



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

FACT SHEET

ACE Trade Capabilities Planned for 2012

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) recognizes that additional core functionality must be delivered in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) to achieve broad trade participation. CBP has established the following priorities for delivering ACE trade capabilities in 2012:

Completion of e-Manifest: Rail and Sea

- e-Manifest: Rail and Sea incorporates ocean and rail manifests into ACE, bringing CBP and the trade closer to MMM processing in which all modes will use the ACE environment.
- On March 29th CBP announced via a Federal Register Notice (FRN) that ACE will be the only CBP-approved electronic data interchange (EDI) through which rail and sea manifests and ABI in-bonds for these modes may be transmitted.
- The FRN provides for a six-month transitional period to allow for any remaining rail and sea filers to complete the transition to ACE before rail and sea capabilities are decommissioned in the Automated Manifest System (AMS) as of September 29, 2012.

Simplified Entry, Phase 1 of Cargo Release

- Modernization of the Cargo Release process through ACE will enhance the ability of CBP and the Participating Government Agencies (PGAs) to evaluate the security, safety and compliance of imported merchandise while speeding the release of legitimate cargo.
- Simplified Entry is the first phase of Cargo Release in ACE and will streamline the data required to obtain release of cargo.
- Nine brokers have been selected to participate in the pilot test of Simplified Entry (SE) for air cargo at selected ports. Participants must be ACE filers in order to fulfill the requirement that all SE's will have ACE entry summaries filed against them.
- The Simplified Entry pilot testing began in late May 2012.

Priority System Fixes

- CBP will begin delivering critical fixes to deployed ACE functionality this summer. The major categories of fixes for trade capabilities include Reports, Forms and other Entry Summary-related issues as well as Truck Manifest.

Document Image System

- On April 6, 2012 CBP announced, via FRN, a pilot test of the Document Image System (DIS) which will allow the trade to submit imaged documents in XML format for ACE filed entry summaries.
- Two PGAs, the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Marine Fisheries Services, have volunteered to participate in the pilot.
- Filers interested in participating in the DIS pilot should contact their client representative for specific details.

Export Capabilities

- CBP plans to establish ACE as the single processing platform for all export manifest, commodity and export control transactions.
- On March 28 CBP began pilot testing the Automated Export Ocean Manifest using the Document Image System capability at specified ports. Pilot participants will not be required to present a paper CBP Form1302A and/or their paper Bills of Lading (BOLs). This pilot is an interim step to the full development of an electronic export manifest that will replace the current paper process.

Customer Assistance Information

ACE Portal Application: Sign up today for your free ACE Portal Account. The ACE application is available on CBP.gov using the following URL:
http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/trade/automated/modernization/ace_app_info/

Cargo Systems Messaging Service (CSMS): All trade users are encouraged to subscribe to CSMS to receive timely CBP Updates on ACE and other programs.
http://apps.cbp.gov/csms/csms.asp?display_page=1

ACE Portal Account Assistance: For assistance with your ACE Portal Account, contact Technology support at 1-866-530-4172 or email
CBP.Technology.Service.Desk@CBP.DHS.gov
Assistance is available seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

