



# ALLEGIANCE

## CUSTOMS BROKERAGE

### **Importer Security Filing (ISF)**

Customs now requires an Importer Security Filing on all cargo entering the United States by vessel. The ISF must be filed with Customs at least 24 hours prior to the cargo being loaded on board the exporting vessel which is destined for the U.S. This is a new requirement that was implemented in January 2009. In January 26, 2010, the penalty phase was implemented and enforcement measures began. The maximum penalty is \$5,000 per violation.

Much of the additional "10" filing elements, should appear on the commercial invoice the importer usually receives from the shipper; however, "Consolidator", "Container Stuffing Location" and "Ship To" are new data elements.

Allegiance has our ISF/10 +2 program in place, and we are ready to assist you with your ISF/ 1-0+2 filing needs. If you would like for us to file on your behalf, please complete and return the attached Authorization form, allowing us to do so. Please note there is an additional charge for ISF Filing Services.

Also attached is the ISF Cover Sheet which should be used to request ISF Filing for a shipment. You are not required to use this particular format, however, it provides an example of all of the pertinent information that is needed in order to correctly transmit the filing information to U.S. Customs. The law requires the ISF be filed no later than 24 hours prior to the shipment being laden onboard the vessel destined for the U.S. With this in mind, we must receive filing requests in our office no later than 72 hours prior to vessel departure, in order to be compliant and have the information filed timely.

If you do not have a Continuous Bond already in place, we recommend that you review and proceed with having a bond issued. The new US Import Security Policy requires an Importer Security Filing Bond. So, if you do not have a Continuous Bond in place, you will have to have a single Entry Bond for both the Customs Entry for the shipment AND a separate Single Entry for the ISF Transmission, which will increase your costs for Single Entry Bonds.

Allegiance can assist you in obtaining a Continuous Bond as well. Contact us for more information regarding the Continuous Bond Application and fees.