ACE Validation of FIRMS Codes for In-bond Arrivals, Excluding Air Mode of Transportation (MOT)
Last updated: August 6, 2024

On **August 10, 2024**, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will deploy enhancements to the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) to validate the Facilities Information and Resource Management System (FIRMS) codes for in-bond arrivals, excluding arrivals by air. This enhancement will, for non-air modes of transportation, enforce existing requirements that brokers/filers provide a valid FIRMS code when arriving an in-bond. This enhancement includes Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) impacts.

What will change for trade users?

- Effective November 27, 2017, CBP requires that within two business days after the arrival of any portion of an in-bond shipment at the port of destination or the port of exportation, brokers/filers must notify CBP via a CBP-approved EDI system that the merchandise has arrived. The notification must include the FIRMS code of the physical location of the merchandise within the port. (See: 82 FR 45366; 19 CFR § 18.1(j) *Report of arrival*)

- With this enhancement, ACE will **verify** that the FIRMS code **is provided, is valid, is active, and is within the in-bond arrival port**.

- In addition, for locations that require a bond, ACE will verify that the correct bond type is in place for the FIRMS code. **Brokers/Filers are reminded to ensure the appropriate bond is secured and associated to the FIRMS code prior to this deployment.**

- Failure to enter a valid FIRMS code for non-air modes of transportation will result in an error and the arrival will <u>not</u> be transmitted to CBP.
    - **Manifest Trade In-bond user interface (UI):** When the Manifest Trade In-bond UI is used to submit an in-bond arrival without a valid FIRMS code, the user will get an error.
    - **EDI transmission:** When EDI is used to submit an in-bond arrival without a valid FIRMS code, ACE will return the following error codes:
        - Ocean and Rail: 157 (FIRMS CODE REQUIRED)
        - Truck: 157 (FIRMS CODE REQUIRED), 158 (FIRMS CODE NOT ON FILE), 159 (FIRM NOT ACTIVE), 164 (FIRM NOT ON FILE FOR DDPP).
        - Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ): 028 (FIRMS CODE NOT ON FILE).

- Failure to report the arrival of the merchandise transported in-bond within the prescribed period constitutes an irregular delivery.

- At this time, in-bonds originating in Air Mode of Transportation (MOT) will not be affected by this FIRMS code validation update, regardless of the in-transit MOT. CBP is working to deploy this validation across all MOTs at a future date.

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Accessing the Manifest Trade In-Bond ACE Portal user interface

- The Manifest Trade In-Bond UI is one way trade users can arrive, export, divert, and cancel arrival and export of in-bonds.
  - NOTE: This UI is only accessible from the Carrier Account view.
- To access the Manifest Trade In-bond UI, trade users need an ACE Secure Data Portal (ACE Portal) account. To apply for an account, follow the steps outlined on the [Applying for an ACE Portal Account webpage](#).
  - NOTE: Users must use Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome, or the form will not download properly.
  - For assistance, contact the ACE Support Desk (ASD) at 1-866- 530-4172 or email ace.support@cbp.dhs.gov

What additional resources are available?
- **Related Information**
  - [CSMS # 59651310](#) - ACE Certification Deployment for FIRMS Validations March 2, 2024
  - [CSMS # 59875134](#) - CAMIR and CATAIR Implementation Guide Updates for the ACE Certification Deployment: FIRMS Validations
  - [CSMS # 61076107](#) - UPDATE: ACE Validation of FIRMS Codes for In-bond Arrivals – New Date for Deployment: August 10, 2024
  - [CSMS # 61675882](#) - Update for Rail Electronic Export Manifest Pilot Participants

- **Biweekly Trade Support Call**
  - CBP hosts a biweekly support call to address ACE technical topics. This enhancement will be discussed during the following call:
    - **June 20, 2024, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. ET**
    - Webex Meeting: [ACE Biweekly Trade Support Call](#)
    - Meeting Password: ACE1 (2231 from phones)
  - Please note this is a recurring event link that can be used for all upcoming Biweekly Trade Support Call sessions.

- **Additional Support**
  - For technical questions related to EDI changes, contact your CBP Client Representative.
  - For policy/operational questions about FIRMS code submission requirements, email cscwarehousing@cbp.dhs.gov
  - For other questions about this update, email CREM@cbp.dhs.gov
  - For technical issues, contact the ACE Account Service Desk (ASD) at 866-530-4172 or ace.support@cbp.dhs.gov