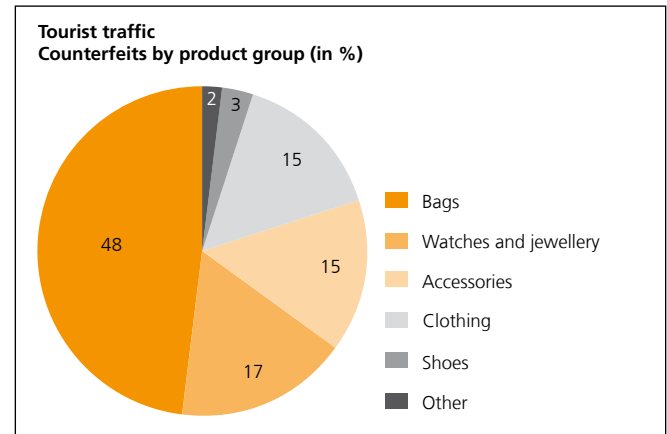
In 2014, **916** counterfeit watches and **2,913** items of jewellery were seized.



Product piracy



32,317
 counterfeit products
 were withdrawn
 from circulation
 by Customs in 2014.



WORKING on behalf of security

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

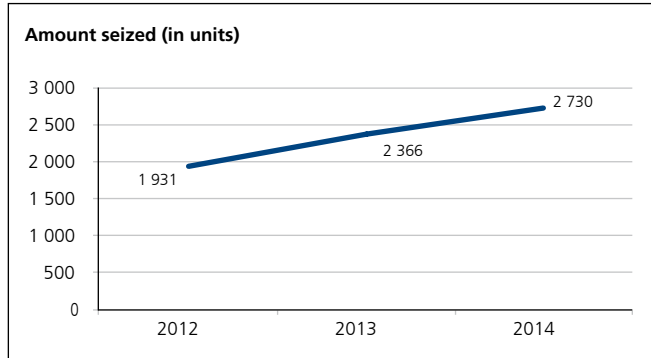
Narcotics

Drugs seized (in kg)	2013	2014
Hashish and marijuana	416	709
Heroin	40	76
Cocaine	90	58
Kat	2 894	1614
Designer drugs	177	27
Knockout drops (litres)	11	26

The BG has seized approximately
CHF **1 million**
of “drugs
money”.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Weapons



The amount of illegal weapons seized by Swiss Customs rose by about **15%** in 2014.

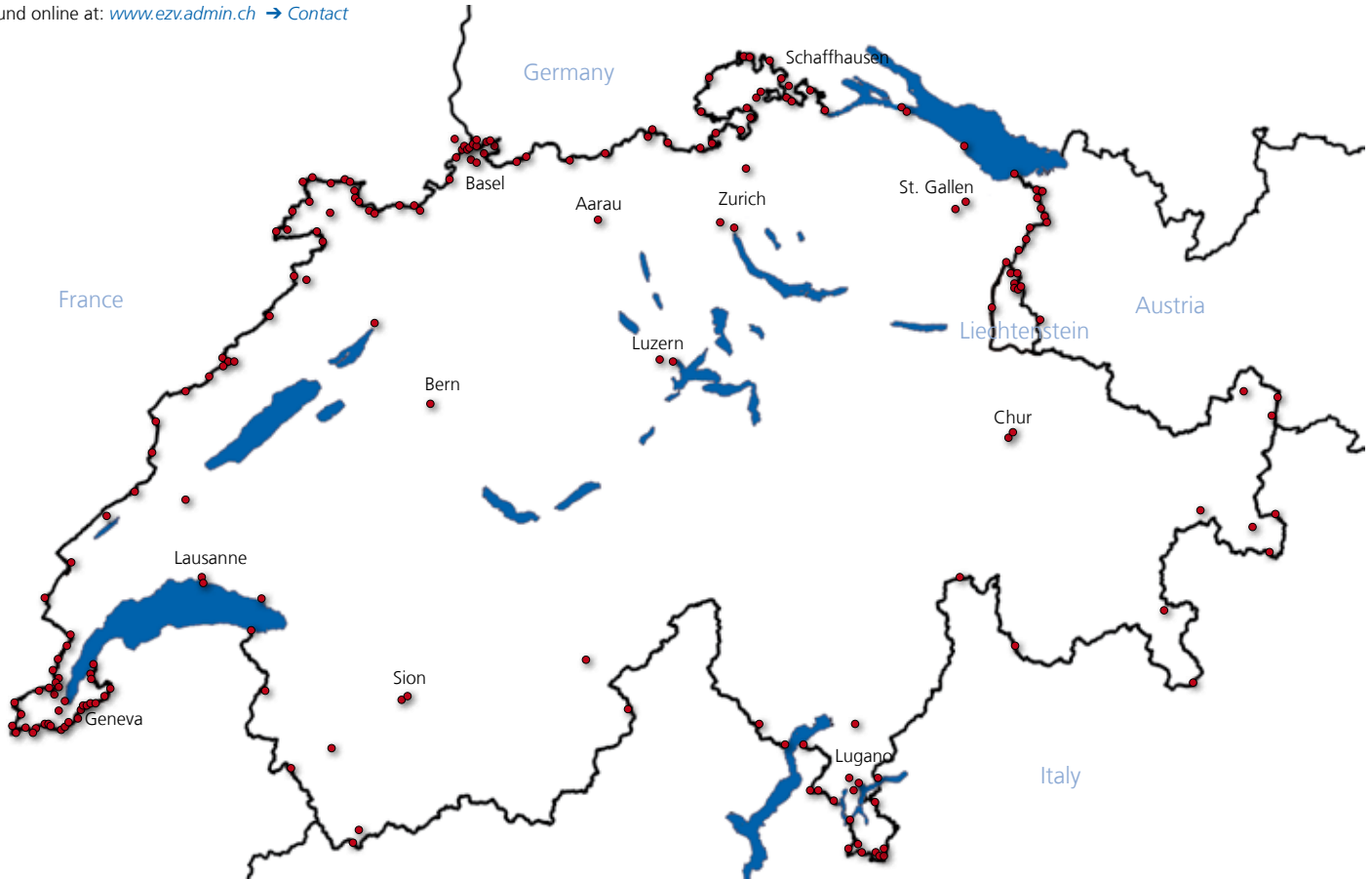


What do Swiss Customs agents do?

You will find us here

How to find us and when exactly we are there can be found online at: www.ezv.admin.ch → [Contact](#)

What do Swiss Customs agents do?



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Migration

	2012	2013	2014
Illegal residence in the Schengen area (incl. internal borders)	11 278	11 992	14 265
Illegal entry at the external borders	349	361	323
Suspected smuggling	96	211	384
Illegal residents in the Schengen area seeking asylum	n.a.	5 339	6 347



In 2014,
14,265 illegal residents
and **384** people smugglers were arrested.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Tracing people, stolen property and cross-border crime

	2012	2013	2014
Persons for whom an alert had been issued	n.a.	16 741	18 482
Objects for which an alert had been issued	1 050	1 460	2 111
Goods suspected to originate from a criminal offence	729	644	542
Items suspected to have been used in a criminal offence	n.a.	419	443



The BG arrested
9,337 people
wanted for arrest
or who were banned
from entering Switzerland.



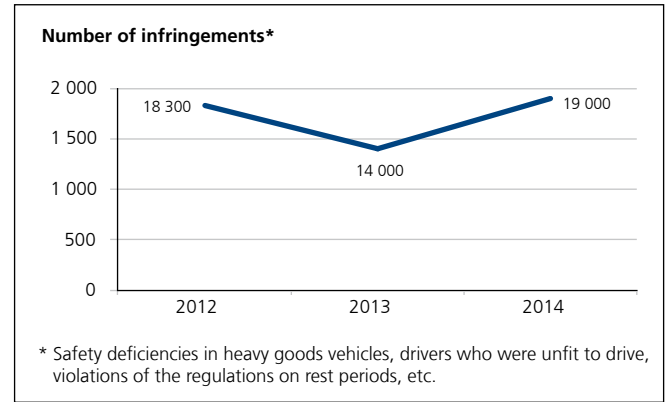
What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Forged documents (in units)	2012	2013	2014
Passports	373	437	404
ID cards	383	442	404
Residence permits	214	219	183
Driving licences	638	602	545

In 2014, a total of
1,619
forged documents
were seized.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Security of heavy vehicles





What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Customs in Ticino discovered

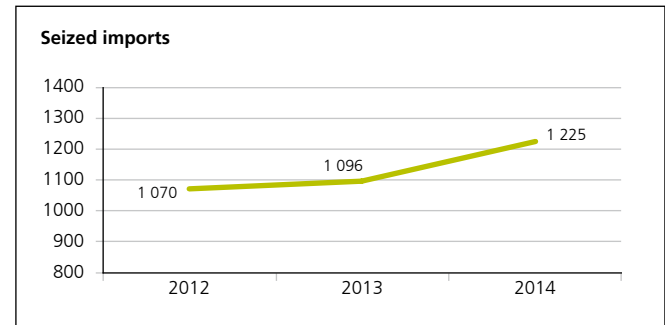
0.5 tonnes
of **illegal fireworks.**

The driver had
not received
the proper training nor was the equipment
for the transportation
of hazardous goods
in place.

Working on behalf of health

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Illegal medications



The most frequently seized “drugs” were the following:

1. Erectile dysfunction treatments
2. Sleeping pills and tranquilizers
3. Slimming aids



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Prohibited doping substances

Customs reported

482

consignments
to Anti-doping Switzerland.

The list of prohibited substances
and methods (doping list) has been
published at www.antidoping.ch.



Other areas

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss Customs agents work on international assignments

146 employees
were involved overseas
in security activities,
peace building,
technical cooperation
or training.

Overall, they contributed...

3,455
deployment days.



What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss Customs work on behalf of cultural property

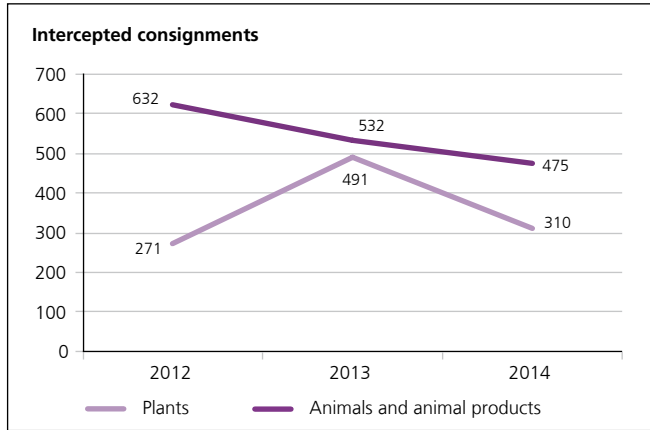
Switzerland fights the theft of and illegal trade in cultural property.



In **106** cases,
the Federal Office of Culture
examined suspicious consignments
after reports from Customs.

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss Customs work on behalf of species protection



Customs discovered

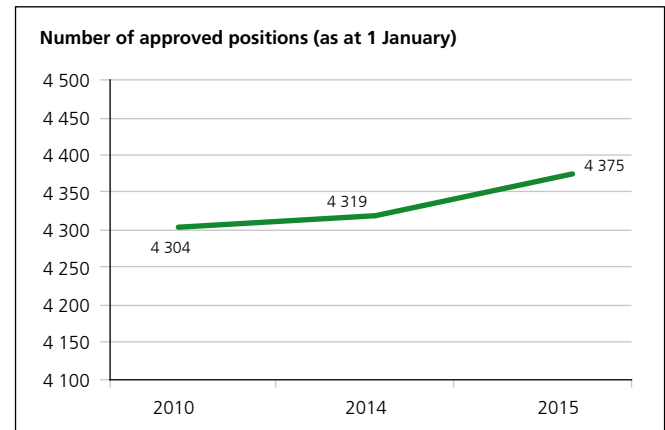
378
live animals
which had been **smuggled**
into Switzerland.



Swiss Customs STAFF

What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Swiss Customs staff



Structure (as at 1 January)

	2010	2014	2015
Customs technical personnel	1 354	1 389	1 389
Other civilian personnel	954	892	903
Border Guard personnel	1 939	1 982	2 027
Precious Metal Control personnel	57	56	56

At Swiss Customs, we train apprentices:

- New basic commercial training programme
- Chemical laboratory assistants
- Specialists in information and documentation
- Mediamaticians

Every year, over **100** aspirants
commence their career
as a customs expert
or border guard.





What do Swiss Customs agents do?

Are you looking for further information?

You will find this on www.ezv.admin.ch.

We provide regular information and news about Swiss Customs in our specialist magazine Forum Z.: www.ezv.admin.ch → [Documentation](#).

“Should I or shouldn’t I?” You will find answers to this question and much more in our Customs app: “Travel and goods”.



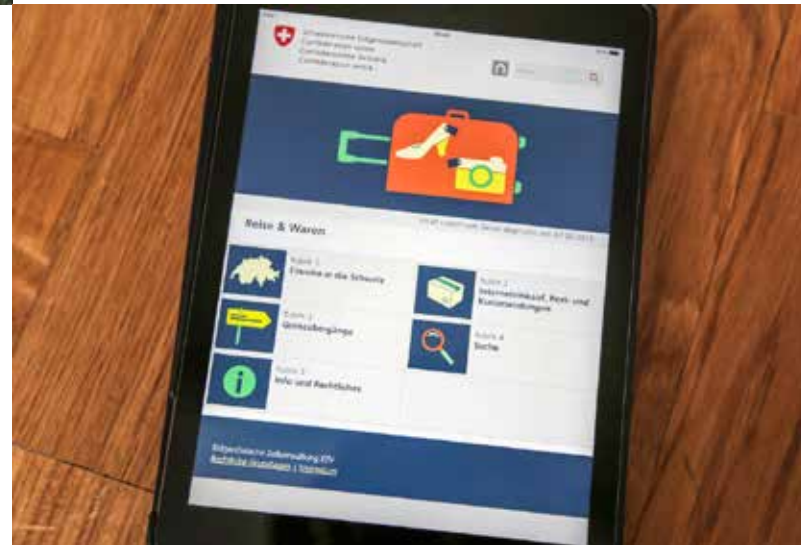
Welcome to the Customs Museum

Take a behind-the-scenes look at the work of Swiss Customs. Situated opposite Gandria, the Swiss Customs Museum is in an idyllic spot on Lake Lugano. The museum, referred to in the vernacular as the “Smugglers’ Museum”, attracts some 20,000 visitors each year.

The museum is open daily from 1 April to 18 October 2015, from 1.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., and entry is free of charge.

Visit our special exhibition “Refuge – Protection – Humanity: about the work of the UNHCR”.

www.zollmuseum.ch



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Swiss Border Guard Command Region VIII

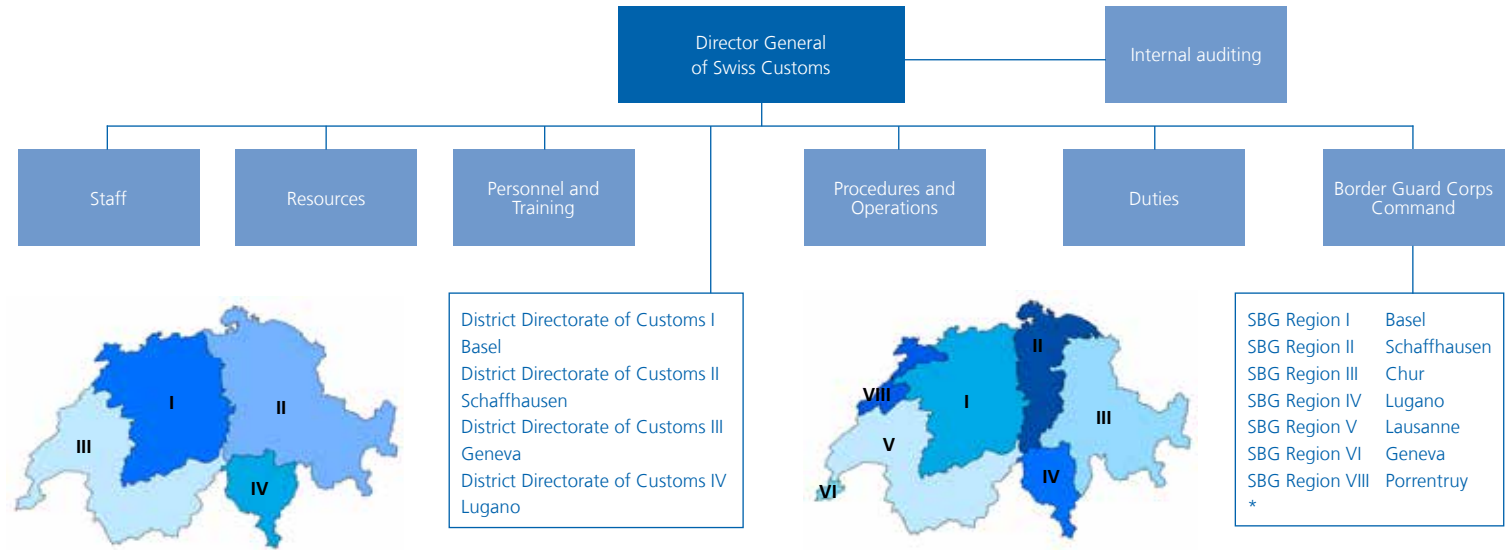
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Organisation of Swiss Customs

What will the organisation of Swiss Customs look like from 1 May 2015?



* SBG Region VII Aargau/Zurich was divided between SBG Region I (Basel) and Region II (Schaffhausen) on 1 April 2011 as part of a reorganisation.

1 day at the Swiss border 2014

On a daily basis, Swiss Customs employees

- took CHF **65 million** in receipts,
- discovered **3 cases** involving stolen goods or material used for burglaries,
- stopped **51 people** who had an arrest warrant issued against them or who were banned from entering Switzerland,
- seized **5 forged** documents or ID belonging to someone else,
- secured **7 prohibited** weapons,
- seized **7 kg** of drugs,
- discovered **39 cases** of illegal residence,
- withdrew **5 consignments** of prohibited medications and doping supplements, and
- **88 counterfeit** branded goods from circulation.

