



Export Clearance Guidelines for FedEx Express Shipments from Japan to Overseas

Effective February 20, 2021
Updated August 16, 2024

This guideline introduces the preliminary knowledges that you should know before shipping package from Japan to overseas in order to avoid unnecessary clearance troubles and delays.

This guideline is prepared for the sole purpose of providing information for the customers to use as reference. While FedEx has attempted to ensure accuracy of information, FedEx makes no warranties or representations of any kind, express or implied, regarding accuracy, completeness, recency, reliability, usefulness, or fitness for a particular purpose, and FedEx is not liable or responsible in any way for any inaccurate or incomplete information or this guideline.

Contents

I. Export Clearance Paperwork

- A: Shipping Document
- B: Commercial Invoice

II. Export Restrictions

- C: Export prohibited items stipulated by the Customs Law
- D: Items require approval stipulated by Export-related Other Laws and Regulations
- E: Export Trade Control Order
- F: CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)
- G: Animal/Plant Quarantine

III. Tax Exemption

IV. Trade Treaties and Restrictions at Destination Countries

V. Reference

I. Export Clearance Paperwork

A: Shipping Document

- ❖ Commercial invoice is required in addition to the airwaybill (AWB) when shipping non-document shipments. (* All information must be in English.)

For more information, please visit our website Support-> New Customer Center-> FILL OUT A COMMERCIAL INVOICE

B: Commercial Invoice

Items to be stated:

- ✓ Exporter/Importer name (including address/telephone number), cargo content (product name/type), quantity, declared value, settlement conditions (commercial or non-commercial), Incoterms.

Exporter:

- ✓ In the case of an individual, the first and sir name is required, and in the case of a corporation, the official company name must be stated accordingly.
- ✓ Abbreviation, spelling errors and any other expression which is likely to be mistaken upon export declaration should be avoided.
- ✓ Any person living abroad that needs to proceed with customs clearance procedures such as export declarations or other customs related matters including receipt of notice from Japan Customs, must designate another person who currently lives in Japan as their Customs Procedure Agent. The person living abroad must notify the Japan Customs office, where the customs procedure is to be carried out, of this arrangement in advance.

Commodity:

- ✓ You may ship up to ten different commodities on a single airwaybill. (Standard Conditions of Carriage. Restrictions E)
- ✓ Information about the shipment, such as the appropriate harmonized system (HS) code, must be complete and accurate.

Description:

- ❖ Introduce description examples of typical items.
- 1. **Shoes** --- The material of the outer sole and upper (Leather, Plastic, Rubber, etc.), type of shoes (Sports, Ski, etc.), gender (man, woman etc.), and quantity in pairs are required. For leather scientific name of the species is required according to CITES.
- 2. **Garments** --- The material (Cotton 100%, Nylon 20%/ Wool 80%, etc.), type of garment (Skirt, Blouse, Jacket, etc.), Knitted or Woven, gender (man, woman, etc.) are required.
- 3. **Bag** --- Type of bag and material are required. For leather item, scientific name of the species is required according to CITES.
- 4. **Watch** --- Type of case (e.g., 18K, Metal, Stainless steel), type of watch (e.g., Automatic, Quartz), material of strap (e.g., Steel, leather) are required. For leather item, scientific name of the species is required according to CITES.
- 5. **Parts (any kinds)** --- What parts it's made of and what it's used for.
- 6. **Accessory, Furniture, Ornament, etc.** --- Specific commodity name and the material of the item are required.
- 7. **Gift, Sample, Souvenir** --- Detailed description (name of each item, material, etc.) and a value breakdown are required.

Descriptions such as "Gift", "Sample" or "Souvenir" only are insufficient.

8. **Jewelry** --- Type of Product (e.g., Ring, Necklace) and material name (e.g., 18K Gold, Platinum, 925 Silver) are required. If the product has a Pearl, Stones, Metals etc., the material name is required additionally.
9. **Fabric** --- The material name & content % (e.g., Cotton 100%), Knit or Woven, Size (width & length, weight per square meter) are required. If the fabric is colored, describe the type. (e.g., Bleached, Dyed of Yarn of Different colors, Printed)
10. **Knife** --- It is necessary to describe the shape (fixed Blade, Foldable type, etc.) and blade length (cm). (e.g., Fixed Knife/Blade 12cm)

Note:

If FedEx determines that the interpretation of the harmonized code stated in the commercial invoice is different, we may use the harmonized code determined by us.

Declared Values:

- ✓ Whether it is a paid product (commercial) or a free product (non-commercial), fair market value must be written on the commercial invoice. *It is not possible to customs declare as 0 (0 yen, \$0.00, etc.) value.
- ✓ It is illegal to deliberately declare a product of obvious value at a low price.

Examples of non-commercial products:

samples for research and evaluation, replacements for defective products, transfers to individuals, etc.

Intermediary Trade:

- ✓ When conducting transactions involving three parties (so-called intermediary trade), it is necessary to prepare two invoices that each clearly state, "JAPAN EXPORT USE" and "DESTINATION IMPORT USE".
- ✓ If you are considering the Intermediary Trade, please contact our sales representative. *Electric Trade Document cannot be used.
- ✓ Regardless of the above example, please note that the export customs clearance procedure may be delayed if the information required for filing is insufficient.

II. Export Restrictions

C: Export prohibited items stipulated by the Customs Law

1. There are four areas of goods which export is prohibited by the Customs Law. Narcotics and psychotropic drugs, cannabis, opium and poppy and stimulants (including stimulant ingredients)
2. Child pornography
3. Articles that infringe patent rights, utility model rights, industrial rights, trademark rights, copyrights, neighboring rights or breeders' rights
4. Acts listed in Article 2, Paragraph 1, Items 1 to 3, Item 10, Item 17, or Item 18 of the Unfair Competition Prevention Act (the Act according to the classification of unfair competition listed in these items) Article 19 Paragraph 1, items 1 to 5, excluding the acts specified in item 7 or 9)

In addition to the export prohibited items stipulated by the Customs law above, FedEx Express defines the global prohibited items under the Standard Conditions of Carriage.

D: Items require approval stipulated by Export-related Other Laws and Regulations

- ❖ "Export-related Other Laws and Regulations" are related to "Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Law", "Export Trade Control Order", "Foreign Exchange Order" and other domestic laws related to the export regulations.

List of other laws and regulations related to exports:

Export-related Other Laws and Regulations	Main Items	Responsible Ministries
Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Law	Articles applicable to the Washington Convention, rough diamonds, narcotics, counterfeit currency, specified hazardous waste, etc.	Ministry of Economy
Export Trade Control Order/Foreign Exchange Order	Weapons, civilian products, technologies and services that can be used for military purposes (List regulation, Catch-all regulation)	Ministry of Economy
Other Domestic Laws related to Export Restrictions:	Main Items	Responsible Ministries
Act on Protection of Cultural Properties	Important cultural properties or important art objects, natural monuments, etc.	Agency for Cultural Affairs
Protection and Control of Wild Birds and Mammals and Hunting Management Law	Birds, beasts and their processed products, bird eggs, etc.	Ministry of the Environment
Narcotics and Psychotropics Control Law	Narcotics, psychotropic drugs, narcotics and psychotropic raw materials, etc.	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
The Rabies Prevention Law and the Domestic Animal Infectious Diseases Control Act	Artiodactyla animals, poultry such as horses, chickens, ducks, rabbits, honeybees and meat, sausages, hams, etc.	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Plant Protection Act	Plants (plants belonging to flowering plants, sardines or sardines (including their parts, seeds, fruits and rather, other similar processed products)), harmful plants, harmful animals (insects, mites, etc.)	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Road Transport Vehicle Law	Used car	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

* When exporting cargo that falls under the Export-related Other Laws and Regulations, it is necessary for the customer to obtain permission and approval from each competent ministry and agency in advance, and Japan customs will be confirmed upon export declaration.

E: Export Trade Control Order

- ✓ The Export Trade Control Order stipulates all "List" & "Catch-all" regulation items except food and timber. Before shipping, it is necessary for the customer to judge the compliance under the Export Trade Control Order, and even if it is not applicable, need to submit the related documents.
- ✓ When submit the "Non-applicable judgement (parameter)" document, it does not have to be a "ORIGINAL" paperwork, only a "COPY" is required for export declaration. Note that even if original paperwork is attached, it will not be returned.
- ✓ FedEx does not support the repeated use of non-applicable judgment documents by entrust, so please attach them to the shipment each shipping.
- ✓ If the "Non-applicable judgement (parameter)" document is not attached, FedEx will contact you if FedEx receives an inquiry from customs, then will submit it. In that case, the export customs clearance procedure may be delayed.
- ✓ When exporting chemical products, "Safety Data Sheet (Abbreviated as SDS)" and "Non-applicable judgement (parameter)" document of the Export Trade Control Order are required. If "Export Trade Control Order is not applicable" is listed under the SDS section "15. Applicable Laws", the "Non-applicable judgement (parameter)" document is not required.

Note: Please obtain the "Non-applicable judgement (parameter)" document from the chemical product manufacturer.

- ✓ Regarding pharmaceutical products (including prescription drugs), there are regulations on narcotics and psychotropic drug raw materials, etc. in Appendix 2-21-3 of the Export Trade Control Order. If it does not fall under the category of narcotics and psychotropic drugs, there are no particular restrictions on exports, however, it is necessary to prepare a document stating that fact.

F: CITES

- ✓ According to the Washington Convention, not only living organisms and stuffed animals, but also parts of individuals, DNA, powder, etc. (hereinafter referred to as "animals and plants, etc.") include animals and plants listed in the Annex. is subject to the regulation. To find out if it is an animals and plants regulated by the Washington Convention, it is first necessary to identify the academic name of the species. If your shipment falls under the CITES regulated species, please check whether the species is listed in Annex I, II or III.
- ✓ Supplements (health foods) and cosmetics may also contain animals and plants regulated by the Washington Convention. When exporting, it is necessary to confirm whether it corresponds to the Washington Convention from the ingredient list.

G: Animal/Plant Quarantine

- ✓ FedEx does not carry out procedures for items that fall under the Domestic Animal Infectious Diseases Control Law and the Plant Protection Law. After completing the procedure by customers, please attach the inspection certificate or confirmation issued by the quarantine offices.

For details, please check to the section "V. Reference" below on the website of each supervisory ministry.

III. Tax Exemption

FedEx will NOT accept the packages related to the Tax Exemption clearance unless otherwise specified. (Standard Conditions of Carriage. Prohibited items 18-a.)

IV. Trade Treaties and Restrictions at Destination Countries

Restriction at destination countries

Depending on the item and declared price, a special permit or other document may be required for import customs clearance at the destination. As a general rule, customer need to check the website of the customs office in each country by own.

Trade treaties at destination countries

FedEx may NOT answer the detail of import customs clearance requirements for the trade treaties (e.g., EPA, FTA) between Japan and destination countries. For more information, please contact Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) or the Chamber of Commerce.

V. Reference

Japan Customs:

<https://www.customs.go.jp/>

Japan Customs FAQ:

https://www.customs.go.jp/english/c-answer_e/customsanswer_e.htm

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Trade Control:

https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/external_economy/trade_control/index.html

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Security Trade Control

<https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/>

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Washington Convention (CITES):

https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/external_economy/trade_control/02_exandim/06_washington/index.html

Animal Quarantine Service: Items that require inspection:

<https://www.aff.go.jp/aqs/hou/37.html>

Plant Protection Station: Detailed information on import/export conditions:

<https://www.aff.go.jp/pps/j/search/detail.html>

National Tax Agency, export support:

<https://www.nta.go.jp/taxes/sake/yushutsu/01.htm>

Center for Information on Security Trade Information (CISTEC):

<https://www.cistec.or.jp/>

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO):

<https://www.jetro.go.jp/>

Web Tariff, Japan Tariff Association

<https://www.kanzei.or.jp/statistical/expstatis/top/index/e>