

Notice on Automated Manifest Service (AMS) New Requirement of Container Seals on Maritime Cargo

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According to the announcement issued by the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) on 7 August 2008, when **all containers, including foreign remaining on board (FROB) cargo, in transit to a port of entry in the United States on or after 15 October 2008 are required to be sealed with a seal meeting the ISO / PAS 17712 standard.**

Vessel carriers are also reminded that they **must transmit all seal numbers to the CBP 24 hours before the cargo is laden aboard a vessel at a foreign port via the Vessel Automated Manifest System.**

CBP recognizes that there are certain types of containers might have difficulties in sealing with a seal meeting the ISO / PAS 17712 standard. These include tanks, non-standard containers (such as open top containers), or containers (such as custom built containers) that are difficult to be sealed with a seal meeting ISO / PAS 17712 standard. These types of containers are exempt from the statutory requirement above.

Tradelink Automated Manifest Service

To cope with the new requirement, **Tradelink Automated Manifest Service is now ready** for customers to submit their manifest information as well as container seal numbers to the CBP.

Important Reminder

Customers please be aware of the lead-time that is required for the shipping of the containers. Especially for those which start the shipping in or after mid-September from Hong Kong / Shenzhen, the new requirement might already been effective by the time they arrive the United States. Customers have to take early action to seal the containers with the seals meeting the ISO / PAS 17712 standard and the seal numbers must be transmitted to the CBP 24 hours before the containers are laden aboard the vessel.

Should you have any enquiry, please call Tradelink Customer Service Hotline at 2917 8892.



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