

# Bill of Lading

*This chapter provides record formats to update a Bill of Lading and obtain processing results.*

**BILL OF LADING PROCESSING RESULTS..... BOL-2**

An explanation of notice to a filer when a bill of lading or air waybill cannot be posted to the automated carrier's manifest.

**BILL OF LADING UPDATE..... BOL-3**

An explanation of the cargo release bill of lading update transaction that allows the filer to replace and correct bill of lading or air waybill data after selectivity has been performed.

**RECORD DESCRIPTIONS**

**Record Identifier P1 (Output)..... BOL-5**

A mandatory cargo release bill of lading processing results output record that provides data pertaining to the district/port of entry, entry filer code, entry number, entry type code, importer of record number, broker reference number, carrier, location of goods, manifest number, date of arrival, and district/port of unloading.

**Record Identifier P3 (Output)..... BOL-8**

A mandatory cargo release bill of lading processing results output record that provides data pertaining to the manifest quantity and bill number(s).

**Record Identifier L1 (Input)..... BOL-10**

A mandatory cargo release bill of lading update input record that provides data pertaining to the district/port of entry, entry filer code, entry number, bill of lading processing results, carrier code, voyage/flight number, estimated date of arrival, and location of goods.

**Record Identifier L3 (Input)..... BOL-13**

A conditional cargo release bill of lading update input record that provides data pertaining to the manifest quantity and bill number.

**Record Identifier L7 (Output)..... BOL-15**

A mandatory cargo release bill of lading update output record that provides data pertaining to the district/port of entry, entry filer code, entry number, error message identifier and narrative message.

# **Bill of Lading**

Presented in this chapter are Bill of Lading Processing Results output records and Bill of Lading Updates input records.

## **Bill of Lading Processing Results**

The processing results notifies an automated entry filer whenever a bill of lading or air waybill (AWB) cannot be posted to the automated carrier's manifest. This generally occurs if the bill number submitted with the entry data is incorrect or not on file. These messages are only generated for:

- those users in operational cargo release status and the entry data is submitted as either certified cargo release or entry summary data certified for cargo release.
- air or vessel entries containing an operational Automated Manifest System (AMS), International Air Transport Association (IATA) code or Standard Carrier Alpha Code (SCAC) and a port at which that carrier is operational.
- air entries containing a Facilities Information and Resources Management System (FIRMS) code representing a deconsolidator (freight forwarder who breaks down cargo) who provides Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) with automated air manifest data.

Messages are not returned for entries containing a standard 9-digit immediate transportation (IT) number or an air waybill number used as an IT number.

If one of the conditions above is met, messages are returned for entries containing paperless master in-bond numbers beginning with a *V*.

The time that bill of lading processing results are returned is different for vessel entries (mode of transportation codes 10 or 11), and air entries (mode of transportation codes 40 or 41). For vessel entries, bill of lading processing results are returned 48 hours prior to the estimated date of arrival. If the entry data is submitted to the Automated Commercial System (ACS) less than 48 hours prior to the estimated date of arrival, bill of lading processing results will be returned immediately.

For air entries, bill of lading processing results are returned immediately following provisional selectivity processing or immediately following CBP's on-line selectivity processing if performed prior to provisional selectivity processing.

Whenever AMS posts an actual arrival to an entry, whether air or vessels, bill of lading processing results are returned immediately.

**Input:** There are no bill of lading processing results input records.

**Output:** Record Identifiers P1 and P3 are the mandatory bill of lading processing results output records.

The application identifier on Record Identifier B is PS. For additional information on Record Identifier B, refer to the Application Control chapter of this document.

## **Bill of Lading Update**

The Cargo Release Bill of Lading Update transaction allows ACS users the ability to replace and correct bill of lading/AWB numbers and certain related cargo release data for air and vessel shipments even after selectivity has been processed for the entry. Specifically, the filer may:

- Replace carrier codes
- Delete erroneous bill of lading numbers
- Add correct bill of lading numbers
- Replace incorrect quantities and units
- Replace voyage/flight numbers
- Replace FIRMS codes
- Replace estimated arrival dates with certain limitations

Corrections can be made up to 15 days after whichever date is first applicable in the following list:

- The release date
- The actual date of arrival
- The estimated date of arrival reported with the original cargo release data.

Updates are permitted for entries containing a paperless master in-bond number (V number).

Updates are not permitted if the entry contains a standard 9-position IT number or an AWB number is used as an IT number.

The estimated date of arrival can only be replaced if the carrier code or FIRMS code and the port of unloading represent a CBP Automated Manifest combination. The new estimated date of arrival cannot be greater than 60 days in the future or 30 days in the past.

For air entries, the new estimated date of arrival cannot exceed the date of provisional selectivity processing. For vessel entries, the new estimated date of arrival cannot exceed the date of selectivity processing by greater than 5 (days). The new estimated date of arrival may not exceed a CBP release date established by the closing of an intensive exam.

The estimated date of arrival cannot be updated if the AMS module has already posted the actual date of arrival to the entry.

**Input:** Record Identifier L1 is a mandatory Cargo Release Bill of Lading Update input record. Record Identifier L3 is a conditional input record.

The application identifier on Record Identifier B is LN. For additional information on Record Identifier B, refer to the Application Control chapter of this document.

**Output:** Record Identifier L7 is a mandatory Bill of Lading Update output record. It may be preceded by the L1 or L3 record, or both. The L1 and L3 output records are formatted exactly the same as the input record.

The application identifier on Record Identifier B is LS. For additional information on Record Identifier B, refer to the Application Control chapter of this document.

## Record Identifier P1 (Output)

This is a mandatory cargo release bill of lading processing results output record that provides data pertaining to the district/port of entry, entry filer code, entry number, entry type code, importer of record number, broker reference number, carrier, location of goods, manifest number, date of arrival, and district/port of unloading.

<b>Record Identifier P1 (Output)</b>					
<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Length/Class</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Note</b>
Control Identifier	1A	1	M	Must always equal P.	
Record Type	1N	2	M	Must always equal 1.	
District/Port of Entry	4N	3-6	M	A code representing the district/port of entry. Generally, the district code is the same as the District/Port Code in the block control header record (Record Identifier B). However, the port code may be any valid port within the given district. Record the district/port code where the merchandise was entered under an entry or immediate delivery permit. Valid district/port codes can be queried through the Extract Reference File chapter of this document.	
Entry Filer Code	3AN	7-9	M	A unique code assigned by CBP to all active entry document preparers. The Entry Filer Code occupies the first three positions of an entry number regardless of where an entry is filed. This code must be the same as the Entry Filer Code in the block control header record (Record Identifier B).	
Entry Number	9AN	10-18	M	The number assigned to the entry. If the entry number contains less than nine positions, it is right justified. For additional information on valid entry number formats, refer to Appendix E.	
Entry Type Code	2N	19-20	M	A code representing the entry type. Valid entry type codes are listed in Appendix B.	
Importer of Record Number	12X	21-32	M	A code representing the importer of record.	1

<b>Record Identifier P1 (Output)</b>					
<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Length/ Class</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Note</b>
Broker Reference Number	9X	33-41	C	A code representing the broker reference number. This data element is provided for the convenience of the Automated Commercial System (ACS) user. It is not edited or changed in any way during ACS processing. It is passed back to the user in various output records to allow easier referencing of the entry filer's records.	
Carrier Code	4AN	42-45	M	A code identifying the carrier. If the mode of transportation code is 10 or 11, vessel shipments, enter the appropriate 4-position Standard Carrier Alpha Code (SCAC) as issued by the National Motor Traffic Association Inc. This code is usually located on the bill of lading. If it is not, the carrier should be able to provide it. If the mode of transportation code is 40 or 41 (air shipments), enter the appropriate 2-position carrier abbreviation, left justified. For a description of the mode of transportation codes, refer to Appendix B. Air carrier codes may be obtained by querying the Extract Reference File. For additional information on the Extract Reference File, refer to that chapter of this document.	
Location of Goods	4AN	46-49	M	A code representing the Facilities Information and Resources Management System (FIRMS) identifier.	
Voyage/Flight/Trip Manifest Number	5X	50-54	M	The voyage/flight/trip number of the importing carrier. If the mode of transportation code is 40 or 41 (air), enter the flight number. If the transportation code is 10 or 11 (vessel), enter the complete voyage number. For example, if the voyage number is V311W, enter all five characters. For a description of the mode of transportation codes, refer to Appendix B.	
Date of Arrival	6N	55-60	M	A numeric date in YYMMDD (year, month, day) format representing the date of arrival.	
District/Port of Unlading	4X	61-64	M	A code representing the district/port where merchandise was unladen from the carrier. Valid district/port codes can be queried through the Extract Reference File chapter of this document.	

<b>Record Identifier P1 (Output)</b>					
<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Length/Class</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Note</b>
Origin	1A	65	M	A code of <i>A</i> or <i>R</i> . A code of <i>A</i> indicates ACS automatically system generated the bill of lading processing results. A code of <i>R</i> indicates the bill of lading processing results were system generated at the request of the filer by indicating <i>Y</i> (yes) in position 19 on Record Identifier L1.	
Filler	15AN	66-80	M	Space fill.	

**Note 1**

Valid formats for the Importer of Record Number, Ultimate Consignee, and 4811 Reference Number are:

<b>NN-NNNNNNXX</b>	Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Number
<b>YYDDPP-NNNN</b>	CBP Assigned Number
<b>NNN-NN-NNNN</b>	Social Security Number

In these codes, *N* = number, *X* = alphanumeric, *YY* = the last two digits of the calendar year when the number is assigned, and *DDPP* = the district/port code where the number is assigned. Hyphens are included.

If the Importer of Record is in the IRS number format and the last two positions are blank; ACS converts the blanks to zeros so that the file search argument is consistent with the CBP Importer file. ACS output data may show the last two positions of the Importer of Record Number as zeros when two blanks were input.

## Record Identifier P3 (Output)

This is a mandatory cargo release bill of lading processing results output record that provides data pertaining to the manifest quantity and bill number(s).

<b>Record Identifier P3 (Output)</b>					
<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Length/ Class</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Note</b>
Control Identifier	1A	1	M	Must always equal P.	
Record Type	1N	2	M	Must always equal 3.	
In-Bond Number	12AN	3-14	C	Bill of lading processing results will be returned for entries containing Paperless Master In-bond numbers only if all of the in-bond numbers associated with the entry are Paperless Master In-bond numbers. If an entry containing Paperless Master In-bond numbers also contains in-bond numbers of another format, bill of lading processing results will not be returned for that entry.	
Issuer Code of Master Bill Number	4AN	15-18	C	A code representing the Standard Carrier Alpha Code (SCAC) of the party who actually issued the ocean bill of lading. Do not confuse the issuer of the bill with the operator of the vessel.	
Master Bill Number	12AN	19-30	M	The master bill number as listed on the manifest. If the number is less than 12 positions, it is left justified. Do not include spaces, hyphens, slashes or other special characters.	
Issuer Code of House Bill Number	4AN	31-34	C	This code is reserved for future use.	
House Bill Number	12AN	35-46	C	The house bill number as listed on the manifest. If the number is less than 12 positions, it is left justified. Do not include spaces, hyphens, slashes or other special characters.	
Issuer Code of Sub-House Bill Number	4AN	47-50	C	This code is reserved for future use.	
Sub-House Bill Number	12AN	51-62	C	The sub-house bill number as listed on the manifest. If the number is less than 12 positions, it is left justified. Do not include spaces, hyphens, slashes or other special characters.	



<b>Record Identifier P3 (Output)</b>					
<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Length/ Class</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Note</b>
Manifest Quantity	8N	63-70	M	Enter the quantity associated with the lowest level of the bill number being reported. It is the smallest exterior packaging unit.	
Unit	5X	71-75	C	An abbreviation representing the unit of measure. Valid unit of measure codes are listed in Appendix C.	
AMS Bill	1A	76	M	A code of <i>Y</i> (yes) indicates the bill number reported in this record is on file in the Automated Manifest System (AMS). A code of <i>N</i> (no) indicates the bill number is not on file in AMS.	1
Filler	4AN	77-80	M	Space fill.	

**Note 1**

If Bill of Lading Processing Results are generated automatically by ACS, a P3 record is returned for only those bill numbers not on file in AMS and the code in the AMS Bill data field is *N*. Bill numbers on file in AMS are not returned.

If the Bill of Lading Processing Results are generated at the request of the filer, a P3 record is returned for *all* bill numbers listed on the entry whether or not the bill numbers are on file in AMS; and the AMS Bill data field can be *Y* or *N*.

## Record Identifier L1 (Input)

This is a mandatory cargo release bill of lading update input record that provides data pertaining to the district/port of entry, entry filer code, entry number, bill of lading processing results, carrier code, voyage/flight number, estimated date of arrival, and location of goods.

<b>Record Identifier L1 (Input)</b>					
<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Length/ Class</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Note</b>
Control Identifier	1A	1	M	Must always equal L.	
Record Type	1N	2	M	Must always equal 1.	
District/Port of Entry	4N	3-6	M	A code representing the district/port of entry. Generally, the district code is the same as the District/Port code in the block control header record (Record Identifier B). However, the port code may be any valid port within the given district. Record the district/port code where the merchandise was entered under an entry or immediate delivery permit. Valid district/port codes can be queried through the Extract Reference File chapter of this document.	
Entry Filer Code	3AN	7-9	M	A unique code assigned by CBP to all active entry document preparers. The Entry Filer Code occupies the first three positions of an entry number regardless of where the entry is filled. This code must be the same as the Entry Filer Code in the block control header record (Record Identifier B).	
Entry Number	9AN	10-18	M	The number assigned to the entry. If the entry number contains less than nine positions, it is right justified. For additional information on valid entry number formats, refer to Appendix E.	
Bill of Lading Processing Results	1A	19	M	A code of <i>Y</i> (yes) or <i>N</i> (no) requesting Bill of Lading Processing Results. Bill of Lading Processing Results can only be requested if the carrier code or in the case of some air entries, Facilities Information and Resources Management System (FIRMS), and the port of unloading are AMS. Results can be requested whether or not cargo release data is being updated and the response messages are returned immediately following ACS processing the request.	1

<b>Record Identifier L1 (Input)</b>					
<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Length/ Class</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Note</b>
Filler	12AN	20-31	M	Space fill.	
Carrier Code	4AN	32-35	C	A code identifying the carrier. If the mode of transportation code is 10 or 11, vessel shipments, enter the appropriate 4-position Standard Carrier Alpha Code (SCAC) as issued by the National Motor Traffic Association Inc. This code is usually located on the bill of lading. If it is not, the carrier should be able to provide it. If the mode of transportation code is 40 or 41 (air shipments), enter the appropriate 2-position carrier abbreviation, left justified. For a description of the mode of transportation codes, refer to Appendix B. Air carrier codes may be obtained by querying the Extract Reference File. For additional information on the Extract Reference File, refer to that chapter of this document.	1
Voyage/Flight Number	5X	36-40	C	The voyage/flight number of the importing carrier. The voyage/flight number is mandatory for mode of transportation codes 10, 11 (vessel), 40 and 41 (air). If the mode of transportation code is 40 or 41, enter the flight number. If the mode of transportation code is 10 or 11, enter the complete voyage number. For example, if the voyage number is V311W, enter all five characters. For a description of the mode of transportation codes, refer to Appendix B.	2
Estimated Date of Arrival	6N	41-46	C	A numerical date in MMDDYY (month, day, year) format representing the estimated date of arrival.	
Location of Goods	4AN	47-50	C	A Facilities Information and Resources Management System (FIRMS) code. This code is a 4-position serial number. For additional information on FIRMS, refer to the Extract Reference File chapter of this document.	
Filler	30AN	51-80	M	Space fill.	

**Note 1**

If the carrier file does not contain a specific air carrier code, enter one of the following codes in the first two positions of the unlisted carrier designation code to designate the country in which the carrier is registered.

<b>Code</b>	<b>Carrier Registration</b>
*U	United States
*C	Canada
*F	Other Foreign Country

If a private aircraft is being entered under its own power, enter \*\* in the first two positions of the Carrier Code.

**Note 2**

Valid flight number formats for operational air manifest ports and carriers are NNN, NNNN, NNNA or NNNNA. In these codes, N = numeric and A = alphabetic.

## Record Identifier L3 (Input)

This is a conditional cargo release bill of lading update input record that provides data pertaining to the update action, manifest and in-bond data.

<b>Record Identifier L3 (Input)</b>					
<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Length/ Class</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Note</b>
Control Identifier	1A	1	M	Must always equal L.	
Record Type	1N	2	M	Must always equal 3.	
Filler	1AN	3	M	Space fill.	
In Bond Number	12AN	4-15	C	The only in-bond number format acceptable in this field will be a Paperless Master In-bond number that start with "V".	
Issuer Code of Master Bill Number	4AN	16-19	C	A code representing the Standard Carrier Alpha Code (SCAC) of the party who actually issued the ocean bill of lading. Do not confuse the issuer of the bill with the operator of the vessel.	
Master Bill Number	12AN	20-31	M	The master bill number as listed on the manifest. If the number is less than 12 positions, it is left justified. Spaces, hyphens, slashes and other special characters are not included.	
Issuer Code of House Bill Number	4AN	32-35	C	When either the house bill of lading or the issuer of the house bill code is transmitted in this record, both fields will be required (they are conditional upon each other) for MOT 10, 11, 20 or 21.	
House Bill Number	12AN	36-47	C	The house bill number as listed on the manifest. If the number is less than 12 positions, it is left justified. Spaces, hyphens, slashes and other special characters are not included.	
Issuer Code of Sub-House Bill Number	4AN	48-51	C	This code is reserved for future use.	
Sub-House Bill Number	12AN	52-63	C	The sub-house bill number as listed on the manifest. If the number is less than 12 positions, it is left justified. Spaces, hyphens, slashes and other special characters are not included.	
Manifest Quantity	8N	64-71	M	The quantity associated with the lowest level of the bill number being reported. It is the smallest exterior packaging unit.	

<b>Record Identifier L3 (Input)</b>					
<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Length/ Class</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Note</b>
Unit	5X	72-76	M	The unit of measure as indicated on the bill of lading/air waybill. The standard generic unit of pieces (PCS) is acceptable when there are multiple units of measure associated with the bill of lading or air waybill; however, this does not necessarily relate to the unit of measure associated with the tariff number in the <i>Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Annotated</i> .	
Filler	4AN	77-80	M	Space fill.	

## Record Identifier L7 (Output)

This is a mandatory cargo release bill of lading update output record that provides data pertaining to the district port of entry, entry filer code, entry number, error message identifier and narrative message.

<b>Record Identifier L7 (Output)</b>					
<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Length/ Class</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Note</b>
Control Identifier	1A	1	M	Must always equal L.	
Record Type	1N	2	M	Must always equal 7.	
District/Port of Entry	4N	3-6	M	A code representing the district/port of entry. Generally, the district code is the same as the District/Port code in the block control header record (Record Identifier B). However, the port code may be any valid port within the given district. Record the district/port code where the merchandise was entered under an entry or immediate delivery permit. Valid district/port codes can be queried through the Extract Reference File chapter of this document.	
Entry Filer Code	3AN	7-9	M	A unique code assigned by CBP to all active entry document preparers. The Entry Filer Code occupies the first three positions of an entry number regardless of where the entry is filled. This code must be the same as the Entry Filer Code in the block control header record (Record Identifier B).	
Entry Number	9AN	10-18	M	The number assigned to the entry. If the entry number contains less than nine positions, it is right justified. For additional information on valid entry number formats, refer to Appendix E.	
Error Message Identifier	3AN	19-21	M	A code identifying the error message.	
Narrative Message	40X	22-61	M	A narrative message indicating whether the bill of lading update was performed or an error condition exists.	
Filler	19AN	62-80	M	Space fill.	