

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee
Government Issue Paper
Secure Trade Lanes Subcommittee
Export Modernization Working Group**

December 2024



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

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**Cargo and Conveyance Security/Office of Field Operations
Secure Trade Lanes Subcommittee
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Action Required: Informational

Background:

- Section 343(a) of the Trade Act of 2002 required that the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) promulgate final regulations providing for the mandatory collection of electronic cargo information prior to its departure from the U.S. by any mode of commercial transportation (sea, air, rail or truck).

Issue:

- Current export manifest regulations do not mandate the predeparture electronic submission of an outbound cargo manifest for any mode of export.
- Updating the existing outbound regulatory requirements for filing predeparture the Electronic Export Manifest (EEM) for ocean, rail, air, and truck.

Current Status:

- Office of Field Operations (OFO), Cargo and Conveyance Security (CCS) Directorate posted the EEM Pilot Participation Benefits paper on the CBP.gov website.
- Currently under development.
 - A trade facing Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Truck Export Manifest portal with tentative scheduled deployment in November 2024.
 - The Request for Development (RFD) for a Truck Export Manifest Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) message format has been submitted, funding is pending.
- The Commercial Operations Advisory Committee (COAC) Export Modernization Working Group (EMWG) is working through its priorities and is discussing progressive filing in the export environment.
- Canada Border Services Agency and the EMWG continue to discuss EEM, the benefits between the two countries, and the export stakeholders.
- EEM the Notices of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) and EEM pilot extensions.
 - Air and vessel NPRMs are under CBP legal review.
 - Rail NPRM is under a second review by the Office of Management and Budget.
 - Rail EEM pilot has been extended to May 14, 2026
 - Air EEM pilot has been extended to June 24, 2026
 - Vessel EEM pilot has been extended to May 31, 2026
 - Truck EEM pilot draft under internal review.
- EEM Pilot participation.
 - 3 air carriers.
 - 2 rail carriers.
 - 31 ocean carriers submitting EEM's with 18 fully off paper manifest processes.
 - 10 certified data processing service providers.
- Census preliminary data analysis of rail and vessel EEM data has shown positive impacts.

- Based on initial results EEM data would serve to improve the Electronic Export Information (EEI) filing.
- Possible regulatory update to the required EEI data elements.
- A drawback subgroup created to focus on the following:
 - A proof of export concept.
 - System enhancements to link drawback to the Export Cargo system.

Next Steps:

- Continue working to enact the COAC white paper recommendations that can be implemented.
- Continue the development of the ACE Truck Export Manifest portal.
- Continue to work with EMWG to build the Truck EEM business requirements, document process flows, and data elements.
- Work through the action items the EMWG identified to explore ways to modernize or automate exports.
- Complete review and publish to the Federal Register the Truck EEM pilot.

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