



Import Control System 2

or ICS2, is a new EU Customs security and safety program designed to enhance the security of the global supply chain and modernize Customs processes, as an upgrade to the ENS filing requirement.

Its implementation impacts all parties involved in shipping goods to or via the EU by ocean and inland waterways road and rail.

It requires the electronic submission of detailed goods information prior to their arrival in the EU, facilitating risk analysis for security and safety. This regulation will replace the current regulation ICS1.



When will ICS2 be implemented?

- Ocean house bill ENS filing will start from December 4, 2024, affecting NVOCCs and Freight Forwarders issuing their own HBL.
- Beginning in June 2024, ocean carriers/vessel operators moving cargoes that are destined for, or transiting the E.U., Switzerland, Norway, and Northern Ireland will be subject to new entry regulations. Economic Operators (EOs) or Shippers will have to declare safety and security data to ICS2, through the Entry Summary Declaration (ENS).



What is different?

The Freight Forwarder will be required to make a HBL level filing, declaring the real Shipper and real Consignee's names. Up until now, EU ENS was strictly an ocean carrier level filing requirement.

In addition, this filing will include a range of mandatory information about the goods being transported and will be required to be electronically submitted to the ICS2 system in the form of a complete Entry Summary Declaration (ENS).



How should stakeholders prepare for ICS2 / ENS filing?

Freight Forwarders and NVOCCs should become familiar with the requirements, update IT systems, and ensure that operations staff and agents are trained. Freight Forwarders and NVOCCs will also have to ensure that their customers are prepared to comply with this new regulation.

This includes securing and distributing their EORI number to the responsible parties.

EU Customs - ICS2 / ENS Filing



What is required for the Entry Summary Declaration (ENS)?

For compliance with ICS2 regulations, the following information is mandatory and must be submitted accurately and timely. This filing will match closely with the security practices already in place in the USA, Canada, Japan and other countries:

- A complete detailed commercial description of each item in the shipment.
- The Harmonized System (HS) 6-digit commodity code for every item, providing a clear classification as per international trade standards.
- Additional details of all parties involved in the transaction. This includes the seller, buyer, actual shipper (consignor) and actual consignee of the goods.
- The shipment information includes the routes, dates, ocean carrier and vessel information, container and seal numbers.
- The EORI number for all of these parties. The EORI number is a unique identifier required for businesses and individuals involved in trading with the EU.

Who has the responsibility to file ICS2 / ENS for a HBL?

Freight forwarders / NVOCCs and are required to make the filing.

What are the submission timelines for ICS2 / ENS HBL filing?

All HBL data must be submitted no less than 24 hours prior to cargo loading on a vessel at origin.

What are the risks of non-compliance?

Goods will be stopped and delayed at the EU Customs borders. The goods in question will not be cleared by the Customs authorities. Inadequate declarations will either be rejected or subject to intervention, with no less than possible sanctions imposed for noncompliance.

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