

# ADVANCE FILING RULE (AFR) FOR JAPAN CARGO

Dear valued customers,

as of March 2014 Japan customs will enforce new customs regulations requiring that all vessel operators or NVOCC's submit to Japan customs an electronic cargo manifest detailing container cargoes that are intended for entry into a port in Japan no later than 24 hours prior to vessel departure from the port of loading.

## WHEN THE AFR STARTS?

- Connection tests from October 2013
- In effect as from March 2014



## Phase 0

= elementary connection test between providers and NACCS (the Japan Customs)

## Phase 1

= data transaction test between providers and NACCS

## Phase 2

= filing / replying rehearsals by NVOCCs, NACCS and providers, scheduled each 5 days in January and February 2014

This Newsletter was published on November 4th, 2013.



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## **APPLICABLE FOR**

All containerized cargo loaded on a vessel intended for delivery into a port in Japan.

## **EXCLUDED**

Empty containers, cargo loaded on platforms (i.e. break bulk cargo) and foreign remaining on board (FROB) cargo.

## **FILING TIMING**

Electronic manifests must be submitted to Japan customs no later than 24 hours prior to vessel departure from a port of load.

## **SHIPPING COMPANY**

Responsible for submitting information at Master B/L level.

## **NVOCC**

Responsible for submitting information at House B/L level.

## **PENALTIES**

Failure to comply and not submit the cargo manifest within the required time frames can result in prison terms of up to one year or fines of up to JPY 500,000.

## **BILL OF LADING DATA REQUIRED**

In addition to the information already provided on shipping instructions for cargo moving to Japan, the following detail will be required:

- Full name, address, postal code and telephone number for the Shipper, Consignee and Notify Party.
- Precise cargo information and six (6) digits Harmonized System Code.
- For hazardous cargo the applicable IMDG and UN Number.

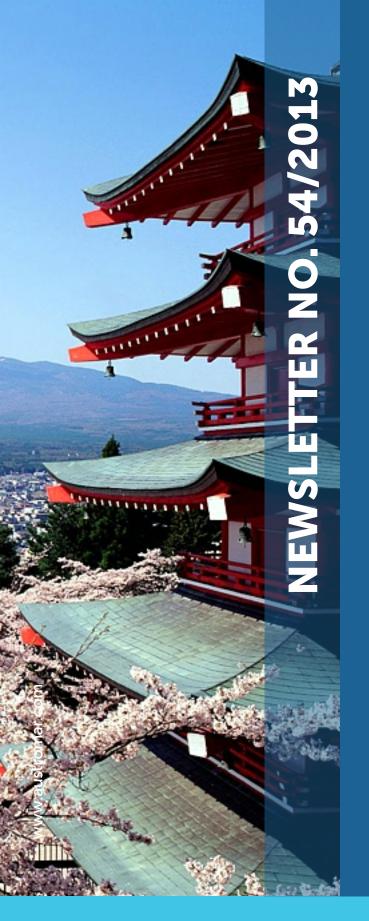
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