

eCERT 2.0 Enhancements

Last updated: July 27, 2022



On **September 24, 2022**, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will deploy the eCERT 2.0 enhancements to the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE). eCERT 2.0 will enhance existing Electronic Certification System (eCERT) features by adding validations to verify authorized use of export certificates, automating the decrementing and incrementing of export certificate usage, and enabling users to query export certificate usage. This enhancement includes electronic data interchange (EDI) impacts, including a new Automated Broker Interface (ABI) query.

What eCERT changes are coming?

When CBP deploys eCERT 2.0 on September 24, exporting countries who currently participate in eCERT will automatically be integrated into eCERT 2.0. eCERT 2.0 will bring the following enhancements to the program:

Importer of Record (IOR) Number Verification

- Beginning on September 24, eCERT 2.0 will verify that the IOR number associated with a given entry matches the IOR number associated with the applicable export certificate (if the export country-provided export certificate does not include an IOR, the export certificate will be rejected for the eCERT 2.0 program).
- This additional validation will help CBP ensure that only the authorized importer(s) may utilize the export certificate and will enable the authorized IOR to track and query certificate usage.

Automatic Export Certificate Decrementing and Incrementing

- When a certificate quota entry is filed against an export certificate, eCERT 2.0 will check for a match. If a match is identified, eCERT 2.0 will deduct the applicable unit quantity from the certificate allowance, preventing overuse of the certificate.
- If an entry is cancelled, eCERT 2.0 will restore the applicable units to the certificate allowance.

Query Capabilities for Certificate Usage

- eCERT 2.0 will also give participating export countries (certificate issuers) and authorized trade filers (verified by the IOR number) the ability to query export certificate usage.
- More information on this new Automated Broker Interface (ABI) query, called the Certificate Query, and the associated messages (EC/EZ) can be found in the [eCERT 2.0 Technical Guidelines](#).
- This new query will help trade users track usage and avoid entry rejection due to overuse.

What is eCERT?

eCERT is a CBP system that uses electronic data transmissions of information normally associated with a required export document, such as a license or certificate, to facilitate the administration of quotas. Specifically, eCERT helps CBP verify that the information provided by exporting countries aligns with the information provided by importing trade filers. Foreign countries participating in eCERT transmit export license/certificate data electronically to CBP. When making entry, specific data elements transmitted to CBP by an import filer must match the eCERT data from the export



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country before any applicable quota is reported. The government-to-government transmission of information enabled by the eCERT program decreases the potential for circumvention of quotas resulting from counterfeit documents.

What additional resources are available?

- Users can now test the new features in eCERT 2.0. For more information on the technical requirements to begin testing, please review the [eCERT 2.0 Technical Guidelines](#).
- For more information about eCERT, visit the [Electronic Certification System](#) page on CBP.gov.
- For questions about eCERT 2.0, contact the Quota and Agriculture Branch within the Office of Trade, Trade Policy and Programs Division at HQQuota@cbp.dhs.gov or 202-863-6560.
- If you are experiencing challenges filing electronic (non-ACE Portal) transactions, please contact your assigned CBP Client Representative during business hours. If you do not have an assigned Client Representative, please reach out to the Client Representative Branch at clientrepoutreach@cbp.dhs.gov. For technical issues during non-business hours, please contact the ACE Help Desk by phone 866-530-4172 or via email at ace.support@cbp.dhs.gov.

