



FedEx Regulatory Alerts & Updates

Regulatory Alert: Canada – Single Window Initiative (SWI)

July 6, 2018

The Single Window Initiative (SWI) is a Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) led program that modernizes and aligns Canadian and U.S. import processing procedures under the Beyond the Border Action Plan. Through the SWI Initiative, traders are able to provide all required import information – including information required by Participating Government Agencies (PGAs) electronically to the CBSA. In turn, the CBSA transmits any applicable data elements directly to the participating PGA(s) for their review. The applicable PGA(s) review the transmitted information and provide release, or hold, instructions back to the CBSA. The CBSA then transmits the information back to the applicable filer.

This single integrated solution provides the trade community with the option to satisfy the regulatory import requirements of multiple government agencies via a single electronic transmission of shipment information through the Integrated Import Declaration (IID). This streamlines the importing process, eliminates redundancies, and ideally reduces clearance times for shipments requiring formal entries.

What do Importers need to do?

To fully benefit from the SWI, importers must ensure that all required licenses and/or permits are provided with their shipment documentation and to keep apprised of the latest information updates via the [CBSA's SWI website](#).

To avoid any potential clearance delays/issues, we strongly recommend that importers provide us with all the required data elements and/or additional paperwork (licenses and/or permits) for their PGA regulated goods as soon as possible. This information can be email directly to clearancehelpline@mail.fedex.com

Participating Government Agencies (PGAs)

- Canada Food Inspecting Agency
- Canada Nuclear Safety Commission
- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Global Affairs Canada

- Health Canada
- Natural Resource Canada
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Transport Canada

Frequently Asked Questions

What is changing from the current process (and how does it affect me)?

A single electronic transmission called the Integrated Import Declaration (IID) will replace the current multi-step process for releasing goods regulated and controlled by PGAs. If an IID is not used, shipment clearance may be delayed. Please be advised that it is the entry filer (e.g., customs broker) who is responsible for submitting the IID and not the importer.

What will happen if I don't comply with the SWI/IID requirement? Can I stay with the current process?

Beginning **April 1, 2019**, the IID will be the only electronic release request option available for PGA-regulated goods. If the required information/paperwork is not provided for a shipment carrying PGA-regulated goods into Canada, the entry filer will be unable to submit an IID for the shipment. If an IID is not used, customs clearance may be delayed. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you provide us with all the required data elements and/or additional paperwork (licenses and/or permits) for your PGA-regulated goods as soon as possible.

As an importer, what system changes do I need to make to prepare/set-up for the SWI?

It is the responsibility of the entry filer to onboard and meet the system requirements for SWI. **No system changes** are required for importers who do not submit their own customs entries.

What are my responsibilities as an importer? What if I am only an occasional importer?

SWI makes no distinction between regular or occasional importers. All importers must determine if their goods are PGA-regulated and provide the required data elements and/or additional paperwork (licenses and/or permits) with their shipment documentation. In addition, they must keep apprised of the latest information and updates via the [CBSA's SWI website](#).

Additional Information

More information about the PGAs is available in **Customs Notice 17-09**. (see reference link below)

For further clarification/assistance, please contact clearancehelpline@mail.fedex.com or 1-800-561-0268.

[Date of Implementation: Immediate](#)

References:

CBSA SWI (Canada Border Services Agency – Single Window Initiative)

<https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/prog/sw-gu/menu-eng.html>

Customs Notice 17-09

<https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/cn-ad/cn17-09-eng.html>