



AES Newsletter



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Is My Shipment Routed?

by Tenzin Frisby, Regulations, Outreach, and Education Branch

There have been many different Automated Export System (AES) Newsletter articles and even a blog to explain the dynamics involved in determining whether or not a shipment is considered a "Routed Transaction." We receive questions on a daily basis on this subject. This article will assist you by providing guidance in determining the type of transaction in which you are involved.

When filing export information in *AESDirect*, as you create your shipment you are asked "Is this shipment a Routed Transaction?" You must select "Yes" or "No."



Understanding this question is as easy as 1-2-3! The picture below will assist you in determining whether you're involved in a "Routed Transaction."

The parties to the transaction are:



The U.S. Principal Party in Interest (USPPI) is the person or legal entity in the United States that receives the primary benefit, monetary or otherwise, from the export transaction.

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Generally, that person or entity is the U.S. seller, manufacturer, order party, or the foreign entity while in the United States when purchasing or obtaining the goods for export.

The Foreign Principal Party in Interest (FPPI) is the party shown on the transportation document to which final delivery or end-use of the goods may be made. This party may be the ultimate consignee.

The key question is: Who is facilitating the movement of the goods out of the country? If the answer to this question is the USPPI, the export transaction is standard (not a “Routed Transaction”) and you would select “No” (“Not a Routed Transaction”). However, if the answer to this question is the FPPI, the export transaction is a “Routed Transaction” and you would select “Yes” (“Is a Routed Transaction”) in the AES.

According to Section 30.3 of the Foreign Trade Regulations (FTR), if the FPPI selects and authorizes a U.S. agent to export or move the good out of the United States and to file the electronic export information, this would be a “Routed Transaction.” If the USPPI selects and authorizes the freight forwarder to move the goods out of the country, it is considered a standard transaction (not a “Routed Transaction”). In a Routed Transaction, the USPPI may file the Electronic Export Information upon agreement in writing with the FPPI.

The illustration and explanation can serve as a tool to assist in determining if your transaction is a “Routed Transaction.”

For additional clarification or more information, the FTR are available on our Web site at <www.census.gov/foreign-trade/regulations/index.html>.

And as always, should you need to speak with someone regarding the interpretation and clarification of the FTR, our dedicated staff is also available at 800-549-0595 (Menu Option 3).

Schedule B Goes Green

by Mayumi Hairston Escalante, Commodity Analysis Branch

Starting with the January 2012 edition, the “Schedule B Statistical Classification of Domestic and Foreign Commodities Exported From the United States,” also known as the Schedule B manual, will no longer be printed and sold. By going green, the Foreign Trade Division will be saving over 225,000 pieces of paper a year.

Already available on the Foreign Trade Web site at <www.census.gov/scheduleb>, the online Schedule B is updated annually. The current version can be searched, browsed, and downloaded for free. Schedule B numbers are also provided as a look-up table in the Automated Export System products, *AESDirect* and *AESPCLink*.

The “Schedule C Classification of Country and Territory Designations for U.S. Foreign Trade Statistics” and the “Schedule D Classification of U.S. Customs Districts and Ports for U.S. Foreign Trade Statistics” used to be revised and reprinted as Volume II of the Schedule B manual. These reference codes are now maintained on a more frequent basis on the Foreign Trade Web site at <www.census.gov/foreign-trade/reference/codes/index.html>.

For assistance with Schedule B classification codes, call the Commodity Analysis Branch at 800-549-0595 (Menu Option 2) or e-mail at <ftd.scheduleb@census.gov>.