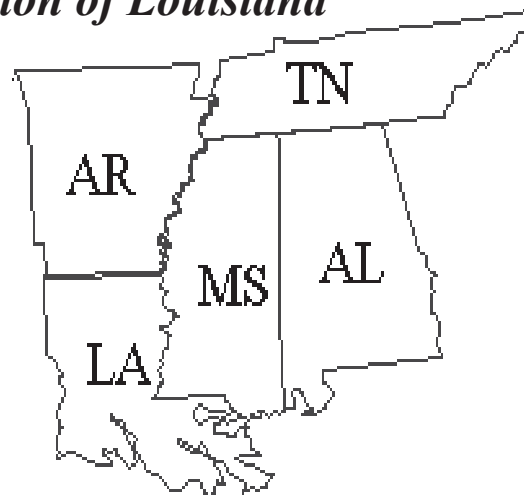


Southern Currents



Notice to the Area Port of New Orleans Trade Community

Date February 1, 2006

No.: 06-019

Subject: International Carrier Bond Requirement (APIS)

On April 7, 2005, the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) Final Rule was published in the Federal Register, and became effective on June 6, 2005. The APIS Final Rule (AFR) requires commercial vessels and commercial aircraft to submit passenger and crew APIS to CBP in advance of departure from or arrival in the U.S.

All international carriers transporting passengers and or crewmembers must obtain or have on file a valid international carrier bond. The Area Port Director has set the minimum bond limits at \$50,000.

Effective immediately, in lieu of an initial penalty assessment against a commercial carrier that has arrived or will depart without a valid international carrier bond, the Port Director will notify the master in writing of the bond requirement. Enforcement of the bond requirement will begin on the master's next arrival into the U.S following issuance of the written notice.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the APIS Coordinator at (504) 269-6154.

Further details regarding APIS requirements can be found on the internet at http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/inspections_carriers_facilities/apis/.

/s/

Angela Downey
Acting Director, Field Operations/Area Port Director
New Orleans, Louisiana