

AES Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 8

September 2000

DATA ENTRY CENTER (DEC) PARTICIPATION in AES

Air and sea carriers and NVOCCs can key Shipper's Export Declaration (SED) data into AES under the respective DEC agreement. The agreement designates responsibility of achieving a goal of 100% electronic filing of SED information by the DEC or its customers in AES. The DEC is permitted to phase-in the pre-departure electronic filing within the time period outlined in the respective agreement.

An increasing number of NVOCCs and carriers have been registering in *AESDirect* as forwarders. Only those companies with power-of-attorney or written authorization to act as forwarders are in compliance, all others are representing themselves improperly as

Continued in column 2

Continued from column 1

forwarders, which is not allowed. *AESDirect* now includes the DEC option on the registration form and a link to the agreement. The registration form will be forwarded to the Census Bureau to be formalized. The DEC registrant will be temporarily setup with a username and password to take the tutorial and certification quiz. When the DEC agreement is finalized with signatures of both Census and the company, the company will become operational.

These participants can be properly registered as forwarders and DEC's simultaneously. However, each registration must have a unique Filer ID and the tutorial and quiz need be taken only once.

Signatories to the DEC agreements are responsible for resolving all fatal errors immediately and selected warning errors within 4 days and reminder messages as appropriate. ♦

**AUTOMATED EXPORT SYSTEM BRANCH
BUREAU OF CENSUS
FOREIGN TRADE DIVISION
WASHINGTON, DC 20233**

TEL: (800) 549-0595 FAX: (301) 457-1159

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 DECs in AES, Thank You
- 2 Drawback Module, *AESDirect* Birthday, AES Meetings
- 3 Upcoming Changes, Future Enhancements
- 4 AES and *AESDirect* on the Road
- 5 Common Reporting Problems and Concerns
- 6 Update - Mandatory AES Filing, AES Statistics
- 7 Phone Numbers, Email Addresses, Web Sites
- 8 U.S. Customs Client Representative Listing

THANK YOU

Leslie Albertson, U.S. Customs AES Marketing Director, will be leaving the AES Team at the end of October. We congratulate her for her many successes in marketing AES to the trade community. We wish her continued success and happiness in her future endeavors. AES has profited from her personal commitment to excellence. Leslie, thank you for your dedication, enthusiasm, and distinguished accomplishments. ♦



DRAWBACK MODULE for AES

The AES/Drawback Working Group's concept paper for a drawback module in AES is available on the Customs web site, www.customs.treas.gov for review. Comments were due by September 29, 2000.

The concept paper is the basis for developing system user requirements, which are then converted into functional requirements and ultimately programmed for production. ♦

DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE GOLD MEDAL for THE PRINCIPAL PARTY in INTEREST REGULATION (USPPI)

On September 16, the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division and the Bureau of Export Administration were awarded the Department's highest award, the Gold Medal, for their tireless work in getting the regulation defining the exporter (USPPI) finalized and published. Census Bureau employees honored were: C. Harvey Monk, Jr., Chief of the Foreign Trade Division, Regulations, Outreach and Education Branch staff - Jerome Greenwell, Chief, Dale Dickerson and Frank Korpusik. ♦

AESDirect CELEBRATES A SUCCESSFUL FIRST YEAR

On October 4, 1999, the U.S. Census Bureau launched *AESDirect* the **FREE** Internet-based Shipper's Export Declaration filing to AES. The first year of operation was a great success; achieving 99.95% uptime, registering over 2,500 companies with 1,200 filing and now processing 100,000 shipments per month. This first year brought enhancements, *AESWebLink* and batch filing in the Customs Proprietary Format. Notwithstanding this successful first year, the Census Bureau is committed to making *AESDirect* more useful and effective for the U.S. export trading. ♦

AES MEETINGS

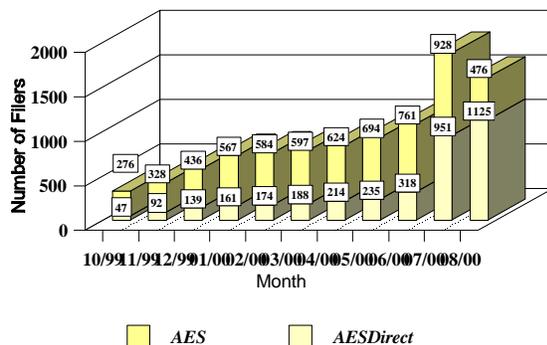
The U.S. Census Bureau will hold three types of meetings throughout the country regarding AES. These three meetings are **AES Public Meetings**, **AESDirect Certification Workshops** and **AES User Meetings**.

The **AES Public Meeting** is for current filers of the Shipper's Export Declaration and is intended to inform paper filers about AES and *AESDirect*. We provide in-depth information on how AES works and a demonstration of *AESDirect*, the **FREE** Internet-based filing system for transmitting to AES.

The **AESDirect Certification Workshop** contains hands-on training and certification for using *AESDirect*.

The **AES User Meeting** is for current users of AES and *AESDirect*. This meeting will include presentations on upcoming changes to AES and *AESDirect* and common reporting errors encountered by users. ♦

AES FILERS



UPCOMING CHANGES TO AES AND AESDIRECT

October 1, 2000

Exporter - All references to the "Exporter" in AES and AESDirect are being changed to "U.S. Principal Party in Interest (USPPI)". This change reflects the amended Foreign Trade Statistics Regulations.

State Department Licensed Shipments

Zero values will be accepted. Do not report a value of \$1.00 and receive Warning Error 362 – Value Exceeds License Limit.

January 2001

Routed Export Transaction Flag – This new mandatory data element will be reported in the SC2 record of the Customs Proprietary record format and the M12 record of the X12 record format. This element will be required for Options 2 and 4 and Option 3 post departure reporting for all shipments. An announcement was posted on the AES web site September 29 to provide a 90-day notice.

Edits for ECCN Format

Unless EAR99 is acceptable, please make sure that the ECCN is reported in the acceptable format. EAR99 is not acceptable for license codes C32, C35, C36 and C37. A warning message will be returned for either of these situations. A fatal error will be generated for license codes C30 and C31 when a license number is not reported or is invalid.

Other 2001 Changes

Shipment and Commodity Edits

EIN Numbers – Obvious non-existent numbers.

Estimated Date of Departure – Estimated date not more than one-year in the future of the system date

Maximum Values – Values greater than \$999,999,999 for Chapter 88 and greater than \$500,000,000 for all other chapters

Export Information Codes – Transportation codes reported for Commodity data

In-Bond Codes – "70" only acceptable code until further notified

FUTURE ENHANCEMENTS

Concept papers for the following have been or are being circulated for comments:

- ❖ *NVOCC Enhancement* – To be circulated within 4 – 6 weeks
- ❖ *Air Transportation Enhancement* – Circulated And User Requirements being developed
- ❖ *In-transit SED – 7513* – Approved and User Requirements being developed.

TIMELY AND ACCURATE FILING

Late, incomplete and inaccurate filing impacts the accuracy of the monthly trade data that are published for decision making by the government and the private sector. Beginning October, we will begin to monitor late filing, reporting errors and average value and record counts. Any company receiving an error rate of 5% or more will be notified that they are approaching a level of unacceptable performance. It is the company's responsibility to ensure that the data are reported completely, accurately and timely. We will work with you to reduce your error rate and improve the quality of your data.

AES and AESDirect on the Road

Staff from the AES Branch will be making presentations and conducting workshops at various trade shows and meetings. Some of these trade shows and meetings are sponsored by private concerns and a fee may be charged. Our participation is intended to dispense information and does not imply endorsement of the sponsor. Log onto our web site for locations of the listed meetings and other conferences, exhibits, workshops, etc.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Trade Show/Meeting</u>	<u>Contact Phone No.</u>
Oct 17 - 19	Chicago, IL AES Public Meeting AESDirect Certification Workshop AES User Meeting	(301) 457-3787
Oct 18 -22	Palm Springs, CA WESCON - Presentation	(301) 457-3787
Oct 18	Cleveland, OH Customs Compliance Workshop	(301) 457-3787
Oct 31 - Nov 2	San Francisco, CA AES Public Meeting AESDirect Certification Workshop AES User Meeting	(301) 457-3787
Nov 6	New Orleans, LA Customs Compliance Workshop	(301) 457-3787
Nov 11 - 15	Fort Lauderdale, FL TRANSCOMP 2000 (NITL) - Exhibit	(301) 457-3787
Nov 15 - 17	Fort Lauderdale/Miami, FL AES Public Meeting AESDirect Certification Workshop AES User Meeting	(301) 457-3787
Nov 29 - 30	Seattle, WA AES Public Meeting AESDirect Certification Workshop AES User Meeting	(301) 457-3787

We are planning AESDirect Certification Workshops in various parts of the country. These workshops are designed for the serious filer who desires information and immediate registration to use AESDirect. If you are interested in having one of these workshops in your area or if you or any organization you know of would like to sponsor a meeting or desire our participation in a meeting, please contact:

Dorothy Brown
(301) 457-6855

E-mail: dorothy.lee.brown@census.gov

COMMON REPORTING PROBLEMS AND CONCERNS

MISSING or INVALID EXEMPTION STATEMENT

A missing or invalid exemption statement may delay your shipment. This statement is the only means a Customs Inspector has to verify the exported merchandise. Report the exemption statement in the proper format as specified in FTSR Letter NO. 168 (Amendment 1), clearly and completely on the first page of the shipping documents in an easy to find location. You can find the FTSR Letter on the Census web site:

www.census.gov/foreign-trade

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

Appendix Q of the AESTIR, "Recommended Edits" is now "Required Edits". Problems that consistently surface with certified software will result in retesting the software for the required edits.

RESPONDING TO ERROR MESSAGES

Do not ignore any warning message. Respond or call your client rep for help. Respond to warning messages within the 4-day period. Do not ignore verify messages. If you are receiving a significant number of errors for any one-classification number, contact your client rep. You will be instructed to provide supporting information. We will investigate the possibility of changing the parameter for this edit.

FILING OPTION INDICATOR

When a change is made to the original transmission, make sure the filing indicator is the same as reported in the original transmission. Consult the AESTIR for a listing of the appropriate indicators for the various filing options. Option 3 always requires two transmissions.

ID NUMBERS AND TYPES

If a foreign entity, in the United States at the time of export is reported as the USPPPI, the visa, border crossing or passport number must be shown as the ID number and the ID type is "T". Embassy shipments ID number is the *2-digit ISO Code+EMBASSY*. The ID type is "T".

SCAC vs CONVEYANCE NAME

Report the SCAC code of the carrier moving the cargo out of the United States. The conveyance name is The name of the *vessel for sea shipments* and the *name of the carrier for other modes of transport*.

OPTIONS 3 AND 4 LATE FILED WARNING MESSAGES

Option 3 and 4 filers are receiving late filed warning messages when the post departure data are transmitted within the time frames initially. We are programming to correct this problem. Option 3 filers will have **7 calendar days** within which to transmit the post departure data and Option 4 filers will have **14 calendar days**. Do not add extra days for holidays and non-business days because they are accounted for.

INBOND CODES

Currently only in bond code "70" is acceptable for AES filing. We are considering an edit for AESDirect that would return an error message if a code other than "70" is reported.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Household goods valued over \$2500 require abbreviated export reporting. Shipments valued \$2500 and less do not require export reporting.

U.S. PARTIES

Per sections 30.7(a) and (b) and 30.63(l) of the Foreign Trade Statistics Regulations, the USPPPI and the forwarding agent must be US entities. Foreign forwarding agents of US exporters can transmit export data as certified AES Service Centers.

MANDATORY REPORTING OF SHIPMENTS THROUGH AES

AES CERTIFICATION REPORT

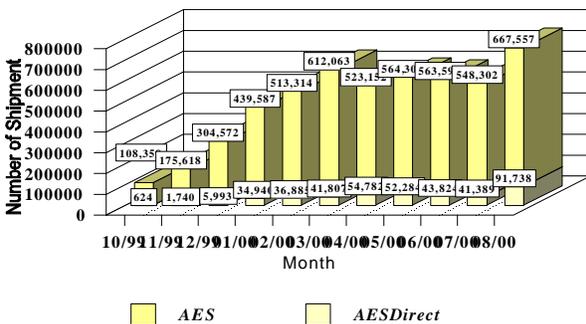
The Office of Information Security of the General Services Administration submitted the final report of the Security Assessment to the Census Bureau and the U.S. Customs Service. Both agencies are preparing a response for inclusion in the Certification Report for submission to the appropriate Congressional committees for certification. AES becomes mandatory 270 days after acceptance of this report for reporting exports of items on the U.S. Munitions List and the Commerce Control List.

AES FEASIBILITY REPORT

The AES Feasibility Report, approved by all participating agencies, was hand delivered to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives in August. The report recommended that:

- 1) AES be made mandatory for the filing of all shipper's export information and be phased in over a five-year period,
- 2) AES data be made available to other licensing agencies based on their legal and regulatory authority to have access to such data and under specific restrictions and
- 3) A proposed timetable and cost estimate for implementation of the recommendations. ♦

AES SHIPMENTS



New Edition of AESTIR

The new October 2000 AESTIR is available on the AES web site. It is suggested that any previous versions be replaced with this October version.

Changes to the Introduction, Commodity and Transportation Modules and the Appendices are included. These include new and revised error messages, new port of exportation and export information codes. ♦

AES Statistics

AES – September 30, 2000

Filers – 1,716
 LOIs – 3,419
 Shipments – 667,557
 Option 4 Applicants – 2,080
 Option 4 Approvals – 1,981

AESDirect – September 30, 2000

Registrants – 2,540
 Operational – 1,230
 Shipments – 406,017

AESDirect Browser Use

AESDirect does not officially support Internet Explorer 5.5 (IE 5.5). If you are already using IE 5.5 and not experiencing any problems, you may continue to do so. However, if you are planning to upgrade to IE 5.5, we suggest you wait until AESDirect identifies and fixes any problems that may exist. ♦

We need your e-mail address

Please send your e-mail address to:

AESLOI@ccmail.census.gov

Include in the message the name of the company and the name of the contact person. This helps us get information to you more timely. ♦

PHONE NUMBERS AND E-MAIL ADDRESSES

GERRY HORNER, CHIEF, AES BRANCH (301) 457-6856
DOROTHY BROWN, AESDIRECT LIAISON (301) 457-6855
PATRICIA BEASLEY, CENSUS AES LIAISON (703) 921-7465
NAN CLARK, MARKETING ASSISTANT (301) 457-3787
WENDY PEEBLES, SUPERVISORY CLIENT REPRESENTATIVE (301) 457-3540

GERARD.J.HORNER@CENSUS.GOV
DOROTHY.LEE.BROWN@CENSUS.GOV
PATRICIA.BEASLEY@CUSTOMS.TREAS.GOV
NANNIE.M.CLARK@CENSUS.GOV
WENDY.D.PEEBLES@CENSUS.GOV

AES CLIENT REPRESENTATIVES:

KRISTAL BYRD (301) 457-3541
ROB CHESTNUT (301) 457-3540
JACQUELYN MANN (301) 457-3829
JOEY MORALES (301) 457-8012
PAUL NEWMAN (301) 457-3541
LILY WONG (301) 457-8012
OMARI WOODEN (301) 457-3829

KRISTAL.ANTOINETTE.BYRD@CENSUS.GOV
ROBERT.D.CHESTNUT@CENSUS.GOV
JACQUELYN.E.MANN@CENSUS.GOV
JOEY.MORALES@CENSUS.GOV
PAUL.FREDRIC.NEWMAN@CENSUS.GOV
LILY.C.WONG@CENSUS.GOV
OMARI.S.WOODEN@CENSUS.GOV

REGULATIONS BRANCH (SED QUESTIONS): (301) 457-2238

COMMODITY ANALYSIS BRANCH (SCHEDULE B CLASSIFICATION QUESTIONS):

DURABLE GOODS: (301) 457-3259
NON-DURABLE GOODS: (301) 457-3484

BUREAU OF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION (LICENSING QUESTIONS)

WASHINGTON, DC (202) 482-4811
WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE (714) 660-0144

U.S. CUSTOMS-AES MARKETING

LESLIE ALBERTSON (703) 921-7470 LESLIE.S.ALBERTSON@CUSTOMS.TREAS.GOV

WEB SITES

CENSUS BUREAU, FOREIGN TRADE DIVISION [HTTP://WWW.CENSUS.GOV/FOREIGN-TRADE/WWW](http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www)
U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE [HTTP://WWW.CUSTOMS.TREAS.GOV/AES](http://www.customs.treas.gov/aes)
BUREAU OF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION: [HTTP://WWW.BXA.DOC.GOV](http://www.bxa.doc.gov)

U.S. CUSTOMS CLIENT REPRESENTATIVE LISTING

CLIENT REPRESENTATIVE		TELEPHONE #	FAX #
ALBERT, ELLEN	MIAMI	305-869-2781	305-869-2783
BURDORF, DEBBY	CLEVELAND	440-891-3814	440-891-3839
BUSIC, ALAN	CHICAGO	312-983-1340, or 1376	312-886-5106
CALAFELL, ELOISA	MIAMI	305-869-2780	305-869-2783
CLARK, KAREN	BOSTON	617-565-6342	617-565-8190
COONEY, MIKE	SEATTLE	206-553-5227	206-553-2517
DIX, ROBERT	BALTIMORE	410-962-5662	410-962-5652
DUPRE, CYNTHIA	NEW ORLEANS	504-670-2418	504-670-2435
EBY, TRISH	SEATTLE	206-553-1622	206-553-2517
FANELLI	BUFFALO	716-551-3520 X142	716-551-3066
FIKE, KAY	SAN FRANCISCO	415-782-9445	415-705-1652
FISCHER, RICK,	HOUSTON	713-387-7249	713-313-2933
FLOYD, CORA	HEADQUARTERS	202-927-0247	202-927-1344
FULKERSON, MICK	CHARLOTTE	704-329-6206	704-329-6192
HEATH, JOE	PHILADELPHIA	215-597-9920	215-597-9929
HENDERSON, KAREN	HOUSTON	713-387-7247	713-313-2933
HENRY, CONRAD	HEADQUARTERS	202-927-0332	202-927-1344
HUCK, KEVIN	NEWINGTON	703-921-7527	703-921-7561
JEGELS, JACKIE	WALDORF-TCS	301-893-6717	301-705-9834
KERSTEIN, ROBERT	LOS ANGELES	310-514-6073	310-514-6964
KORMOS, KATHY	NEWINGTON	703-921-7495	703-921-7561
KWIATHOWSKI, LORI	BUFFALO	716-551-3520 X141	716-551-3066
LALLY, BECKY	LAUREL-TCS	301-470-0567	301-362-7345
LARK, MARGARET	CHARLOTTE	704-329-6206	704-329-6192
MASKELL, SUSAN	NEWINGTON	703-921-7491	703-921-7561
MAZZARELLA, MICHAEL	JFK	718-553-2065	718-553-1760
McELHINNEY, TARA	LAX	310-215-1392	310-215-1302
MITCHELL, MIKE	JFK	718-553-2065	718-553-1760
MITCHELL, ROBERT	SAN FRANCISCO	415-782-9445	415-705-1652
MOHR, MIKE	NEWINGTON	703-921-7072	703-921-7561
NAPOLITANO, WILLIAM	BALTIMORE	410-962-5660	410-962-5652
NAVARRETE, MARIA	LOS ANGELES	310-514-6073	310-514-6964
NICKLES, PATRICIA	LAX	310-215-1392	310-215-1302
O'BRIEN, JOHN	NEWARK	201-443-0570	201-443-0575
OGLIORE, JOHN	SEATTLE	206-553-5228	206-553-2517
PENCE, JANET	NEWINGTON	703-921-7550	703-921-7561
RAMOS, MARIO I.	SAN JUAN	787-289-7985	787-729-6810
RODIER, WALLY	JFK	718-553-2065	718-553-1760
RUBENSTEIN, PHYLLIS	CHICAGO	312-983-1342, or 1376	312-886-5106
SPARTA, STEPHEN	NEWARK	201-443-0570	201-443-0575
SPRAGUE, KATHY	NEWARK	201-443-0570	201-443-0575
STAHL, JAMES	PHILADELPHIA	215-597-9906	215-597-9929
TYSON, HOLLY	BALTIMORE	410-962-5662	410-962-5652
VAUGHN, WALTER	NEW ORLEANS	504-670-2415	504-670-2435
VILLWOCK, BLAINE	NEWINGTON	703-921-7496	703-921-7561
WASILUS, KENNETH	NEWARK	201-443-0570	201-443-0575
WELTER, PATRICIA	MIAMI	305-869-2782	305-869-2783
WILSON, DALE	HOUSTON	713-313-2897	713-313-2933
WOLFORD, JAMES	CHARLOTTE	704-329-6206	704-329-6192
WORKMAN, ALLA	CLEVELAND	440-891-3814	440-891-3839