



U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is proud to announce the delivery of the first phase of Cargo Release, known as Simplified Entry, in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE). CBP has received the first Simplified Entry filings at each of the three pilot ports of Indianapolis, Chicago and Atlanta, as part of the pilot test that began May 29, 2012.

To date, six of the nine pilot participants selected in December of 2011 have begun filing Simplified Entries. The six initial pilot filers are: Expeditors, FedEx Trade Networks, Janel Group of New York, Kuehne & Nagel, Inc, Page & Jones, Inc and UPS. The additional pilot filers, A.N. Deringer, Inc., FH Kaysing, and Livingston International, have and continue to play an integral role in the development of the pilot and will begin filing Simplified Entries as capabilities allow. Two major supporters from the importer community are Nike and GE Energy. Three software developers have been active in providing software to the pilot participants. They include: Descartes, Four Soft and Kewill.

The ACE delivery of Simplified Entry was accomplished within a year from the initial discussions of this functionality and is the result of a successful government/industry partnership. The Simplified Process Joint Industry-CBP Workgroup met for the first time in June 2011 with the goal of formulating viable solutions that are mutually beneficial and diminish the administrative burden related to importing into the U.S. An outgrowth of that work was Simplified Entry.

Simplified Entry streamlines the release of goods and enhances cargo security. It segregates the filing of the transportation information from the filing of the entry information. This allows for the earlier filing of entry information which will in turn allow CBP personnel to apply more time and resources as part of its risk-segmented approach in identifying high-risk shipments while potentially reducing transaction costs for the trade community. Filers can update the entry information until the point that the conveyance arrives. The capability for filers to update information will result in more accurate data for CBP and Participating Government Agencies.

The Simplified Entry Pilot is an outstanding example of what can happen when the government partners with the private sector in the development of an import process that increases the effectiveness and efficiency of CBP while providing excellent benefits to the importing community. Simplified Entry is expected to enhance cargo security, reduce cycle times, improve productivity, potentially reduce costs, and help eliminate redundant data transmissions.

Simplified Entry is good for the government and good for U.S. business.

CBP will build upon this initial delivery of Simplified Entry with future deployments of additional functionality until Cargo Release is fully available in ACE. For information on further developments, please continue to check the CBP website at http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/trade/trade_transformation/simplified_entry/.