



Import Control System 2:

important shipping changes to be aware of

The European Union (EU) is strengthening safety and security at customs for its citizens through a large-scale information system called Import Control System 2 (ICS2).

From March 1, 2023, all goods being shipped into or transiting through the EU* or Northern Ireland, Norway, and Switzerland by air will need to have a minimum six-digit Harmonized System (HS) code and accurate goods description for each item in the shipment.

These rules apply to all goods (except documents), regardless of value.

*EU countries are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.



Your four essential steps

From now on, it is important that you take the following steps when you ship.

1

Provide a minimum six-digit HS code for every item in the shipment

HS codes are an internationally standardized system of describing and classifying goods. In some countries, they are known by other names – tariff codes and commodity codes are two of the most common. You should be able to find the correct codes for your items by using your shipping application's HS code look-up functionality, or by looking on your country's government website.

2

Provide a full and accurate goods description

This is needed for each type of item you are shipping. It should answer:

- What is it?
- What is it made of?
- What is it intended for?

Remember to include the material composition breakdown – e.g. a men's suit might be 80% cotton and 20% polyester – and check if you require any additional paperwork.

3

Provide this information in the correct places

The HS codes and goods descriptions should be added in the dedicated field of your shipping application as well as on the commercial invoice. If you are unsure of how to enter this information, please contact your sales representative.

4

Provide your receiver's EORI number

If known, will also need to include your receiver's Economic Operator Registration and Identification (EORI) number* on the commercial invoice and in the Recipient Tax ID field of your shipping application (if available).

It will be mandatory for FedEx to provide this information to the authorities.

If it is not supplied with your goods, we may have to delay your shipment until we can obtain what we need to give to them.

If you don't already, please start providing us with these details from now, every time you ship.

For more information on ICS2 and what the new regulations mean for your shipments, visit [our webpage](#).

*Please note VAT registered businesses must obtain EORI numbers. Depending on application country or territory regulations, private individuals may need an EORI number to ship or receive packages. In Norway, this is referred to as organization number and Switzerland refers to it as the unique identification number.