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**Subject:** U.S. Import Security Filing compliance penalty free period ends

Beginning January 26, 2009 U.S. Customs began requiring United States importers to provide advance shipment information for all ocean freight imports destined to the United States. The first year this U.S. import law went into effect was an implementation period and no penalties were issued. Beginning January 26, 2010, should a shipment not be 100% ISF compliant then a penalty may be incurred. More specifically, should a shipment be loaded prior to our broker/agents transmission of the Importer Security Filing we, the importer, will be subject to a \$5,000.00 penalty per house bill of lading.

As a reminder, the following data must be provided to Customs at least 24 hours before ocean freight (FCL and LCL) shipments are loaded at the origin port:

- Name and address of the Manufacturer
- Name and address of the Seller
- Name and address of the Buyer
- Name and address of the Ship to party
- Container stuffing location
- Name and address of the Consolidator
- Importer of Record Number (IRN)
- Consignee Number (IRS)
- Country of origin
- Commodity HTSUS Number(s)

We have to rely upon your firm to provide our freight forwarder/broker with detailed invoice and logistics information 72 hours prior to the delivery of cargo to the port of export. Based on your information, our freight forwarder/broker transmits the required 10 data elements including bill of lading, complete transactional party information and container loading location information to 24 hours prior to the cargo being loaded on the vessel. Our freight forwarders/brokers are ready for the transmission of the elements as mandated by CBP and will file this information, as our agent. Confirmation from our freight forwarder/broker that U. S. Customs has acknowledged receipt of our filing should be confirmed before delivering the shipment to the carrier.