

ADVANCE NOTICE OF ARRIVAL (NOA) U.S. and Canadian Requirements

Action items:

- If bound for U.S. port, make 96 hour Notice of Arrival (NOA) Report
- If bound for Canadian port, make 96 hour Pre-Arrival Information Report (PAIR) and make VTS 24 hour Offshore Report.

U.S. REQUIREMENTS - OVERVIEW

- ◆ After the terrorists attacks on the U. S. on 9/11/2001, the Coast Guard recognized the need to improve Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) and thereby enhance maritime homeland security (MHLS) by increasing the required advance notice of arrivals for ships entering into U.S. waters from 24 hours to 96 hours, and the amount of information to be reported. These revised Coast Guard NOA regulations (33 CFR 160, Subpart C)—significantly expanded cargo and recent vessel transit information requirements, increased the time required for providing an advance notice, and revised the reporting process to include a central collection point (that is, the National Vessel Movement Center). These improvements contributed significantly to the Coast Guard’s intelligence and security efforts. The Final Rule went into effect on 01 Apr 2003; it is found at 33 CFR 160.201-215.
- ◆ There are three main purposes for requiring information in advance of a vessel’s arrival. One is for waterways management, another is for assessing maritime safety, and the last is for maintaining homeland security. The data contained in the NOA is considered vital to these missions.

Note: Effective November 15th 2007, the Canada/U.S. Cooperative Vessel Traffic Service (CVTS) no longer requires submission of the CVTS Advance Report/IMO Standard Ship Reporting System form as shown in 33 CFR 161.18 (A), since almost all of that information has been supplanted by the revised Advance Notice of Arrival process.

APPLICABILITY

- ◆ The NOA requirements generally apply to:
 - All commercial vessels greater than 300 gross tons that intend to arrive at a port or place in the United States;
 - All foreign vessels that intend to arrive at a port or place in the United States (regardless of size); and
 - All vessels that intend to arrive at a port or place in the United States that are carrying Certain Dangerous Cargo (see 33 CFR 160.204 for complete details):
 - Division 1.1 or 1.2 explosives
 - Division 1.5D blasting agents
 - Division 2.3 poisonous gas

- Division 5.1 oxidizing materials
- Liquid Division 6.1 poisonous materials
- Class 7 radioactive material
- Bulk liquid chlorine gas
- Bulk liquid flammable or toxic gas carried under 46 CFR 154.7
- Bulk liquid acetone cyanohydrin, allyl alcohol, chlorosulfonic acid, crotonaldehyde, ethylene chlorohydrin, ethylene dibromide, methacrylonitrile, oleum (fuming sulfuric acid), propylene oxide.
- Ammonium nitrate Division 5.1 material (not CDC residue)
- Ammonium nitrate Division 5.1 fertilizer
- Note: Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requires all commercial vessels arriving at a port or place in the United States from a foreign port, to submit Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) information, which is accomplished through the electronic Notice of Arrival/Departure (eNOAD) system.
- ◆ Exemptions:
 - U.S. recreational vessels
 - Oil Spill Response Vessels (OSRVs) engaged in actual spill response or exercise
 - Passenger and supply vessels when engaged in the exploration or removal of oil, gas, or mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf.
 - IF NOT CARRYING A CDC:
 - Each vessel 300 gross tons or less except **foreign vessels.**
 - Vessels arriving under force majeure
 - Towing vessels and barges operating solely between ports or places in the continental U.S (includes Alaska but not Hawaii or Pacific Islands)
 - Public vessels
 - Each vessel operating exclusively within a USCG Captain Of The Port Zone

TIME REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ The time requirements are based on the vessel's voyage time to the intended port or place of destination
- ◆ If voyage time > 96 hours, submit NOA 96 hours prior to intended arrival time
- ◆ If voyage time is < 96 hours but >24 hours, submit NOA before departure
- ◆ If voyage time is <24 hours, submit NOA before departure AND 24 hours prior to intended arrival

REPORTING METHODS AND CG/CBP ALIGNMENT

Vessels must report their NOAs electronically to the NVMC through the NVMC website: <http://www.nvmc.uscg.gov>. The electronic submission automates the reporting and vetting system. In addition, when a vessel sends an NOA electronically to the NVMC, the NOA is automatically sent to CBP's Advanced Passenger Information System (APIS). CBP requires all commercial vessels to submit a NOA when arriving from a foreign port or place.

PROCESS

When a vessel submits a NOA, the information is processed by the NVMC. It is first validated (for completion and some accuracy) by the NVMC. It then is entered into a database. From there, vetting and scrutiny for each arrival notice occurs on two levels. First, the Coast Guard's Intelligence Center analyzes each notice of arrival for security purposes. Second, each Coast Guard Sector or unit analyzes the notice of arrival for both safety and security purposes. If there is a safety or security concern with the vessel, it may be boarded or inspected by the Coast Guard.

FUTURE INITIATIVES

In order to align with the CBP APIS regulation and to enhance MDA, the Coast Guard is working on a regulatory project to expand the NOA regulation. It will increase the affected vessel population by capturing all foreign commercial vessels (regardless of size), and all U.S. commercial vessels (regardless of size) arriving from a foreign port or place. In addition, the rulemaking will require all applicable vessels to report a notice of departure (NOD) when departing from a port or place of the U.S. Also, vessels will be required to report NOAs and NODs via electronic methods, which can be accessed through the National Vessel Movement Center (NVMC) at www.nvmc.uscg.gov.

NOA POINT OF CONTACT

For common questions and regulatory interpretations, visit Homeport: <http://homeport.uscg.mil>. Navigate to "Port State Control", then "General Information", then "Notice of Arrival and Departure (NOAD) Questions and Interpretations."

For questions about your NOA (how to submit, whether it was submitted, technical questions) contact:

National Vessel Movement Center

24 hour phone line – *when in doubt, start here!*

1-800-708-9823 or 304-264-2502

Email Address: sans@nvmc.uscg.mil

Fax Number: 800-547-8724 or 304-264-2684

Tech Support (not 24 hours): NVMC-techsupport@uscg.mil

CBP Process and vetting

Ms. Deborah Nesbitt

APIS – Maritime Carrier Account Manager

(P): 409-727-0285; Ext 235

Email: Deborah.nesbitt@dhs.gov

WHEN TO CALL EXAMPLES

QUESTION/PROBLEM	POC
When do I have to submit my NOA?	NVMC
Do I have to submit a NOA?	NVMC
I sent an eNOA, but don't know if it got there....	NVMC (24 hour number)
Was my departure notice received?	Ms. Nesbitt
I can't get in touch with _____ local CBP unit...	Ms. Nesbitt
What time do I have to submit my NOD?	Mr. Neumann
What if I can't submit my NOD 60 minutes prior to departure?	Mr. Neumann
Is my NOA complete?	NVMC
Is my vessel cleared to enter the port?	USCG Sector Seattle (206 217 6002)
I am having trouble submitting my eNOAD	NVMC

CANADIAN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

96 hour Pre-Arrival Information Report (PAIR)

Vessels bound for a Canadian Port are required to file a 96 hour Pre-Arrival Information Report (PAIR) in accordance with the *Canadian Marine Transportation Security Regulations* Part 2: Vessels Pre-arrival Information (221).

Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) 24 Hour Offshore Report

A Canadian VTS Offshore Report must be filed in accordance with the *Canada Shipping Act (CSA) Vessel Traffic Services Zones Regulations (CSA, Section 6: Reports 1.1)* whereby the master of a ship shall ensure that a report is made at least 24 hours before the ship enters a Canadian Vessel Traffic Services Zone from seaward (including Alaska), or as soon as possible where the estimated time of arrival at that Vessel Traffic Services Zone is less than 24 hours after the ship departs from the last port of call.

The reporting requirements for the 96 hour PAIR and VTS 24 hour Offshore Reports are outlined in the most recent edition of the Canadian Coast Guard *Radio Aids to Marine Navigation* at www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/mcts-sctm/ramn/docs/index_e.htm. The reports will be sent directly to the Marine Communications and Traffic Services (MCTS) Regional Marine Information Centre (RMIC) via one of the methods listed below:

- ◆ Via e-mail: OFFSHORE@RMIC.GC.CA
- ◆ Via INMARSAT telex 04352586 "CGTC VAS VCR"
- ◆ Via any Canadian Coast Guard MCTS Centre, free of charge;
- ◆ Or directly to CVTS Offshore by FAX: 604-666-8453.