

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS TO
U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (COAC)**

April 21, 2015

**AUTOMATED COMMERCIAL ENVIRONMENT (ACE)/
INTERNATIONAL TRADE DATA SYSTEM (ITDS) UPDATE**

Issue: CBP is establishing ACE as the Single Window for Government and the trade community. ACE will automate and enhance interaction between international trade partners, CBP, and Partner Government Agencies (PGA) during the cargo import and export process, significantly increasing efficiency and reducing costs compared to the manual, paper-based interactions in place to-date.

Background:

- The current trade process, involving 47 Federal agencies and CBP, is largely manual and paper-based, which is costly and time-consuming for both the Government and the trade. Approximately 30 agencies require nearly 200 forms for imported and exported products.
- Through the International Trade Data System (ITDS), the Federal government is creating a Single Window to streamline trade processes, and support economic competitiveness.
- The Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) will become this Single Window– the primary system through which the international trade community submits import and export documentation required by all Federal agencies.
- Through ACE, Federal agencies will have earlier, automated visibility to shipment data, expediting their import or export assessments at the border and speeding the flow of legitimate trade while also improving security, health and safety of cargo.
- CBP is developing and delivering remaining core trade processing capabilities in ACE and will decommission the corresponding capabilities in legacy systems by the end of calendar year 2016.
- As part of the plan to complete ACE by 2016, CBP has established three mandatory use dates:
 - **May 1, 2015: Mandatory use of ACE for all electronic manifest filing** - filing of all electronic import and export cargo manifest data related to all transportation modes will be mandatory in ACE.
 - **November 1, 2015: Mandatory use of ACE for all electronic cargo release and related entry summary filings** - filing of all data associated with the release of imported cargo from the government's custody, including data related to PGA interactions, and the associated entry summaries will be mandatory in ACE.
 - **October 1, 2016 - Mandatory use of ACE for all remaining electronic portions of the CBP cargo process** - all electronic trade processing will be mandatory in ACE. This includes processes such as Drawback and Protest.

Recent and Upcoming ACE Capabilities:

Arrival/Manifest

- Over ninety percent of core manifest processing capabilities have been deployed to production, including:

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- Integration of Vessel Management System (VMS) capabilities into ACE which provides CBP officers a modernized tool with which to monitor and control ocean vessels entering and leaving U.S. ports.
- Ability to accept and process air import manifests via ACE (currently in testing/dual processing mode). On May 3, 2015, ACE will become the system of record for all air import manifests, and the Air Automated Manifest System (AMS) will no longer be available for processing air manifests.

Release/Cargo Release

- Over seventy percent of core cargo release processing capabilities have been deployed to production, including:
 - Incorporation of the Mail Entry Writing System (MEWS) into ACE, which enables better collection of duties/fees on items delivered by the U.S. Postal Service;
 - Ability to query cargo release transactions via the Automated Broker Interface (ABI);
 - Filing of entry types 01 (Consumption), 11 (Informal) and 03 (Antidumping/Countervailing Duty) and certified from summary capabilities for air, ocean, rail and truck shipments; and
 - Availability of ACE Cargo Release in all CBP ports of entry.

Post Release/Entry Summary, Accounts and Revenue

- Over sixty percent of core post release processing capabilities have been deployed, including:
 - Expansion of ACE entry summary system validations; and
 - Electronic processing of single transaction and continuous bonds (eBond).
 - As of April 15, 2015, over 44,000 bonds have been created via ACE eBond and eight of the nine Surety Filer Agents have submitted eBonds.

Exports

- Over sixty percent of core export processing capabilities have been deployed, including:
 - Automated Export System (AES) capabilities have been integrated into ACE, establishing a single window for the processing of all export commodity filings and placed export and import processing onto a single platform.
 - CBP has deployed to production the capability for filing electronic export manifests for air, ocean and rail modes (pilots for each mode will be initiated pending publication of Federal Register Notices (FRNs)).

PGA Integration

- Over seventy percent of core PGA processing capabilities have been deployed, supporting the initiation of PGA pilots:
 - Electronic submission of certificate of origin related to importation of tuna (National Marine Fisheries Service);
 - Electronic submission of data related to ozone depleting substances (Environmental Protection Agency (EPA);

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- Electronic submission of data related to vehicles and engines (EPA);
- Electronic submission of data related to exported hazardous waste (EPA); and
- Electronic submission of data related to meat, poultry, and egg products (USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service).
- CBP is actively working with all agencies with a role in the admissibility of cargo to ensure they are integrated into ACE by the November 1, 2015 mandatory use date for entries and entry summaries.
 - CBP has published on CBP.gov/ACE a listing PGAs that have requirements at time of entry/entry summary.
 - All of the forms for these agencies due at time of entry/entry summary must be transmitted to ACE via the PGA Message Set or the Document Image System (DIS) by the November 1, 2015 mandatory filing date. The list published on CBP.gov designates how each form will be transmitted to ACE, either via PGA Message Set or DIS.
 - The agencies with entry/entry summary requirements are

Department of Agriculture

1. Agricultural Marketing Service
2. Food Safety and Inspection Service
3. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Department of Commerce

4. National Marine Fisheries Service
5. Enforcement and Compliance

Department of Defense

6. Defense Contracts Management Agency

Health and Human Services

7. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
8. Food and Drug Administration

Department of Homeland Security

9. U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Department of Interior

10. Fish and Wildlife Service

Department of Justice

11. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
12. Drug Enforcement Agency

Department of State

13. Directorate of Defense Trade Controls

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Department of Transportation

14. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Department of Treasury

15. Alcohol, Tobacco and Tax

Independent Agency

16. Environmental Protection Agency

- The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is not one of the PGAs identified with entry/entry summary requirements, and therefore, does not have to automate their forms for the November 1, 2015 mandatory filing date.
 - After CPSC submits their implementation guidance on April 30, 2015, a Working Group with trade representatives will be convened to review the guidance, beginning June 24, 2015.
 - Trade testing in CBP's test environment can begin on November 9, 2015.

Next Deployment - ACE Deployment E/June 27 Release

All remaining capabilities that are part of the November 1, 2015, mandatory filing date will be delivered in the next ACE deployment on June 27, 2015, with the exception of APHIS/Non-Lacey Act. (Those capabilities will be available in the certification environment and available for testing on August 10, 2015.)

- Upcoming capabilities in this deployment include:
 - Cargo Release:
 - Remaining entry types
 - Pipeline entries
 - Mobility Apps for Counter Processing
 - CBP Ability to Initiate Redelivery
 - Post Release
 - Exporter Accounts
 - Refactor entry summary types 01, 03, 11
 - Remaining entry summary types
 - Remote Location Filing
 - Quota Master Data
 - Quota validations and ability for trade to query quota via ABI
 - Exports
 - Validation messages and holds (air/ocean/rail)
 - Partner Government Agency Capabilities and Onboarding