

NRI News

Caribbean Shipowners to Impose Peak Surcharge

2010 - Edition # 2



Fee to offset costs of competition with cruise ships for berth space the carriers that belong to the Caribbean Shipowners Association voluntarily agreed to implement a peak season surcharge next fall, when cruise ships crowd berth space during their high season. The charge is meant to offset the costs associated with booking berth space and to encourage customers to ship prior to and after seasonal vessel space constraints.

The surcharge, which will be effective from Oct. 10 through Dec. 12, will apply on all dry and reefer cargo and will affect the southbound and northbound services between the United States and Caribbean ports in Anguilla, Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saba, St. Barth's, St. Eustatius, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten. The association said the amount of the surcharge equipment levels will be announced by June 1.

Caribbean Shipowners Association members include Bernbuth, CMA-CGM, Crowley, Seaboard Marine, Seafreight Line and Zim Integrated Shipping Services.

National Export Initiative

President Barack Obama, in his first State of the Union address to Congress on January 27, 2010, highlighted exports as a pillar of economic growth on which the country will depend in the future.

Taking advantage of improving global economic conditions, exports under the president's NEI are expected to rise quickly to correct the severe drop in U.S. exports from 2008 to 2009, when the bottom fell out of the global economy. And as the economies of countries around the globe recover, especially in the emerging world, the stage should be set for significant export growth, with concomitant job creation here at home. According to Commerce Department estimates, in 2008 exports supported 10 million jobs in the United States, and accounted for almost 7 percent of total U.S. employment.

Portions of his speech where he spoke about the new National Export Initiative:

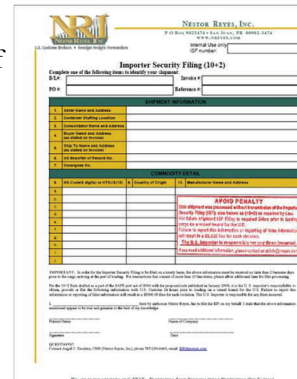
“We need to export more of our goods. Because the more products we make and sell to other countries, the more jobs we support right here in America. So tonight, we set a new goal: We will double our exports over the next five years, an increase that will support two million jobs in America. To help meet this goal, we're launching a National Export Initiative that will help farmers and small businesses increase their exports, and reform export controls consistent with national security.”



More News...

CBP - ISF 10+2 Enforcement Second Quarter

CBP has been phasing enforcement of the ISF regulation on a quarterly basis since **January 26th, 2010**. This past first quarter of 2010, warning letters were sent out to non-compliant importers. However, no holds, non-intrusive inspections (NII), or monetary penalties were slated to occur until the beginning of this second quarter. Now that we have begun the second quarter, non-compliant importers will see an increase of holds and examinations for shipments where no ISF has been filed.



- Avoid Penalty -

If you have not begun to file or have any question about the ISF 10+2, please contact us at isf@nreyes.com

Census Final Rule

The U.S. Census Bureau has issued a Final Rule requiring all exporters to use an Exporter Identification Number for Automated Export System (AES) declarations. Previously, individuals could use their Social Security Numbers, but as of March 24, this will no longer be possible 75 Fed Reg. 7546 (Feb 22, 2010)

Signs of Strength

Further signs that carriers anticipate recovery in the maritime shipping industry have appeared recently. Not only are carriers bringing some idled vessels back into service, but others are making moves that betoken optimism in various trades. Costco's president thinks the TSA target rates will hold for new contracts, and a new carrier, The Containership Company, is looking to add low-cost service between China and Los Angeles. And in Europe, SCA Transforest is seeing sufficient demand that it is establishing a regular liner service from northern Sweden to the German port of Hamburg. See our stories below for even more examples.

Schedule B Search Tool

Census recently announced a new search tool for finding Schedule B Numbers. Users of the tool are reminded that they are still responsible for the accuracy of the classification and some harmonized classifications require reference to Explanatory Notes and other guidance for accuracy.

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