

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION NEWS RELEASE
September 11, 2007

Dear Trade Association Member:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has issued the following news release:

WASHINGTON—For the first time ever, nearly every trade entity conducting business with Customs and Border Protection (CBP) can establish an Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Secure Data Portal account due to newly expanded ACE account types. ACE is the commercial trade processing system being developed by CBP to enhance border security and expedite trade.

This expansion is made possible by the deployment of Master Data and Enhanced Accounts, known as A1, the first set of ACE entry summary, accounts, and revenue (ESAR) capabilities. A1 will lay the foundation for future entry summary, accounts, and revenue features and redefine and increasingly automate the way CBP does business. A1 capabilities include:

- Expanded account types to include broker, carrier, cartman, driver/crew, facility operator, filer, foreign trade zone operator, importer, lighterman, service provider and surety
- Centralized management of continuous bonds in ACE
- Ability to store and view blanket licenses, permits, and certificates from an initial group of eight participating government agencies
- Enhanced account management features, such as, cross-account access and merge account process

“Virtually every entity doing business with CBP can now access ACE,” said Lou Samenfink, executive director for the CBP Cargo Systems Program Office. “Expanding ACE Secure Data Portal access to more types of commercial entities will help increase automation and efficiency through an account-based approach to conducting business with CBP.”

For more information on ESAR A1 release, visit the CBP Web site at http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/about/modernization/ace_esar/.

To participate in ACE and set up an account, please e-mail CBP.CSPO@dhs.gov, visit the CBP modernization Web site at www.cbp.gov/modernization, or call the ACE Help Desk at 1-800-921-8729 (select option 4, then option 2, then 1).

Please share this information with any of your members that may be affected.

Information provided by
Office of Public Affairs
Ports Media Division

Sincerely,

Michael K. Schreffler
International Trade Liaison
Trade Relations
Office of International Affairs and Trade Relations
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Traderelations@dhs.gov