

WHAT IS IMPORT SECURITY FILING?

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requires an Importer Security Filing (ISF), also referred to as “10 + 2”, prior to vessel loading at foreign ports. The ISF consists of 10 additional data elements from U.S. importers. In addition, 2 data set items are required from carriers. The Importer Security Filing and additional data from carriers enhances CBP’s ability to identify high-risk cargo shipments.

U.S. importers are responsible for filing ISF 24 hours prior to lading the freight on the vessel destined for the United States. To be safe, we advise our clients to have the ISF filed 2 business days prior to the vessel’s expected sailing date.

The information which must be provided is as follows:

- 1) Importer of Record numbers
- 2) Consignee number
- 3) Seller (Owner) name/address
- 4) Buyer (owner) name/address
- 5) Ship to Party
- 6) Manufacturer (supplier) name/address
- 7) Country of Origin
- 8) Commodity HTS (6 digits)
- 9) Container stuffing location
- 10) Consolidator name and address

From the carrier, 2 data elements are required:

1. Vessel stow plan
2. Container status messages