



Postal Data Requirements

According to the **Trade Act of 2002**, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) must send **Advance Electronic Data (AED)** to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), which contains information about the shipper, recipient, and shipment contents. **The Synthetics Trafficking and Overdose Protection (STOP) Act** amended the Trade Act, requiring USPS to share this information with CBP to help identify packages that may contain illicit goods.



Advance Electronic Data Overview

- AED must include information about **attributes of mail items** and their contents, which can be provided through the Item Attribute or **“ITMATT”** USPS receives from the origin post.
 - ITMATT is sent in an electronic message that corresponds to the Customs Declaration and satisfies import requirements
- Information must be sent from USPS to CBP **as soon as practicable** but no later than prior to loading the inbound international mail shipment onto the transporting conveyance.



General Requirements

- **AED elements** presented to CBP must include details such as sender and recipient information, quantity, weight, description, and value.
- AED is required for **inbound international mail shipments** containing the following goods:
 - Express Mail Service (EMS)
 - Parcel post
 - Letter class mail – goods
- USPS must electronically send any **AED updates** to CBP if more accurate data becomes available after making submissions.
 - Updates must be provided once USPS becomes aware of data changes.



Mandatory AED Elements

- (1) **Sender’s Name and Address** – individual or business name and a valid foreign address with city/province, country, and postal code
- (2) **Recipients Name and Address** – individual or business name and a valid foreign address with city/province, country, and postal code
- (3) **Content Description** – description must be as detailed as possible
- (4) **Quantity** – total amount of contents within the shipment
- (5) **Weight** – total weight of all contents within the shipment
- (6) **Item ID** – unique item identifier in both readable and barcode format
- (7) **Declared Value** – total value of all contents within the shipment
- (8) **Designated Operator** – official entity that operates postal services

• For more data elements, please see **19 CFR § 145.74(d)(1)**



Dispatch Information

- **PREDES**, or Pre-Advice of Despatch (or “Dispatch”), includes information on shipments, of the same mail category and class, **sent from one post to another**.
- USPS receives information from the origin post in an electronic message, including the following:
 - Dispatch information** including origin post, destination post, and dispatch number;
 - Scheduled date and time of departure** of transporting conveyance;
 - Scheduled date and time of arrival** in the United States;
 - Transportation information** including carrier and, as applicable, flight number, voyage number, trip number, and/or transportation reference number;
 - Scheduled International Mail Facility** in the United States (IMF);
 - Total weight** of the dispatch; and
 - Information for receptacles** within the dispatch, including receptacle type, receptacle ID, and weight, as well as item ID for items nested to the receptacles, if applicable.