

Office of Field Operations
Cargo and Conveyance Security
July 13, 2015

Issue: Electronic Air Export Manifest

Action: Informational

Background: The Trade Act of 2002 mandates the electronic collection of both inbound and outbound manifest information in all modes of transportation. The Act also requires that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) consult with the trade on the actions to be taken toward the drafting of implementing regulations. On July 10, 2015 CBP published a Federal Register notice (FRN) announcing the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Export Manifest for Air Cargo Test. The pilot announcement provides an outline for the submission of the air manifest, the entities that may participate in the pilot, the selection process for the pilot participants, and the data elements that will be required for the pilot

Current Status: CBP in conjunction with the Advisory Committee on Customs Operations (COAC) has listened to various trade entities and components regarding a number of issues associated with the implementation of an electronic export manifest requirement in each mode of transportation. These issues include, but are not limited to: parties responsible for filing portions of the export manifest in each mode of transportation, manifest data elements required for each mode and the manifest submission timing requirements. CBP has informed the COAC working group that the information provided in the FRN was to begin the application process and have authority to collect the data. CBP has assured this group that all of the items will be discussed prior to actual collection of the data as operational and business procedures are developed.

The pilot has been limited to a total of nine (9) participants. CBP is looking for at least three (3) carriers and at least three (3) indirect air carriers. The remaining three will be selected based on various factors that will be used to assess the impact of the pilot, toward the final implementation of regulations. It is anticipated that there will be future Federal Register Notices to expand the pilot to include additional participants.

As of July 29, 2015 CBP has received applications for participation in the pilot from 4 air carriers, 3 freight forwarders and inquiries from 2 software programmers. One of the air carriers is an express air carrier. The 30 day announcement period is scheduled to end on or about August 11, 2015