

US Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
Importer Security Filing

On January 25th 2009, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will be asking Importers for additional shipment data, that they will need to provide prior to such shipment being laden on board overseas.

For the next twelve months providing these information is mandatory, officially enforced not until 2010.

Reason for this "Import Security Filings" are improved measure to identify high-risk shipments. Basically, a shipment "Profiling" System of all participating parties related to a single shipment.

Since it will be much easier to identify possible high-risk shipments, it is expected that shipments for which proper and complete filings have been submitted will move through the customs process on a preferred basis.

Peter Wittwer will implement an electronic interface to our web-based Supply Chain System to allow for the required information to be entered in a simple, timely and inexpensive manner

Here is how we see it :

Six of the ten required elements are likely repetitive for most of your shipments, those will be added to our "customer profiles" and will already be available at the time the shipment is booked.

- Name and Address of the Manufacturer/Supplier
- Name and Address of the Seller
- Name and Address of the Buyer/Owner
- Name and Address of the Ship To location
- Bond Number/IRS/EIN Number of the Importer. ID Number for deliveries to Free Trade Zones.
- Recipient Tax Id

Our Supply Chain System will initiate an automatic alert via E-mail three days prior to Departure of the vessel to designated person or persons to collect the remaining information.

- Container Stuffing Location
- Consolidator (Stuffer) location
- Country of origin
- HS Code (minimum 6 digits)

Since all of the shipment related documents are already scanned into the same system, like commercial invoices, packing lists, bills of lading, this process will become very quickly a simple routine.

During the next few days we will be contacting you to provide us with the six "repetitive" pieces of information to update our client profiles.

Please also feel free to contact any of our Peter Wittwer team members to provide this information.

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