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A ROGERS & BROWN NEWSLETTER

INT'L. FREIGHT FORWARDERS, FMC# 1194, CUSTOMHOUSE BROKERS, CBH# 4005, INT'L. AIR TRANSPORTATION ASSOC. IATA# 01-17027

URGENT NOTICE

June 25, 2003



Exporters Face Tightened Security Measures



The import community is weathering the storm of tightened security measures as U.S. Customs efforts to protect national security were strengthened through implementation of the 24 hour advance manifest rule. Vessel operators are now required to provide U.S. Customs with manifests a full 24 hours prior to the departure from a foreign port of any vessel destined for the US.

Exporters are soon to be impacted by additional security measures. The requirement that Shipper's Export Declaration (SED) be "delivered to the carrier prior to exportation" has often been ignored by ocean carrier's commercial decisions to load cargo and scramble to collect information later to avoid U.S. Customs fines. Rogers & Brown has also worked diligently to provide exporters with additional time to complete SED reporting by using Option 3 Filer Status provisions. Option 3 has provided exporters with the opportunity to have SED data reported in two parts, preliminary information prior to vessel departure followed by complete data post departure.

Unfortunately, the demise of Filer Status Option 3 remains predicted for later this calendar year. There are also concerns about how long Option 4 (all SED data transmitted by approved shippers, post departure) will continue to be offered. The push by Census seems to be strongly in support of only Option 2 - ALL SED DATA - PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. Not only is this the current regulatory requirement, but more recently ocean carriers have implemented their own fines amounting to as much as \$100.00 per transaction to encourage shippers to ensure prompt filing and presumably to offset monetary fines assessed against them for loading undocumented cargo.

Exporters are encouraged to make certain that all information required for SED filing and preparation of ocean bills of lading is provided to Rogers & Brown a **minimum** of two working days before the designated deadline prescribed by the ocean carrier and/or regulation. If the carrier applies a charge for late presentation, and the

information was not provided in sufficient time for submission, Rogers & Brown cannot accept liability for such charges.

If you have any questions about how the information you supply is used to fulfill your obligation for filing of SED data, please contact your Rogers & Brown Export Representative today.

Please note: This is a send-only site. The following E-mail addresses should be used for questions and comments regarding articles/issues in this Newsletter/Special Notice. Thank you for your cooperation, and we hope you find this information useful and informative.

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