



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

Port of Chicago – Pipeline

Pipeline 25-12
August 14, 2025

TO: Customs Brokers, Importers, Airlines Freight Forwarders and Others Concerned

SUBJECT: Procedures for holding freight intact and local transfers to FIRMS codes of record

Purpose:

This pipeline supersedes pipeline 17-7 and advises the trade community of their requirements to hold freight intact when directed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) or when freight is allowed to be moved to a Container Freight Station (CFS) for manipulation.

Scope:

On February 15, 2025, CPB published CBP ACE Messaging System message (CSMS) #63760273 to advise the trade community of an enhancement to ACE Multi-Modal Manifest (MMM) to facilitate the transfer of air cargo shipments to Centralized Examination Stations (CES) and CFS. The enhancement to MMM was the implementation of a 1X code "Transfer for Exam in lieu of the 1F "CBP Local Transfer Authorized."

On September 19, 2017, the Port of Chicago published pipeline 17-07 outlining when carriers were allowed to move freight to a CFS or CES when a 1F was posted in MMM. This pipeline has been superseded by CAMS message #63760273.

Action:

All air freight within the Port of Chicago as the port of unloading with a hold will be required to be held at the carrier facility until CBP authorizes the applicable action by populating the corresponding code in MMM. Automated Manifest System (AMS) participants associated with the applicable air waybill will receive the appropriate 1X or 1F and will be required to ensure the bonded carrier picking up the freight matches the bonded carrier associated with the AMS messaging and that the freight is destined to the correct FIRMS code. CBP will provide the bond number of the courier and the destined FIRMS code in MMM. The release of bonded cargo to a bonded courier or their subcontracted parties not associated with the AMS messaging is considered a violation of 19 C.F.R. § 113.63, as a basic custodial bond violation.

The following AMS codes require that the freight be held at the air carrier facility for an on-site examination by CBP or for CBP to make arrangements for examination. To arrange for an on-

site examination please contact the associated email address.

- 2H- 3901.AI.Aircargo@cbp.dhs.gov
- 1H- if the hold is against the master, simple or a house bill examschicago@cbp.dhs.gov, 3901Cargoholds@cbp.dhs.gov and ChicagoATU@cbp.dhs.gov .
- 1A- if the hold is against the master, simple or a house bill examschicago@cbp.dhs.gov.

Freight destined for examination at an Express Consignment Carrier Facility (ECCF) that is the subject of a 2H, 1H, or 1A hold is not subject to these requirements and can move to the ECCF for presentation to CBP. Freight that is not subject to a hold can be moved to the FIRMS code of record within ACE systems.

CBP reserves the right to require on-site examinations at carrier facilities for all hold types regardless of any rights or privileges implied by this or other documentation. Additionally, all CBP holds supersede local transfer authorizations.

Should you have any questions please contact Cargo Chief Eric Everson at (312) 825-4503.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael J. Pfeiffer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael J. Pfeiffer
Area Port Director
Area Port of Chicago