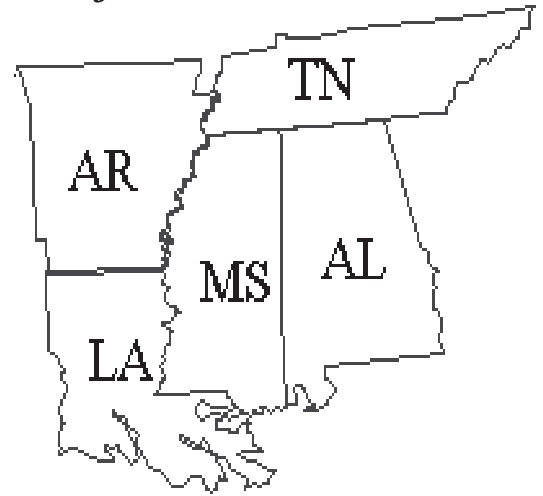


Southern Currents



Notice to the Area Port of New Orleans Trade Community

Date March 30, 2004

No.: 04-021

SUBJECT: Elimination of Paper Shipper's Export Declarations (SEDs) for United States Munitions List (USML) and Commerce Control Commodities (CCL).

On October 18, 2003, the Bureau of Census (Census) requirement for mandatory filing of United States Munitions List (USML) and Commerce Control Commodities (CCL) in the Automated Export System (AES) became effective.

On October 27, 2003, the Department of State issued a *Federal Register* Notice, Amendment to the ITAR: Mandatory Electronic Filing of SEDs using AES. The letter states that as of December 18, 2003, shipments that contain items on the USML will no longer require a paper copy of SED to be filed with the CBP.

The March 15, 2004, Office of Inspector General (OIG-02-065) reported that the elimination of the paper SED would become effective with the implementation of the mandatory USML and CCL filing in AES.

Census sent out a form letter to U.S. Principal Parties in Interest (USPPIs) to monitor compliance. Census discovered that the USPPIs and forwarders were aware of the new requirements but reported that many U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) ports are still requiring a paper copy of the SED. This results in duplicate processing for Census, which then costs time and money to correct.

On March 9, 2004, CBP received a letter from Census asking for cooperation in ensuring that paper SEDs for USML and CCL transactions are eliminated. After a careful review of the above cited legislation and the OIG report, U.S. Customs and Border Protection ports will immediately cease requiring a paper copy of the SED for USML and CCL licensable shipments and will begin asking for a copy of the AES automated printout showing the XTN/ITN numbers.

Distributed by the Steamship Association of Louisiana

Industry questions and concerns related to this matter may be addressed to one of the following Assistant Directors, Field Operations, Immigration Programs listed below:

Houston Field Office AOR

Walter Lee
2350 N. Sam Houston Parkway East, Suite 1000
Houston, Texas 77032
(281) 985-6700

Tampa Field Office AOR

Ron Johnson
1624 E. 7TH Ave., Suite 301
Tampa, FL. 33605
(813) 228-2381

New Orleans Field Office AOR

Terry Goodpaster
423 Canal Street, Suite 337
New Orleans, LA 70130
(504) 670-2282

It is incumbent upon the industry to maintain their crews in a legal status condition during this interim process. CBP will follow these procedures until a permanent solution to this issue is developed. We appreciate your attention and cooperation in this matter.

Todd C. Owen
Area Port Director
New Orleans, Louisiana