Glossary

The Glossary identifies Customs Automated Manifest Interface Requirements (CAMIR) - Intermodal-related and Automated Commercial System (ACS) terminology and is provided for reference.

ABI Automated Broker Interface. ABI is the means by which

brokers or importers, port authorities, and independent service bureaus transmit entry and release data electronically

to the U.S. Customs Service.

ACS Automated Commercial System. ACS, composed of many

different modules, is the comprehensive tracking, controlling and processing system of the U.S. Customs Service for

commercial information.

AMS Automated Manifest System. A module of ACS through

which carriers, port authorities, or service bureaus transmit the cargo declaration portion of the inward foreign manifest

electronically to Customs.

Alpha/Alphabetic All letters, A through Z, and spaces.

Alphanumeric Having only letters, numbers, and spaces.

Amendment Code A numerical code supplied by the carrier, port authority, or

service bureau in a manifest amendment format referencing a standard explanation for the manifest correction being

submitted.

Application Identifier A 2-position code referencing the type of application data in

the transaction file and the work to be performed.

Applications Password An up to 6-position alphanumeric code that is designated by

the user that permits that user to access the AMS database.

Automated Manifest The cargo declaration portion of the inward foreign manifest

transmitted by carriers, port authorities, or service bureaus to

U.S. Customs via electronic computer interface.

Bill of Lading A negotiable instrument that allows the carrier to transport a

merchandise shipment from a shipper to a consignee.

Bill of Lading Number The alphanumeric code issued by a carrier that references an

individual cargo shipment in a manifest.

Bill of Lading Type A 2-position code signifying the class of the bill of lading as

regular, master in-bond, or space charter.

Broker or Filer An individual or firm licensed by the U.S. Customs Service

to act as an agent for others in the transaction of Customs

business.

Cargo Selectivity A module of ACS concerned with the establishment of

criteria for the examination and the release of cargo

shipments.

Character Having letters, numbers, or special characters such as @, -, \$

and spaces.

Classification The selection of an item number from the Harmonized Tariff

Schedule which legally describes the merchandise being imported in order to arrive at the appropriate rate of duty.

Closed Bill of Lading

A bill which has been posted and requires no further action

by Customs.

Closed Manifest A manifest containing closed bills of lading.

Communications Password An up to 8-position alphanumeric code beginning with a

letter that permits the user to establish a communications

protocol with the U.S. Customs Data Center.

Consignee The person or firm to take final delivery of the merchandise.

Country of Origin The country in which an article is grown, produced, or

manufactured.

Create Date/Create Time The date and time AMS accepted a manifest transmission or

a manifest amendment transmission.

Disposition Code A 2-position alphanumeric code transmitted in AMS in a

status notification message indicating the action that has

been taken against the bill.

District The geographic area of the United States under the

jurisdiction of a Port Director of Customs.

Entry

The Customs documentation that secures the release of merchandise upon importation. An AMS entry package can consist of the Customs Form (CF) 3461, Entry/Immediate Delivery, or CF-3461A; CF-7512, Transportation Entry and Manifest of Goods Subject to Customs Inspection and Permit, or the invoice, citations from tariff, any special release forms and a packing list.

Entry Number

A unique 11-position alphanumeric identifier assigned by an entry filer to each entry transaction. The first 3 positions identify the filer. The next 7 positions are the number assigned to the entry by the filer. The last position is a check digit.

Error Code

A numeric code in the manifest error (W01) message corresponding to the error explanation.

Foreign Port of Lading

The last overseas port in which a cargo shipment is laden on board a vessel for transportation to the U.S.

G.O.

General Order. A storage area under the control of Customs where cargo shipments that have not been entered within the layorder period are consigned.

HTS

Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Annotated. International system of classifying commodities using numerical designations.

Hard Copy Manifest

The paper inward foreign manifest prepared by the carrier and filed with Customs.

Hazardous Materials/ Substances Substances or materials deemed by the Secretary of Transportation to be capable of posing unreasonable risk to health, safety and property when transported in commerce.

Header Record

Transaction Control Header (ACR) record signaling the beginning of a transaction file.

Hold

Denial of delivery authorization by Customs pending examination or the fulfillment of other government agency requirements.

House Bill Number

An alphanumeric identifier that references an individual cargo shipment consolidated under a master bill of lading.

I.E. Immediate Exportation. In-bond movement that retains a

foreign cargo shipment within the port of unlading under

bond for exportation without duty.

ISO Code International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

Country Code. A 2-position alphabetic code representing a

valid country of origin.

I.T. Immediate Transportation. In-bond movement transporting

a cargo shipment from the port of unlading to the port of

destination under bond for entry or disposition.

Importer Number A unique 9- to 11-position alphanumeric code assigned by

Customs to identify a person or company that imports

merchandise.

In-bond Carrier ID The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) number of the carrier

that transports the paperless master in-bond shipment to

destination.

In-bond Number The numeric code corresponding to the numeric code on a

CF-7512 that identifies a cargo shipment moving under

bond.

In-bond Movement The act of transporting a cargo shipment from the port of

unlading to another port for entry or disposition under bond.

Issuer Code The Standard Carrier Alpha Code (SCAC) of the issuer of

the bill of lading.

Lading The act of loading cargo shipments on board a vessel for

transportation to the United States.

Layorder The period of time a cargo shipment may remain on the dock

after discharge without an entry before it is consigned to

General Order (G.O.) storage.

Layorder Extension A specific period of time granted to an individual shipment

to remain on the dock without an entry after the expiration of

the layorder.

MIB Master In-bond Movement.

Manifest A written instrument containing a true account of imported

cargo. It must contain a list of all packages or separate items

of freight including distinguishing marks or numbers.

Manifest Amendment A format that allows a carrier, port authority or service

bureau to add or delete bill of lading data or to substitute

quantities in a bill.

Manifest Edit A format that allows a carrier, port authority or service

bureau to add or delete bill of lading data from the manifest prior to the arrival of the vessel in the port of unlading and

prior to any posting against the bill.

Manifest Response Message Transaction Acceptance (W02) or Rejection (W01)

Message. A response transmitted by the Automated Manifest System (AMS) to the carrier, port authority, or service bureau to indicate that all records have been

received.

Master In-bond Movement (MIB) The act of transporting multiple cargo shipments from a

Customs port of unlading to a single port of destination

under the control of one in-bond document.

Notify Date/Notify TimeThe date and time that appears in a status notification

message informing the carrier, port authority or service bureau when the Automated Manifest System (AMS)

transmitted the result of a transaction.

Open Bill of Lading

A bill of lading requiring some action taken against it that

reflects disposition according to law.

Open Manifest A manifest in which one or more bills of lading require some

action that reflects disposition according to law.

PTT Permit to Transfer. The electronic request for authorization

for in-port movements of cargo.

Paperless Master In-bond

Movement

The act of transporting one or more cargo shipments from a Customs port of unlading to a single port of destination under one unique number issued by the carrier and

controlled by computer transactions.

Permit to Transfer Request Also referred to as PTT. The electronic request for

authorization for in-port movements of cargo.

Place of Pre-receipt The foreign port in which a cargo shipment originates before

it is transported to the port of lading.

Port A United States port of call designated to accept and release

entries of merchandise, collect duties and enforce the various

provisions of Customs laws.

Port CodeThe numeric code contained in the Tariff Act that identifies

each Customs port. The code listing is maintained by the Bureau of Census and is commonly known as Schedule D.

Port of Unlading The U.S. port of call in which cargo shipments are

discharged.

Posting The act of joining coded information to a bill of lading that

reflects the action taken against it.

Position Spaces allotted for the placement of letters, numbers, or

characters in a data field.

Record A collection of data elements.

Release of MerchandiseThe transfer with Customs permission of merchandise from

carrier or warehouse proprietor to importer.

SCAC Standard Carrier Alpha Code. The carrier identifier issued

by the National Motor Freight Traffic Association (NMFTA)

or the Intermodal Association of North America.

Secondary Notify PartyThe entity designated by the carrier to receive status

notifications. Up to two notify parties may be designated on

one bill of lading.

Shell Record The result of entry data being submitted in cargo selectivity

referencing a bill of lading that has not been transmitted. The Automated Manifest System (AMS) creates a minimal bill of lading shell record and notifies the carrier that the

shell bill exists.

Space (Slot) Charter A carrier leasing space on a vessel owned or operated by

another carrier.

Status Notification A response message transmitted by the Automated Manifest

System (AMS) to carriers, port authorities and service bureaus informing them of the action taken against the bill.

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T.E. Transportation and Exportation. In-bond movement

transporting a cargo shipment from the port of unlading to the port of destination for exportation from the United

States.

TIB Temporary importation under bond. A bond to allow a

shipment into the United States temporarily for a specific

purpose other than consumption.

Trailer Record Transaction Control Trailer (ZCR) Record denoting the end

of a transaction file.

Unlading The act of discharging cargo shipments in a U.S. port.

V-Number A unique 11-position alphanumeric identifier, starting with

the letter V, generated by a carrier to control a paperless

master in-bond movement.

Vessel Code A unique alphanumeric code issued by the Lloyds of London

registry that positively identifies a vessel for data processing

purposes.

ZCR Record Transaction Control Trailer Record denoting the end of a

transaction file.

User Notes: