



The American Companies

"News Flash"

January 6, 2010

IMPORTER SECURITY FILING (ISF) 10 + 2

ENFORCEMENT DATE – January 26th 2010 = 20 DAYS AWAY and counting!

In 20 days Customs Border Protection (CBP) will begin to enforce the 10+2 Importer Security Filing requirement which went into effect almost one year ago (1/26/09). **ARE YOU PREPARED?** If not, you may be in big trouble!

If you are a customer of The American Companies (TAC), most all of you should be well on your way to full compliance. Your last set of "practice" **ISF Quality Assurance Reports** will be forwarded to you within just a few days. These reports will tell you where you could have been assessed liquidated damages during the delayed enforcement period. Going forward, no more practice! **Each violation can be as much as \$5,000.00 but will not exceed \$10,000.00 per ISF.** If you have not reached an acceptable level of compliance by now and require assistance please contact your ISF specialist at [The American Companies](#) and we will be happy to assist. Going forward these compliance reports will continue to be sent monthly to help guide you to reach 100% compliance. **If you are not receiving these reports please contact us immediately.**

Last Minute Considerations:

Product Code Data Base – If TAC does not have an updated product code data base file with "up to date" harmonized tariff classifications for your products, **your ISF will be delayed** and could cause you to be **subject to liquidated damages for late filing**. TAC must be notified of all new products to be imported so that they may be pre-classified and added to the TAC data base. This will insure that your ISF filings do not get delayed. TAC offers an automated product code data base upload which allows you to upload all product code information from your computer directly to our systems. Please contact us at 10plus2@shipamerican.com learn more about this free offering,

TAC ISF Processing Centers, Saturday and Holiday processing – Please remember to always give your supply chain partners enough time to file a timely ISF. Processing should begin to take place a minimum of 72 hours prior to cargo loading on board the exporting vessel. This will allow for plenty of time to resolve any possible issues and still meet the requirement of having a timely and accurate ISF filed and accepted **"24 hours prior to loading"** on board the exporting vessel. Please also be aware that TAC supports the ISF process by maintaining accessibility to our Web Portal 24/7/365. Additionally, we maintain 4 global ISF processing centers in Shenzhen China, Long Beach California, Chicago IL., and Newark NJ. Effective 1/26/2010, TAC will also maintain skeleton staff on Saturdays and Holidays for last minute filings. Please make sure that you plan ahead, as well establish a "plan b" or "back up" operational procedure by leveraging our various locations, tools and hours of operations to insure that your ISF filings are 100% timely and compliant.

The American Companies

250 Moonachie Road (HQ Office – Full Service)
Moonachie, NJ 07074 (201-478-4600)

400 Oceangate, Suite 1106 (Full Service)
Long Beach, CA 90802 (562-435-2327)

881 Route 83 (Full Service)
Bensenville, IL 60106 (630-860-0782)

Domestic USA Ground Operations
Domestic USA Air Operations
Asheville NC 828-271-2061

3PL Locations
Fairview, NJ
Carson, CA
Bensenville, IL

<http://www.shipamerican.com>

ISF Customs Bond – Effective in conjunction with the ISF enforcement date all ISF owners will require to produce a valid bond in order to successfully file an ISF. “If” The American Companies usually secures a single entry bond for your import shipments, we highly recommend that you contact us to discuss securing a continuous bond in its place. The need to secure a separate ISF Single Shipment Bond for each shipment plus the usual single “entry” bond *may be cost prohibitive and increase liability unnecessarily*. Please contact your sales representative or Customer Service Rep. to discuss. If you already maintain a continuous bond you are already prepared and there is nothing more you need to do.

TAC’s ISF Web Portal – If you are a TAC ISF Web Portal user please make sure TAC has on file all your 10 + 2 supply chain entities as well as their associated relationship tables so that data security can be set in accordance with your preferences. A lack of any data within our systems will cause the ISF filers you designated to experience a hard stop and require that they “Click” help for assistance in order to load the missing data. In many cases the data would have to be validated by you the importer which could cause a delay and a late filing. And please always remember to advise TAC of all **NEW** Supply Chain partners as they must be put on file in advance in order to avoid delays.

ISF Benchmarking and Visibility Tools –

- In addition to the **ISF Quality Assurance Reports** we send monthly, you may also request these reports at any interval you like. Please contact your TAC ISF specialist to arrange.
- **AmeriWeb®** - Our new and improved Global Supply Chain Visibility Tool (to be released prior to 1/26/2010) will now include the four critical ISF events within each shipment record as follows:
 - o ISF Sent to CBP Date
 - o ISF Accepted by CBP Date
 - o ISF Acceptance Number
 - o ISF Status (Most Current)

This data will allow you to correlate ISF data against shipment data. If you need assistance or wish to gain access to AmeriWeb® please contact techsupport@shipamerican.com

- o **ISF Imaging** – As part of the new AmeriWeb® release TAC will make available our custom designed ISF Form for your recordkeeping use. Along with the ISF form you also get all CBP and TAC forms, invoices and more. An image of your commercial documents too! Available 24/7/365.
- **SKU Data View Report** – If TAC handles your international cargo requirements via American International Cargo Service then we know what products are in each shipment/container. Since we allow our clients to track their shipments by the lowest denominator (i.e. Product Code, Purchase order) we also allow ISF visibility at this level using the same four events as above at the product level. This report is offered in Excel format and is auto e-mailed. If you need assistance please contact techsupport@shipamerican.com
- **Booked Shipments vs. ISF’s Filed Report** – This is a scheduled auto-generated report sent via e-mail that provides visibility to all shipments booked through American International Cargo Service and whether or not an ISF was filed against each shipment. This will also be released prior to 1/26/09. If you need assistance please contact techsupport@shipamerican.com
- **AmeriTrack®** - The same above four fields will be added early 2010

If you are receiving this e-mail and are not a client of the American Companies and wish to discuss what TAC can do for you, please contact us at sales@shipamerican.com.



The American Companies

250 Moonachie Road (HQ Office - Full Service)
Moonachie, NJ 07074 (201-478-4600)

400 Oceangate, Suite 1106 (Full Service)
Long Beach, CA 90802 (562-435-2327)

881 Route 83 (Full Service)
Bensenville, IL 60106 (630-860-0782)

Domestic USA Ground Operations
Domestic USA Air Operations
Asheville NC 828-271-2061

3PL Locations
Fairview, NJ
Carson, CA
Bensenville, IL

<http://www.shipamerican.com>