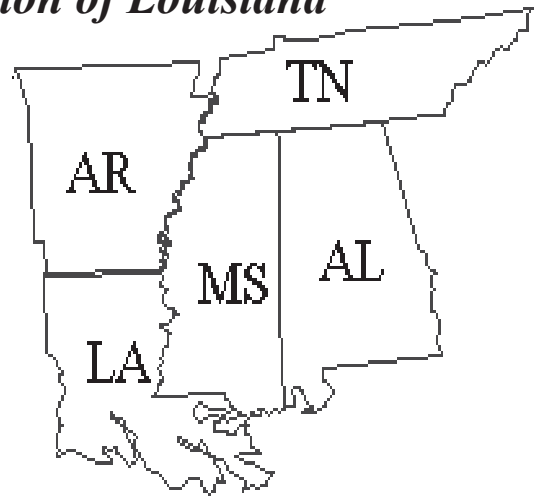


Southern Currents



Notice to the Area Port of New Orleans Trade Community

Date March 4, 2005

No.: 05-030

SUBJECT: Consolidation of Entry-Processing Functions at U.S. Customhouse

The purpose of this trade notice is to inform you that the Port of New Orleans is consolidating all entry and in-bond processing functions currently performed at Louis Armstrong International Airport Cargo office and the U.S. Customhouse. To increase our efficiency and maximize the utilization of our resources, effective April 1, 2005, these transactions will be permitted solely in the U.S. Customhouse facility located at 423 Canal Street.

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is making this operational adjustment to provide better and more efficient trade service to the industry, while also maximizing our ability to respond to our anti-terrorism and traditional enforcement mission activities such as narcotics and currency interdiction, alien smuggling, and pest identification and eradication. This decision further facilitates service to the industry by co-locating entry and in-bond processing functions with the balance of CBP's Trade Compliance and Facilitation operations (i.e. Import Specialists, Entry Specialists, and Fines, Penalties and Forfeiture Branch).

While we understand there will be some impact on the local trade community, we believe it will be minimal since 70 percent of all entries and in-bonds presented in the Port of New Orleans are currently processed by the existing Document Analysis Unit in the U.S. Customhouse.

Beginning April 1, 2005, CBP entry-processing functions will be centrally located in Room 236 of the U.S. Customhouse located at 423 Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, between the hours of 8AM and 4PM, Monday – Friday. To minimize the impact to the industry, members of the trade community will be afforded cost-free pre-designated parking on Canal Street between Decatur and S. Peters Streets while visiting CBP on official trade related business. Building security officials will assist trade community representatives in obtaining the necessary temporary parking placards in order to park in this area while they are conducting business in the Customhouse.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Merlin Hymel, Assistant Port Director, Trade, at (504) 670-2088.

/s/

James A. Hynes
Acting Area Port Director
Port of New Orleans