



# FedEx Regulatory Alerts & Updates

## **Regulatory Alert: Annual Updating of the NAFTA Certificate of Origin**

October 2, 2019

### **BACKGROUND**

A North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Certificate of Origin may cover a single importation OR a series of importations over a specified date range. If it covers a series of importations, those are known as "blanket certificates," and the date range they cover is called the "blanket period." The blanket period may be no more than twelve (12) months.

If FedEx Express customers have a blanket NAFTA Certificate of Origin on file with FedEx Trade Networks Transport & Brokerage, Inc. (FTN), it must be renewed annually. The renewal requires the Blanket NAFTA Certificate of Origin to be completed on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) form 434 and be filed prior to the importation of the merchandise to receive the preferential duty treatment under NAFTA.

### **WHAT HAS CHANGED?**

This is simply a reminder to customers that do have blanket NAFTA Certificates of Origin filed with FTN to be sure to provide an updated NAFTA Certificate of Origin prior to the expiration date. A number of customers tend to update these near January 1, so this reminder hopefully provides ample time to get an updated NAFTA Certificate of Origin on file with FTN.

A large volume of blanket NAFTA Certificates of Origin is submitted and processed by FTN each year; it could prove beneficial to initiate the renewal process now to ensure your blanket NAFTA Certificate of Origin is received and processed prior to its expiration date.

### **Q&A**

**Q1: What happens if I fail to provide the updated NAFTA Certificate of Origin before my prior one has expired?**

A1: Failing to provide the updated NAFTA Certificate of Origin before the expiration date will result in the loss of the free trade benefits and could require payment of the duties, taxes, and fees to CBP for shipments imported after the expiration date.

**Q2: How soon should I send in my updated blanket NAFTA Certificate of Origin to FTN for processing?**

A2: To allow for ample processing time and volume considerations, we recommend submitting it no later than thirty (30) days prior to the current expiration date.

**Q3: Do all blanket NAFTA Certificates of Origin expire on December 31?**

A3: No. The twelve-month blanket period covers a full twelve months regardless of the start date. It does not have to be the January 1 through December 31 date range.

**Q4: Do customers with multiple locations in Mexico or Canada have to file a separate blanket NAFTA Certificate of Origin for each individual location?**

A4: No. Companies with multiple locations can utilize the same blanket NAFTA Certificate of Origin as long as they provide written approval to FTN to do so in their Customer Clearance Profile.

**Q5: How should I submit my renewed NAFTA Certificate of Origin, and who at FTN receives it for processing?**

A5: Blanket NAFTA Certificates of Origin can be sent by mail, email, or fax to:

FTN Transport & Brokerage PDIG

PDIG – NAFTA C/O Renewal

128 Dearborn St.

Buffalo, NY 14207

Email: [NAFTA\\_Renewals@ftn.fedex.com](mailto:NAFTA_Renewals@ftn.fedex.com)

Telephone: 1.716.879.1614

Fax: 1.716.871.5770

OR send via email to the Customer Profile Group ([cpq@ftn.fedex.com](mailto:cpq@ftn.fedex.com))

**References:**

NAFTA Certificate of Origin Customs Form 434 and instructions:

<https://www.cbp.gov/document/forms/form-434-north-american-free-trade-agreement-nafta-certificate-origin>

CBP NAFTA Import Requirements:

[https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/retrieveECFR?gp=&SID=13e7664332b6d33b27746931949d64be&mc=true&n=sp19.2.181.c&r=SUBPART&ty=HTML)

[bin/retrieveECFR?gp=&SID=13e7664332b6d33b27746931949d64be&mc=true&n=sp19.2.181.c&r=SUBPART&ty=HTML](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/retrieveECFR?gp=&SID=13e7664332b6d33b27746931949d64be&mc=true&n=sp19.2.181.c&r=SUBPART&ty=HTML)