

Rotterdam, 29 October 2024

IMPORTANT UPDATE ON THE IMPORT CONTROL SYSTEM 2 (ICS2) EU CUSTOMS ADVANCED FILING

Economic operators carrying goods by sea, inland waterways, road and rail will have to submit a complete Entry Summary Declaration (ENS) dataset to ICS2 by end of 2024. We would therefore provide an update on how the new European import control system regulations (ICS2) will impact your booking procedures and/or cargo planning.

TIMELINE ICS2 REGULATIONS

- Implementation of the ICS2 is due by December 4, 2024. We will then start lodging Entry Summary Declarations (ENS) into ICS2.
- More precisely, for all WEC Lines cargo on vessels arriving at their first non-EU load port of a voyage **December 1st, 2024, or thereafter** the ENS declaration will be filed in ICS2.
- The ICS2 regulation requires the implementation of **house-level data** filing and the EU Customs request on information about the **Buyer and Seller of the cargo**. We will offer our customers' data logging on their behalf provided that all relevant data elements are shared with us in advance.
- For freight forwarders who intend to arrange their own house level filing in the future, please keep in mind that the deployment window will start on **December 4, 2024, and will end on April 1, 2025**.
- Considering the first bookings for above-mentioned voyages are coming in already, we kindly ask you to provide additional/changed data elements in your shipping instructions with immediate effect.

MANDATORY DATA ELEMENTS TO PROVIDE WITH YOUR BOOKING

1. **Commodity code** (six-digit HS code) for each cargo item plus complete and accurate **cargo description**. Read more about the adequate descriptions of goods [here](#)
2. **The Economic Operators Registration and Identification (EORI) number** of the consignee established in the EU (if such a number was assigned to this party) **or the full address of the consignee**, including the P.O. box number, postal code, sub-division code, city, and country. Find out more about the EORI number [here](#)
3. **EORI of the supplementary declarant** (self-filer) of House B/L and/or **Buyer/Seller data**
4. **Buyer and Seller data** is required for all cargo destined to the EU, both when a house B/L is issued as well as for **straight B/Ls (no underlying House Bs/L)**
5. **UCR number** (if available)
6. **CUS code for harmless and DG chemicals** (if included in ECICS/ European Customs Inventory of Chemical Substances: [click here](#))
7. **House level data** (also required for FROB cargo with a destination outside the EU or EU goods if they were on board the vessel during a port call outside the EU)

CUT-OFF TIME INFORMATION PROVISION

- It is important that we receive complete and accurate shipping instructions latest at the time of **documentation cut-off** stipulated in the booking confirmation.
- If the shipping instructions are not received on time, we will be unable to carry out the advanced filing of customs declarations as mentioned in the regulation and regretfully strictly follow “No MRN / no load”. This means that **we will not be able to load your cargo** without having received a valid MRN (Movement Reference Number) from EU Customs.

ENS FILING TYPES

- With the new EU ICS2 regulation our customers have the option of House filing for House Bills of Lading (H B/L) and/or actual buyer and seller details.
- This option allows shippers to decide whether they will perform their own (House) BL filing (so-called multi-filing) or prefer for WEC Lines to submit the House B/L filing on their behalf.
- The decision for House filing introduces a new set of data elements that a shipper will have to adhere to, to safeguard a complete ENS filing.
- **Indication of the ENS filing options:**
 - **F10** - Straight B/L and Buyer and Seller - ENS filing by **WEC Lines**
 - **F11** - Master B/L, House B/L and Buyer & Seller data - Complete ENS filings by **WEC Lines**
 - **F12** - Master B/L (multi filing: Master B/L - ENS filing by WEC Lines, House B/L and Buyer/Seller ENS submission **by house filer** - **Supplementary Declarant EORI NO**
 - **F13** - Straight B/L (multi filing: Straight B/L - ENS filing by WEC Lines, (No House B/L) Buyer/Seller details, ENS submission **by house filer**) - **Supplementary Declarant EORI NO**
- **Customers that do not intend to share buyer/seller or House BL data with WEC Lines should register as a House-Filer with their applicable EORI number, obtain a deployment window and connect to the EU customs trader portal. For more information, [click here](#).**
- **House Filers can start sending their supplementary declarations from the 4th of December.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- You will find an **EU customs indicator** whenever your cargo is relevant for ENS filing in the WEC Lines booking confirmation.
- We would like to emphasize that ICS2 is not a pure import regulation but also covering **EU origin cargo** which is on board the vessel during a port call **outside the EU**.
- In case you would like WEC Lines to file on your behalf, from December, we will require the following additional information:
 - Buyer and Seller information that will be required for all cargo destined to the EU, both when a House B/L is issued and for **straight B/Ls (no underlying House Bs/L)**
 - House B/L data (also required for FROB cargo with a destination outside the EU or EU goods if they were on board the vessel during a port call outside the EU)
 - We will inform you about those requirements in more detail with our next Customer News. Please stay tuned!
- We are **updating our web-based operational system Odyssey** to include these specific features, and we are in dialogue with the shipping portals to accommodate the required data elements in the specifications for the EDI shipping instruction. We will be contacting Direct EDI customers to discuss the options to update the **EDI interface** and ensure ICS2 readiness in the coming weeks.

We will continue providing updates related to the EU Customs Advanced Filing. Please also view the information the EU is providing on this subject [here](#).

For more information, please see our [ICS2 Q&A](#) or contact ICS2@weclines.com.