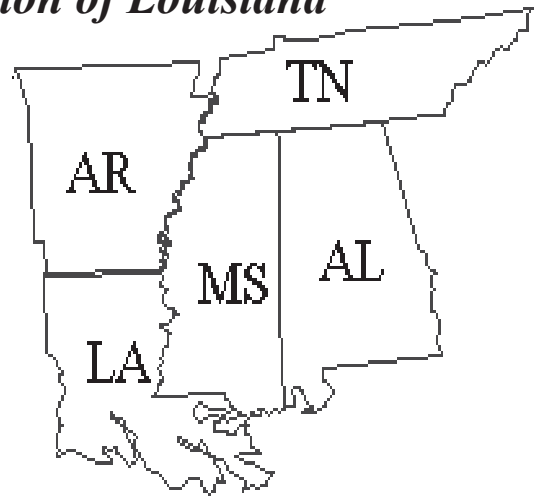


Southern Currents



Notice to the Area Port of New Orleans Trade Community

Date February 1, 2006

No.: 06-020

Subject: **Electronic Notice of Arrival/Departure (eNOA/D) Update – February 1, 2006**

This notice is in response to industry stakeholders' requests for clarification on certain Advanced Passenger Information System (APIS) data elements being submitted and the time of submission via the Electronic Notice of Arrival/Departure (eNOA/D). Representatives from the New Orleans Field Office of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Eighth District of the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) met to review the respective Notice of Arrival reporting requirements of both CBP and USCG. The meeting also addressed mutual concerns regarding the priority mission of protecting the United States from terrorism and instruments of terror given the unique nature of commercial vessel traffic entering the United States through the mouth of the Mississippi River and proceeding upriver to locations in the CBP tri-port area of New Orleans, Gramercy and Baton Rouge.

Section 4.7b of the APIS Final Rule (19 C.F.R. 4.7b) sets forth the reporting requirements for arriving vessels. 4.7b(b)(2)(i)(A) states, in part, that the arrival manifest shall be filed, "...before entering the **first United States port** or place of destination." It is the position of both CBP and USCG that potential threats must be intercepted prior to entering populated areas upriver whenever possible. Therefore, ALL commercial vessels required to transmit APIS that enter the CBP tri-port area via the mouth of the Mississippi River at Southwest Pass shall transmit in advance of arrival at the **sea buoy at Southwest Pass** according to the following timelines:

- A) In the case of a voyage of 96 hours or more, at least 96 hours before arriving at the sea buoy at Southwest Pass;
- B) In the case of a voyage less than 96 hours but at least 24 hours, the APIS submission shall be transmitted prior to departure of the vessel;
- C) In the case of a voyage of less than 24 hours, at least 24 hours before arrival at the sea buoy at Southwest Pass; and
- D) In the case of a vessel that was not destined to the United States but was diverted to a U.S. port due to an emergency, before the vessel arrives at the sea buoy at Southwest Pass.

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However, in order to maintain the integrity of data transmitted to CBP, it is necessary to input data in the following manner:

- 1) The estimated date and time of arrival at the sea buoy at Southwest Pass should be put in the "Arrival Place" field of eNOA/D. The "Arrival Place" field is a free-form text field, not a drop-down list.
- 2) The "Arrival Port" and "Arrival Date" fields are drop-down lists. These two fields must continue to show the location and date of arrival where the vessel will ultimately proceed and conduct CBP business (i.e., discharge cargo, etc.) If delays result in a change to the arrival date, the transmission must be modified accordingly. For example, a vessel entering the Mississippi River ultimately destined for Burnside, Louisiana would be input as follows:

Arrival Place: ETA SW Pass 01/01/06 @ 0900 hrs
Arrival Port: Burnside
Arrival Date: 01/03/06

Submission of the "Last Five Foreign Ports" is not a requirement of section 4.7b(b)(3)(i)-(xxi) and does not affect data that is transmitted to CBP. Therefore, this notice will not address that issue.

In addition to the APIS issues addressed above, we want to re-emphasize that Entrance and Clearance documents can continue to be filed at any of the three ports that constitute the tri-port area. However, these documents must show the CBP port (i.e., New Orleans – 2002, Gramercy – 2010 or Baton Rouge – 2004) where the vessel will proceed to conduct CBP business (i.e., discharge cargo, etc.). Documents submitted that do not properly reflect the correct CBP Port Code will be considered incorrect and incomplete thus delaying approval for Entrance and Clearance.

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