

Dear client,

The Importer Security Filing, aka ISF or 10+2 interim final rule becomes effective January 26, 2009. This rule is applicable to all shipments imported to the US via the ocean mode of transportation. The rule requires importers to [file the ISF on their own](#) or select an "agent" for their ISF Filing. In most cases importers are expected to select their Customs Broker as their "agent for filing". If OCEANAIR is your Customs Broker we would request an email from you as below.

\_\_\_\_\_ hereby appoints OCEANAIR, Inc as our agent for ISF filings.

Name of Company

Any questions pertaining to the ISF filing should be directed to the following person who can respond on our behalf:

_____	_____
Name telephone contact	email address

If OCEANAIR is not your Customs Broker, but you want to appoint OCEANAIR to act as your agent the above statement and an ISF Customs Power of Attorney will be required. Contact your OCEANAIR representative to obtain a Power of Attorney form.

This form should be emailed to [10+2Questions@oceanair.net](mailto:10+2Questions@oceanair.net) The subject line should be ISF FILING AGENT AUTHORIZATION

Some basic background info on the ISF:

- **SUMMARY PURPOSE OF 10+2, PART OF THE SAFE PORT ACT OF 2006:** To help prevent terrorist weapons from being transported to the United States, vessel carriers bringing cargo to the United States are required to transmit certain information to Customs and Border Protection (CBP) about the cargo they are transporting prior to lading that cargo at foreign ports of entry. The required information is reasonably necessary to improve CBP's ability to identify high-risk shipments so as to prevent smuggling and ensure cargo safety and security.

There are 10 data elements required for the importer to file. These are listed below. Note that the 11<sup>th</sup> item is the bill of lading number. CBP does not consider this as an ISF data element, but it is required to complete the filing.

- Importer of Record Number
- Consignee Number
- Seller
  - Full address
- Buyer
  - Full address
- Ship to
  - Full address
- Manufacturer
  - Full address
- Country of Origin
- HTS number
- Container Stuffing Location
  - Full address

- Consolidator
  - Full address
- House bill of lading number or master bill of lading if no house bill assigned
  
- The ISF Importer, as a business decision, may designate an authorized agent to file the Importer Security Filing on the ISF Importer's behalf.
  - If an agent is used for ISF purposes, a power of attorney (POA) is required.
  - These agreements are executed between and maintained by private parties, not by CBP.
- Agents must have access to one of CBP's approved automated systems. For ISF requirements, the approved systems are the vessel Automated Manifest System (AMS) and the Automated Broker Interface (ABI).
- The filing of an ISF does not constitute "customs business".

#### What happens January 26, 2009?

- In order to provide the ocean cargo industry sufficient time to adjust to the new requirements and in consideration of the business process changes that may be necessary to achieve full compliance, CBP will show restraint in enforcing the rule, taking into account difficulties that importers may face in complying with the rule, so long as:
  - importers are making satisfactory progress toward compliance
  - Importers are making a good faith effort to comply with the rule to the extent of their current ability.
- This policy will last for twelve months after the effective date and will apply to all aspects of the filing rule.
- CBP is committed to fully supporting the ocean cargo community in its efforts to successfully implement the requirements of this rule.