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- Importer of Record and Customs Brokerage
- Commercial Invoice
 - HS Codes and Tariff Classification
 - Value for Customs
 - Country of Origin
- Import Duty / Import Duty Free
- USA Free Trade Agreements
- Consumption Entry Types
- Partner Government Agencies
- Modes of Shipping and Carrier Options

https:// www.jetworldwide.co m/blog/importingguide-to-the-usa



JET JetWorldwide.com

Importer Of Record (IOR)

"In most instances, entry is made by a person or firm certified by the carrier bringing the goods to the port of entry. This entity (i.e., the person or firm certified) is considered the "owner" of the goods for customs purposes."

"Goods may only be entered by their owner, purchaser, or a licensed customs broker."

Informed Compliance

Source: https://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Importing%20into%20the%20U.S.pdf

Section 484 of the Tariff Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. § 1484):

"The importer of record is responsible for using reasonable care to enter, classify and determine the value of imported merchandise and to provide any other information necessary to enable CBP to properly assess duties, collect accurate statistics, and determine whether other applicable legal requirements, if any, have been met"

Source: https://www.pbp.gov/sites/default/files/assets/documents/2018-Mar/icprescare2017revision.pdf

Or a licensed customs broker given a Power of Attorney from the importer authorizing them to act on their behalf







CBP Form 5106 - Create/Update Importer Identity Form

https://www.cbp.gov/document/forms/cbp-form-5106-createupdate-importer-identity-form



Importers should complete CBP Form 5106 prior to Importing.

Completion of this form creates a unique record within US customs systems.



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Commercial Invoice / Invoice for Customs

The basis of all export and import processes

Shipper's details**, consignee details (including tax ID/ IRS number).

Specific description of the goods, the value of the goods, and the country of manufacture.

- Complete /specific description of the merchandise
- Quantities and unit values (specify currency)
- Country of manufacture of the goods
- The Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States
- Shipping Terms

** The name and complete address of the foreign individual or firm who is responsible for invoicing the merchandise. Ordinarily the manufacturer/seller. If not, the party who sold the merchandise for export to the United States or made the merchandise available for sale

The manufacturers name and address is necessary for any wearing apparel entries. If the country of origin is China, the full name and address of the manufacturer (including the postal code) is necessary for entry.



Importer of Record and Customs Brokerage

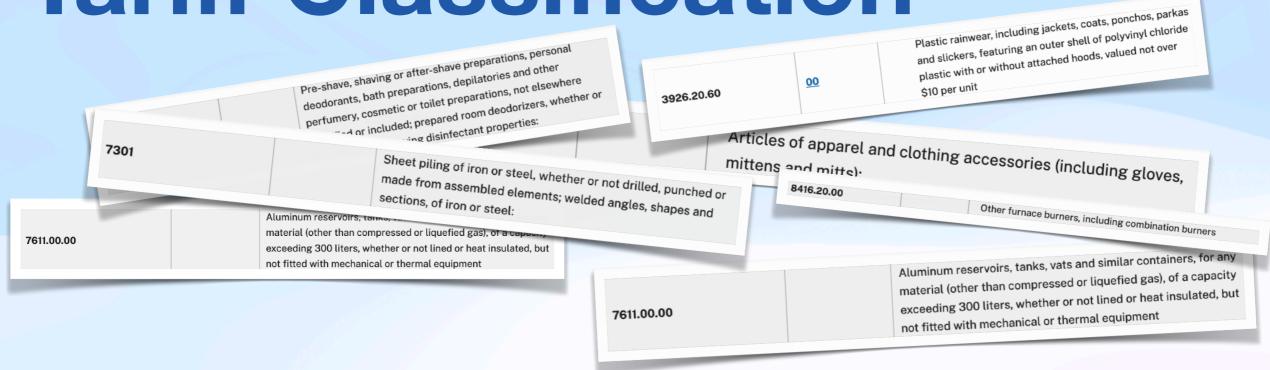
Commercial Invoice

HS Codes and Tariff Classification

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HS Code / Tariff Classification



It is the responsibility of the importer of record to use "reasonable care" to "enter," "classify" and "value" the goods and provide any other information necessary to enable the CBP to assess the correct duties....

USEFUL INFORMATION REGARDING HS CODES



Understanding HS Codes



Harmonized Tariff Schedule

2024 HTS Revision 3

The Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) sets out the tariff rates and statistical categories for all merchandise imported into the United States. The HTS is based on the international Harmonized System, which is the global system of nomenclature applied to most world trade in goods.

Search the Current HTS





GRI **General Rules** Interpretation



Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States

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United States-Jordan Free Trade Area Implementation Act

Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Revision 3 (2024)

GN p.1

GENERAL RULES OF INTERPRETATION

Classification of goods in the tariff schedule shall be governed by the following principles

- The table of contents, alphabetical index, and titles of sections, chapters and sub-chapters are provided for ease of reference only; for logal purposes, classification shall be determined according to the terms of the headings and any relative section or chapter notes and, provided such headings or notes do not otherwise require, according to the following provisions:
- (a) Any reference in a heading to an article shall be taken to include a reference to that article incomplete or unfinished, provided
 that, as entered, the incomplete or unfinished article has the essential character of the complete or finished article. It shall also
 include a reference to that article complete or finished (or falling to be classified as complete or finished by virtue of this rule),
 entered unassembled or disassembled.
 - Any reference in a heading to a material or substance shall be taken to include a reference to mixtures or combinations of the material or substance with other materials or substances. Any reference to goods of a given material or substances shall be taken to include a reference to goods consisting wholly or party of such material or substance. The classification of goods consisting of more than one material or substance shall be according to the principles of rule 3.
- When, by application of rule 2(b) or for any other reason, goods are, prima facie, classifiable under two or more headings, classification shall be effected as follows:
 - (a) The heading which provides the most specific description shall be preferred to headings providing a more general description. However, when two or more headings each refer to part only of the materials or substances contained in mixed or composite goods for opart only of the mars in a set put up for retail sale, hose headings are to be regarded as equally specific in relation to those goods, even if one of them gives a more complete or precise description of the goods.
- (c) When goods cannot be classified by reference to 3(a) or 3(b), they shall be classified under the heading which occurs last in numerical order among those which equally merit consideration.
- Goods which cannot be classified in accordance with the above rules shall be classified under the heading appropriate to the goods to which they are most akin.
- 5. In addition to the foregoing provisions, the following rules shall apply in respect of the goods referred to therein:
- (a) Camera cases, musical instrument cases, gun cases, drawing instrument cases, necktace cases and similar containers, specially shaped or fitted to contain a specific article or set of articles, suitable for long-term use and entered with the articles for which they are intended, shall be classified with such articles when a kind normally sold therewith. This rule does not, however, apply to containers which give the whole its essential character;
- (b) Subject to the previsions of rule \$(a)\$ above, packing materials and packing containers entered with the goods therein shall be classified with the goods if they are of a kind normally used for packing such goods. However, this provision is not binding when such packing materials or packing containment are clearly suitable for repetitive use.
- For legal purposes, the classification of goods in the subheadings of a heading shall be determined according to the terms of those subheadings and any related subheading notes and, mutalis mutandis, to the above rules, on the understanding that only subheadings at the same level are comprehie. For the purposes of this rule, the relative section, chapter and subchapter notes also apply, unless the context otherwise requires.



Understanding HS Codes



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Search the Current HTS





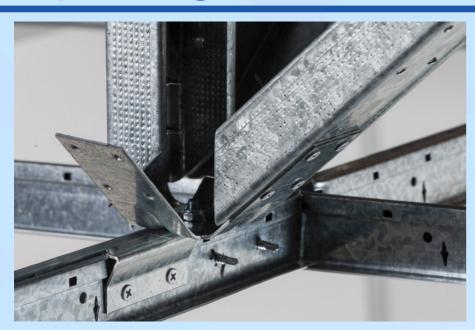
GRI General Rules of Interpretation

	Stat. Suf- fix	Article Description	on		
8524 8524.11		Flat panel display modules, whether touch-sensitive screens: Without drivers or controls circuit Of liquid crystals:		ratin	g
8524.11.10	00	Flat panel display modules for artice 8528.59, 8528.69, 8528	Heading/ Subheading	Stat. Suf- fix	Article Description
8524.11.90	00	Other ^{3/4/}	8421		Centrifuges, including centrifugal dryers; filtering or purifying machinery and apparatus, for liquids or gases; parts thereof: Centrifuges, including centrifugal dryers:
8524.12.00	00	Of organic light-emitting did	8421.11.00 8421.12.00		Clothes-dryers
8524.19.00	00	Other	8421.19.00		Other



Example

Importing Product



RIDLOK® for bracing suspended ceilings

GRIDLOK® is the patented solution for bracing heavy-duty grid from Armstrong®, CertainTeed and USG. With HCAI OPM and DSA pre-approval, it offers a flexible deployment, which is faster, stronger and more cost-effective than OPD or IR-25 traditional installs.

Source: https://www.bracelok.com/gridlok-installed/4j9cnd79zfem0pw9vzvgx4hkgqw7k3

= HS code: 8302.41.6080

Classification

8302.41.60		Of iron or steel, of aluminum or of zinc		3.9% 1/
		Suitable for interior and exterior doors (except garage, overhead or sliding doors):		
	<u>15</u>	Doorstops, chain door fasteners, door pulls, kick plates, door knockers and escutcheons	kg	
	<u>45</u>	Other	kg	
	<u>50</u>	For curtains, draperies and window shades	kg	
	80	Other	kg	

"The applicable subheading for the Right Angle Wall Bracket BC30 will be 8302.41.6080"

Source: https://rulings.cbp.gov/search? term=fly&collection=ALL&sortBy=DATE DESC&pageSize=30&page=1

NY N335543



HS Codes and Tariff Classification

USA HS codes and WCO Standard

The first six digits of HS codes generally harmonize globally. The digits following the first six are reserved for country specific use. Note, these are general statements. Do not over rely on a foreign HS code to determine the US equivalent.

A thin film LCD display module falls under heading 8524: Flat panel display modules, whether or not incorporating touch sensitive screens.

Global Classification: 8524.11

US Classification: 8524.11.90.00

Heading/ Subheading	Stat. Suf- fix	Article Description	
8524		Flat panel display modules, whether or not incorporating touch-sensitive screens: Without drivers or controls circuits	I
8524.11		Of liquid crystals:	ı
8524.11.10	00	Flat panel display modules, other than flat panel display modules for articles of subheadings	
		8528.59, 8528.69, 8528.72 and 8528.73	П
8524.11.90	00	Other ^{3/4/}	
8524.12.00 8524.19.00	00	Of organic light-emitting diodes (OLED)	
8524.19.00	00	Other	



Getting an Advance/ Binding Ruling



Information Necessary for an e-Ruling

Ruling requests must contain a complete statement of all relevant facts relating to the transaction including:

- The name, address, email address and phone number of the requesting party.
- The names, addresses, email addresses and other identifying information of all interested parties (if known) and the manufacturer ID code (if known).
- The name(s) of the port(s) in which the merchandise will be entered (if known).
- A description of the transaction; for example, a prospective importation (merchandise) from (country).
- A statement that there are, to the importer's knowledge, no issues on the commodity pending before CBP or any court.
- A statement as to whether advice has been sought from a CBP office; and if so, from whom, and what advice was rendered, if any.

Source: https://www.cbp.gov/trade/rulings/eruling-requirements

Important note: Countervailing (CVD) and antidumping rates (AD) of duty are becoming more common. The AD/ CVD - if applicable- is not always readily apparent in the tariff schedule. The best practice is to get a Binding Ruling prior to shipping or contact a Customs attorney.



HS Codes and Tariff Classification

FINDING AN HS CODE

- Review online resources and become familiar with the fundamentals
- Ask the seller (if exporting, confirm with the buyer)
- Consult with a customs broker or attorney
- Ask for an advance/ binding ruling from US Customs
- Use AI to find an HS code? Not yet!

The HTSUS is subject to periodic amendments. The text of the most recent HTSUS and the accompanying duty rates are provided at https://hts.usitc.gov/current



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Commercial Invoice

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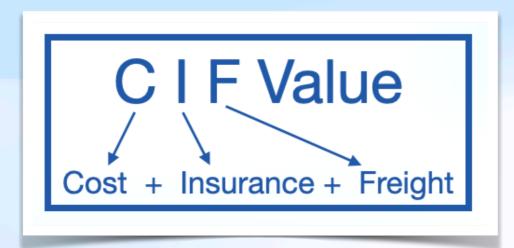


Value for Customs

Transaction Value

In the majority of the cases, the correct value to declare at export and import is the "transaction value." The transaction value is the price paid - or payable - for the goods.

Always best to specify or break out the cost for shipping and insurance.



US customs does not consider shipping and insurance as part of the transaction value.

Most international customs
Authorities consider some form of
these three costs.

Useful information declared value and CIF





Value for Customs

Transaction Value for US Customs

The transaction value of imported merchandise is the price actually paid or payable for the merchandise when sold for exportation to the United States, plus amounts equal to:

- The packing costs incurred by the buyer
- Any selling commission incurred by the buyer
- The value, apportioned as appropriate, of any assist
- Any royalty or license fees as a condition of the sale
- The proceeds of any subsequent resale, disposal, or use that accrue to the seller

US customs does not consider shipping and insurance as part of the value for duty

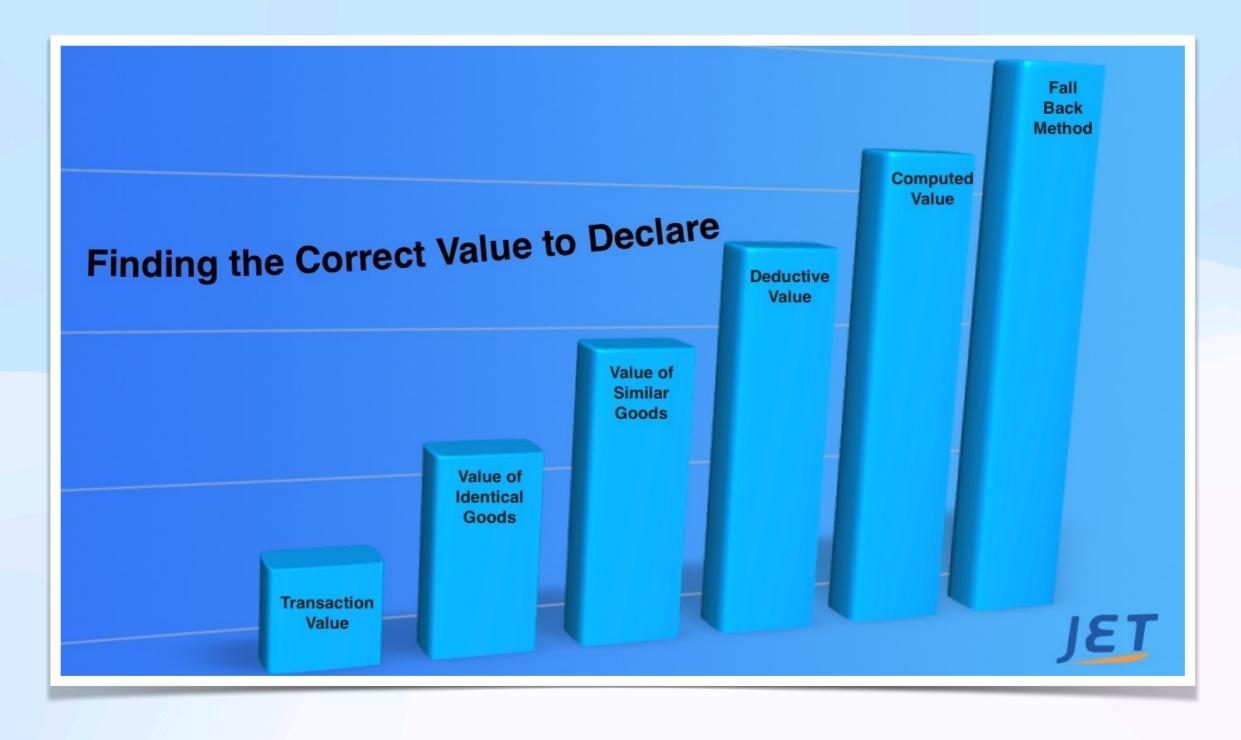


Source: https://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/assets/documents/2020-Feb/ICP-Customs-Value-2006-Final.pdf



Value for Customs

Useful information regarding declared value and CIF



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Country of Origin

From Where Goods Were Purchased or Ship ≠ Origin of Goods

Heading/ Subheading			Rates of Duty			
		Article description	1		2	
			General	Special		
"8462 8462.11.00		Machine-tools (including presses) for working metal by forging, hammering or die forging (excluding rolling mills); machine-tools (including presses, slitting lines and cut-to-length lines) for working metal by bending, folding, straightening, flattening, shearing, punching, notching or nibbling (excluding draw-benches); presses for working metal or metal carbides, not specified above: Hot forming machines for forging, die forging (including presses) and hot hammers: Closed die forging machines.	4.4%	Free (A, AU, BH, CA, CL, CO, D, E, IL, JO, JP KR, MA, MX, OM, P, PA, PE, SG)	30%	
	10	Used or rebuilt				
	30	Headers and upsetters, including cold headers				
	35 55	Mechanical transfer presses				

Goods that qualify as originating via a free trade agreement can import duty free.

Qualifying goods via the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) can qualify for duty-free import.

from goods ship versus their country of origin



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Import Duty

Uaadin.	-,	Article description		Rates of Duty			
Heading				1			
Subheadi	ilig		General	Special			
[0712		Dried vegetables, whole, cut, sliced, broken, or in powder, but					
		not further prepared:					
		Mushrooms, wood ears (Auricularia spp.), jelly fungi					
		(Tremella spp.) and truffles:]					
"0712.34		Shitake (Lentinus edodes):					
0712.34.1	10 00	Air dried or sun dried	1.3¢/kg	ree (A*, AU,	22¢/kg +45%		
			+ 1.8%	3H, CA, CL,			
				CO, D, E, IL,			
				JO, KR, MA,			
				MX, OM,			
				P, PA, PE, SG)			
0712.34.2	20 00	Other	1.9¢/kg		22¢/kg		
			+2.6%	BH, CA, CL,	+45%".		
				CO, D, E, IL,			
				JO, KR, MA,			
				MX, OM, P,			
				PA, PE, SG)			
				17,12,30	L		
		headers	.				
	35	Mechanical transfer presses	.				
	55	Other	.				



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Duty Free Import

Consignment valued under \$800 and not restricted

Goods Qualify as originating under USMCA or other Free Trade Agreement

Consignment Qualifies for duty free import via Preferential Trade Legislation



"Column1" Rate of duty is "Free"



Priority Trade Issue: Trade Agreements

The United States negotiates and implements free trade agreements (FTAs) and preferential trade legislations (PTLs), also known as

preferenc Preferential Trade Legislation economy. FTAs and tect American Click on any of the links below to learn more about the producers respective trade program: e trade es the among ou African Growth and Opportunity Act implemer equent to their (AGOA) e by the U.S. negotiatic ortfolio of 14 Congress. Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) ates has in comprehe , which comprises both the effect with nented a **Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act** (CBERA) and the



• Generalized System of Preferences

(GSP)

(CBTPA)

Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act



Duty Free ≠ Free of Import Fees

Other USA Import Fees

- Merchandise Processing Fee (MPF)
- Harbour Maintenance Fee (MHF) /Ocean Imports
- Entry Preparation/ Customs Brokerage Fees
- Carrier Disbursement Fees
- Customs Surety Bond
- Import Port and Carrier Warehouse pickup charges
- Storage
- Inland transit to final destination



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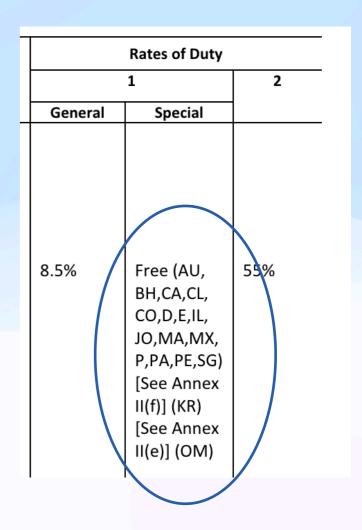


USA Free Trade Agreements

Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Jordan, Korea, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Panama, Peru, Singapore

Concepts to take into consideration:

- Regional Value Content (RVC)
- Labor Value Content (LVC)
- De Minimis Rule
- Rules for specific categories of goods



Qualifying goods via the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) may qualify for duty-free import.



USA Free Trade Agreements

Key take aways:

- Origin rules can be complicated, but...
- It can reduce your total costs
- Keep records on your 'inputs" as it may be necessary for exporting to a free trade partner
- The certification paperwork paperwork has generally been made easier



Useful information via trade.gov things to know about USMSA

USA Free Trade Agreements



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Two Broad Categories of "Consumption Entries*"

Consumption Entry vs in-bond transit and foreign trade zone entries

Informal Entry

< \$2500

Formal Entry

- > \$2500
- + Restricted Goods regardless of value including:
- agricultural products, pharmaceuticals and other controlled substances.
- Goods that involve Partner Government Agencies
- Broker needs to get approval from importer to make entry on their behalf
- Customs Bond
- Subject to audit 5 years following entry



Necessary Data

Informal Entry < \$800 Section 321

- Details regarding the shipper & consignee
- Product Description and Value
- Pieces and weight of the consignment

< \$2500

- All the above, plus:
- HS Code
- Country of Origin
- Number of units and value per unit
- Certification of origin if duty free import via a free trade agreement

Formal Entry > \$2500

- All of the above plus
- Name of manufacturer (if wearing apparel or importing from China)
- Importer's tax ID (EIN / SS#)



Informal Entry for E-Commerce Imports

Note: Section 321 / de minimis entries will be subject to further restrictions in 2025 and beyond

	Up to What Value	Mode of Shipping	Customs charge per Shipment	Ports of Entry	Notes	
Postal	<\$2,500	UPU/ Postal Partners	_	Ports with Postal Import Facilities	Section 321 entry up to \$800	
Express Consignment	< \$800	Air	Yes	Ports with express facilities	FedEx, UPS, DHL and some independent facilities. Efficient processing for informal entries as well	
Container Freight Station CFS	< \$800	Air	_	Ports with express capabilities and local port approval of CFS for Section 321.	Usually linked to an express facility	
Type 86	< \$800	Air, Truck, Ocean	_	All Ports	Available to all brokers	
	© Corp Jet Worldw					

E-Commerce Frequently Asked Questions | U.S. Customs and Border Protection



Types of US Customs Entries

Importance of Preparation Prior to Shipping: Time is of the Essence!



- Storage charges can begin within 12 to 24 hours after arrival
- Storage Fees are extraordinarily high
- Entry must be made within 15 calendar days of arrival
- Some ports now use a CES (Central Exam Station) for any examinations.



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Partner Government Agencies

Modes of Shipping and Carrier Options



Import Partner Government Agencies



Certain categories of importing goods require approval from Partner Government Agencies (PGAs)



The customs ACE program provides an entry point for submitting documentation required by both CBP and PGAs



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Modes of Shipping and Carrier Options



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