



OCEAN AIR



Maine International
Trade Center



IMPORT FORUM

Kelly L'Heureux – General Manager
Joe Wyson – Executive Vice President
Presents

*Questions and Answers
to help prevent delays and/or disruption with your
international shipments*

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Questions and Answers

The following slides are meant to be thought provoking. The goal is to help prevent delays and/or disruption with your international shipments. You may know many of the answers. However if there is one answer you don't know, it may help you with future shipments....



- *What documentation do you need to supply your Customs broker for their services?*
 - Power of Attorney
 - ISF Power of Attorney (ocean shipments)

What documentation is required for an import entry?

- *Commercial Invoice*
 - *Bill of lading or Air Waybill*
 - *Packing List (preferable but not required)*
- *Can NAFTA Certificates be used for other countries than Canada, the USA and Mexico if those countries request a Certificate of Origin?*
 - NO

- *Do Commercial Invoices in general need to have an original signature?*
 - No – generally speaking most first world countries such as Europe, Far East, Australia do not need original signatures.
- *Does the Harmonized Tariff Number need to be referenced on the commercial invoice?*
 - NO
- *Do I need a bond for import customs clearance of my goods?*
 - Yes

If you pay your Customs Broker duty and they do not pay Customs, are you still liable?

- Yes

If you received less product than listed on the commercial invoice, should you notify Customs?

- Yes

You supply buttons for the shirts to your manufacturer in China. How do you advise US Customs?

- Through your broker as an Assist



- *Do you file ISF for Air shipments?*
 - *No, only ocean shipments*
- *Who is responsible for filing ISF?*
 - *The Importer*
- *Do you need a separate Bond for ISF Filings?*
 - *No, your Continuous Entry bond is applicable*
- *When should ISF be filed?*
 - *Min 24hrs prior to departure from origin.*



- *How high can a pallet be built in order for it to fit on any wide body aircraft?*
 - 64 (+/- 62?) Inches BUT check all 3 dimensions
- *How high can a pallet be built in order for it to fit in an ocean container?*
 - 20/40 standard – 89 inches
 - 40High cube – 101 inches
- *What is a CARNET?*
 - A passport for Commercial samples and Professional equipment, Trade shows and Demos.

- *What could cause my skid/shipment to be broken down before it is imported?*
 - Security Scanning/Inspection
 - Customs Inspection
 - Airline convenience

- *Is it important for me to mention if my air cargo shipment contains Lithium Ion Batteries?*
 - YES
 - Even those classified as non hazardous

- *When should I consider a Letter of Credit as part of my international transaction?*
 - Customer risk
 - Country risk
 - Bank feedback

- *Why should I have insurance on import and export shipments?*
 - Carrier Limits of Liability
 - \$500.00 per shipping unit (ocean container or 1 pallet...)
 - \$9.07/pound for airfreight
 - General Average

- *Incoterms*
 - When does title pass shipments?
 - Incoterms DO NOT have anything to do with title.....only freight terms of sale
- *Are there certain countries and/or people that you cannot sell or ship to?*
 - YES over 16,000 people!!
- *West Coast vs. East Coast Discharge, why?*

Transit time, Congestion, Costs-Discuss with your freight forwarder

- *My air shipment weighed 50 pounds on the scale. Why did I get a bill for 100 pounds?*
 - Dimensional weight
 - $L \times W \times H \text{ (inches)} / 166 = \text{Chargeable pounds or}$
 - $L \times W \times H \text{ (inches)} / 366 = \text{Chargeable Kilograms}$

- *How are ocean freight charges calculated?*
 - LCL – based on weight or cubic meters – whichever is greater
 - Cubic Inches / 1728 = cubic feet
 - Cubic feet / 35.314 = cubic meters
 - FCL – Flat rate based on container size

The Final Two Questions!!

- *Can you get my freight to Australia tomorrow!*
 - NO - It is probably already tomorrow in Australia...
- *Can you show ZERO value on a commercial invoice?*
 - NO
 - There must be some declaration of value...
 - Even Red Sox tickets have value