

CBP Automated Manifest Interface Requirements

Introduction

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U.S. Customs and
Border Protection



Introduction

The purpose of this document is to specify the procedures to be followed by importing trade community members interested in participating in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE M1). As new modifications are added to ACE M1, the procedures will be incorporated into this document.

This document provides the basic specifications and record formatting rules necessary for participation in ACE M1.

Direct participation in ACE M1 requires that the carriers, NVOCC, port authorities or service bureaus have a computer system capable of transmitting data to and receiving data from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Data Center.

CBP maintains a multi-modular cargo inventory and release system that interacts with other CBP automated systems and provides electronic interfaces with carrier, port authority, and service bureau manifest systems.

CBP is not a service bureau for either automated or non-automated port authorities or other agencies. An exchange of nonproprietary information can be arranged when mutually beneficial.

ACE M1 is a means of speeding the flow of cargo through an electronic release notification system. This reduces paperwork for carriers and CBP by eliminating the paper manifest and decreasing the number of discrepancy reports and in-bond document (CBPF-7512), Transportation Entry and Manifest of Goods Subject to Customs Inspection and Permit.

ACE M1 participants and CBP both realize multiple benefits from greater control, better communication, and a shorter holding time for imported cargo.

Carriers, port authorities, and service bureaus use manifest data for functions such as accounting, billing, community delivery notification, and traffic control.

ACE M1 is designed to use standard technology readily available to large and small businesses. A participant's computer system must be capable of receiving and transmitting data in a format compatible with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Data Center computers. For companies that do not have the in-house capability, independent service bureaus can be used.

The Requirements chapter of this document gives detailed information on participation requirements.